



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Aged Care Quality Agency**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**24 AUGUST 2018**

**AGED CARE BETTER PRACTICE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED**

Winners of the 2018 Better Practice Awards were honoured last night at the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency's *Better Practice for the Future* national conference dinner in Sydney.

Award nominees from across Australia gathered amongst sector peers to have their commitment to enriching aged care recognised.

Quality Agency CEO, Mr Nick Ryan, joined by the chair of the Aged Care Quality Advisory Council, Ms Andrea Coote, presented three organisations with National Innovation and Excellence in Aged Care Awards. In addition, seven Better Practice Commendation Awards were presented.

"The staff and organisations recognised are great examples of what can be achieved through innovation, and dedication to quality care," Mr Ryan said.

"Tonight's recipients demonstrated no matter the size of your organisation, effective programs, projects and initiatives can be implemented to achieve service excellence in aged care. Congratulations to all of this year's winners and finalists," Mr Ryan said.

The National Innovation and Excellence in Aged Care Awards are designed to celebrate providers who are industry leaders in aged care and who are worthy of both national and international recognition in aged care practice.

**The 2018 winners of the National Innovation and Excellence in Aged Care Awards are:**

- City of Boroondara (for Creating an Age-Friendly Community)
- Fresh Fields Aged Care Pty Ltd (Back to Country)
- The Whiddon Group (Embedding relationship based care)

**The 2018 Better Practice Commendation Award winners are:**

- ECH Incorporated (for ECH LGBTI Connect Service)
- Feros Care (for Grow Bold – Independent Fulfilled Lives)
- Feros Care (for Trials to Smiles – Sunbeam Legacy)
- Resthaven Incorporated (for Restoring Older People's Lives)
- Sacred Heart Community (for My Community My Way)
- Montefiore (for Integrated Cognitive and Sensory Program)
- Yackandandah Bush Nursing Hospital (for Let's Grow Older Together)

The Better Practice Awards provide an opportunity to recognise and showcase better practice, innovation and excellence across Australia's aged care sector with an increased focus on the consumer. This year's awards focused on consumer outcomes and the new Aged Care Quality Standards.

Case studies featuring the Better Practice Award winners and previous winners are available on the Australian Aged Care Quality Agency's website [www.aacqa.gov.au](http://www.aacqa.gov.au)

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