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# Excellence in Allied Health Awards

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## Program



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# About the Awards

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The annual Excellence in Allied Health Awards is NSW Health's recognition and celebration of the critical contribution that Allied Health Professionals have in delivering patient-centred care.

The Awards also allows us to congratulate the finalists and winners for the contributions they make every day to patients, their families and communities.



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# Acknowledgement of country

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The NSW Ministry of Health acknowledges Aboriginal people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waters of NSW and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

NSW Health acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and waters upon which today's Awards are held.



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# Acknowledgements

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*“It is wonderful to have the opportunity to celebrate and acknowledge the vital role our Allied Health Professionals have in caring for our communities and delivering outcomes which matter to patients”*

**Andrew Davison**  
**NSW Health Chief Allied Health Officer**



*“Allied Health continue to demonstrate their pivotal value and resourceful nature in responding to the care needs of the people of NSW. We are really excited to be hosting the Awards in their second year and formally recognise the incredible talent that exists in the breadth of the Allied Health Professions.”*

**Richard Griffiths**  
**Executive Director, Workforce Planning and Talent Development Branch**



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# Contents

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Program outline	2
Awards Categories and List of Presenters	3
Allied Health Leader of the Year	5
Aboriginal Allied Health Professional of the Year	9
Allied Health Assistant, Technician or Support Person of the Year	13
Allied Health Researcher of the Year	17
Allied Health Educator of the Year	21
Early Career Allied Health Professional of the Year	25
Allied Health Professional of the Year	29

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# Program

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**5.30pm**      Doors Open / Registration

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**6pm**            Ceremony Begins: Welcome to the Excellence in Allied Health Awards by Master of Ceremonies  
Welcome to Country

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## **Speeches**

1. Susan Pearce AM, Secretary, NSW Health
  2. The Hon. Bronwyn Taylor, Minister for Women, Regional Health and Mental Health
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## **Awards**

Allied Health Leader of the Year  
Aboriginal Allied Health Professional of the Year  
Allied Health Assistant, Technician or Support Person of the Year  
Allied Health Researcher of the Year

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## **Short Film**

Allied Health: Every Step of the Way

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## **Awards**

Allied Health Educator of the Year  
Early Career Allied Health Professional of the Year  
Allied Health Professional of the Year

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## **Congratulations, thank you and close**

Andrew Davison, Chief Allied Health Officer, NSW Health

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**7pm – 8.30pm**      Networking and Canapes

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# Presenters

Award	Presented by
Allied Health Leader of the Year	The Hon. Bronwyn Taylor Minister for Women, Regional Health and Mental Health
Aboriginal Allied Health Professional of the Year	Kimberley Hunter Indigenous Allied Health Australia (IAHA) Board Director
Allied Health Assistant, Technician or Support Person of the Year	Richard Griffiths Executive Director, Workforce Planning and Talent Development
Allied Health Researcher of the Year	Adjunct Professor Michael Nicholl Chief Executive, Clinical Excellence Commission
Allied Health Educator of the Year	Adjunct Professor Annette Solman Chief Executive, Health Education Training Institute
Early Career Allied Health Professional of the Year	Phil Minns Deputy Secretary, People, Culture and Governance
Allied Health Professional of the Year	Susan Pearce AM Secretary, NSW Health





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# Allied Health Leader of the Year

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This award highlights an outstanding Allied Health Leader who continually exhibits excellence in leadership, focusing on values of teamwork, innovation, service, quality, compassion and integrity.

The Allied Health Leader of the Year shows exceptional skills to support, mentor and coach staff.

The Allied Health Leader of the Year is visionary. They drive quality improvement in patient care, service delivery and a commitment to value-based health care. They are leaders of a positive culture across professional groups in line with NSW Health's CORE values.

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## Nicole Wright

### Pharmacy, Sydney Children's Hospital Network

Nicole is the Operations Director of the NSW Poisons Information Centre, The Children's Hospital at Westmead. She is a passionate clinical pharmacist with almost 10 years'

experience as a Specialist in Poisons Information, having also worked as a mental health and paediatric pharmacist.

Nicole has recently collaborated with the Ministry and TGA to minimise poisoning from e-cigarettes, recreational drugs, carbon monoxide, and paracetamol and is working with USyd and Australian poisons centres to develop a national poisoning dataset for public health research.

As a lover of all things culinary, cultural, and creative, Nicole can be found outside work enjoying Sydney's restaurant scene, dancing salsa, or planning her next travel destination.



Drug and Alcohol Services in South Eastern Sydney.

He's worked in a range of roles across the district, including in Sexual Health, HIV, and with the Norfolk Island Team.

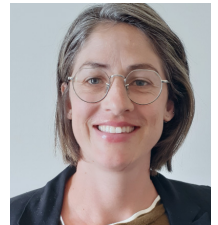
He's worked on many exciting projects over his 15-year career, including on overseas assignments (Bangkok), remote islands (Norfolk), and the heart of Sydney's CBD (SSHC). In all his roles he has worked to elevate the profile of Allied Health.

When not working Brendan likes to nerd out with his queer Dungeons and Dragons crew, slaying, and making sure that Tiamat 'done already done had herses'.

## Sarah Fox

### Occupational Therapy, Mid North Coast Local Health District

Sarah is an Occupational Therapist Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services for MNCLHD and has workedhas worked in mental health for over 12 years for NSW Health and in London for the NHS.



Sarah has worked on collaborative care planning projects across all mental health services for MNCLHD, including transition to child and adolescent mental health service and establishment of meetings for allied health staff working in integrated mental health, alcohol and other drug services.

## Brendan Crozier

### Psychology, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

Brendan is currently a senior clinical psychologist and Allied Health lead for



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Being outside and in nature is really important to Sarah. She is Mum to three tiny humans and together they love exploring the great beaches around Port Macquarie and camping adventures.

## Sharon Brodie

### Social Work, Northern NSW Local Health District

Sharon is a Social Worker from the Richmond Integrated Violence Abuse and Neglect Services. She has spent the last 24 years working with people who have been victims of Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence.



In 2022 Sharon worked tirelessly to support her flood ravaged community by maintaining and coordinating the 24hr, 7 day a week Sexual Assault Service, as well as coordinating the Health Department's response for the Safety Action Meeting.

Outside work Sharon can be found at the local community theatre, acting, directing and generally having a great time while bringing high quality and engaging theatre to her rural community. Sharon understands that as humans we make sense of our experiences through stories and connections with others which is why theatre is so important to her.

## Rebecca Smith

### Occupational Therapy, Far West Local Health District

Rebecca is the Manager of Integrated Care for the FWLHD based in Broken Hill. Rebecca's career as an Occupational Therapist has seen her work in rural and remote areas of South Australia, Queensland and New South Wales for the last 17 years, in both clinical and management positions.



Rebecca has been working across a range of areas over the last year with considerable focus on COVID-19 Community Response Team, Chronic Disease management and hospital avoidance services. She is passionate about clinical redesign for better access and service delivery for the people of the Far West and NSW.

Outside her health career, Rebecca loves to work on her family farm or relax with her fur kids Johnny, Ringo and Radar.



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# Aboriginal Allied Health Professional of the Year

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The Aboriginal Allied Health Professional of the Year demonstrates exceptional commitment, professionalism and compassionate care to all their patients.

They are committed to improving and advocating for the culturally appropriate health care of Aboriginal peoples and communities.

The Aboriginal Allied Health Professional is a leader amongst peers and passionately advocates for their profession. They are committed to the growth and development of the Aboriginal workforce in NSW Health.

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## Simone-Cherie Holt

### Physiotherapy, Sydney Children's Hospital Network

Simone-Cherie is a proud Aboriginal woman and has worked as a Physiotherapist for over thirty years on Darug country. She has a passion for paediatrics and respiratory physiotherapy and is happiest working in acute respiratory care.



Simone-Cherie is also passionate about increasing the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Allied Health Professionals and has been heavily involved in numerous initiatives mentoring and supporting young emerging indigenous professionals.

Simone-Cherie promotes a culturally safe and supportive work environment and constantly challenges her colleagues to do the same.

When not working, she loves spending time with her family at the beach - snorkelling, swimming or surfing. It is her favourite place to be.

## Tiffany Sithideth

### Social Work, South Western Sydney Local Health District

Tiffany is a proud



Gomerrigal woman, from the Darug nation. She began her career as a Social Work cadet at Campbelltown Hospital. She then moved to primary and community health, following her dream of working with her Community as a Senior Social Worker and later as the Team Leader for the SWSLHD Aboriginal Social Work team.

Tiffany has developed a specialised Social Work Model of Care, committed to reducing the number of Aboriginal Children within the Child Protection System. She also established Practice Guidelines that support the cultural capabilities of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal staff to ensure culturally responsive care for Aboriginal families.

Outside work she focuses on creating memories with her husband, children and sausage dog, Archie. They are excited to be welcoming a new member of the family, due in May.

## Sharlene Thurecht

### Physiotherapy, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District

Sharlene is a proud Indigenous woman from the Mandandanji nation who has worked in many areas of Physiotherapy over her 26-year career. For the last 15 years she has worked at St George Hospital specialising as a Senior Physiotherapist in Orthopaedics and Trauma



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A considerable part of Sharlene’s role is the teaching and mentoring of students and graduate physiotherapists. Sharlene is passionate about her contribution to the Physiotherapy Department and community she serves.

Outside work Sharlene enjoys time with family and friends and walking her dogs. More recently she has taken on the challenge of a 2-year Diploma of Leadership and Management through HETI.

## Larissa Bundy

### Sexual Assault Worker, Central Coast Local Health District

Larissa is a proud Kamilaroi, Wonnarua woman. She works as an Aboriginal Family Clinician within Violence, Abuse & Neglect Services on the Central Coast. Her role has been fundamental in leading and guiding her colleagues, and the VAN management team in embedding cultural safety and humility into VAN services. Larissa represents VAN services, the Women, Children & Families Directorate and the Central Coast LHD at the NSW Health Prevention and Response to Violence Abuse and Neglect Aboriginal Advisory Group.



When not working she loves being outdoors, is often at the beach or spending time with her family.

## Maddison Williams

### Social Work, Nepean Blue Mountains Local Health District

Maddison is a proud Wiradjuri woman from central NSW. She is currently employed in an Aboriginal identified position as the Senior Social Worker in Mudang Mudjin



(Building Strong Foundations) and Wilingali (Aboriginal and Maternal Infant Health Service) based at Cranebrook Community Health Centre. Maddison has a special interest in working with Aboriginal children and families.

In 2019, her work “Social Work in the Hospital Setting: The Importance of Aboriginal Hospital Liaison Officers” was published as a chapter in the second edition of Our Voices: Aboriginal Social Work. This was followed in 2021 with “Working with Aboriginal Older People” published in the book Aboriginal Fields of Practice.

At home she can be found reading a book with her 40kg Labrador laying on her.





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# Allied Health Assistant, Technician or Support Person of the Year

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This award recognises the Allied Health Assistant, Technician or Support Person who consistently provides extraordinary and quality support for allied health professions and allied health services.

They actively support a positive culture in line with NSW Health's CORE values.

This individual demonstrates a commitment to elevating the patient experience by being the backbone of the allied health service for their organisation. They show professionalism and are a proven team player.

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## Jennifer Pitt

### Allied Health Assistant, Mid North Coast Local Health District

Jen works as an AHA at the Port Macquarie Base Hospital. She works on the Sub Acute Program in Occupational Therapy and across all Allied Health divisions. She also works in the Osteoporosis Clinic at the PMBH.



Jen loves to spend time with her rescued greyhound, is currently learning to be a volunteer for 'Greyhound Rescue' and is an animal and wildlife advocate. She goes on adventure trips on motorbikes with her husband and has just started learning French so she can buy and restore an old villa in France.

new AHAs, particularly in small and remote towns. She facilitates the Positive Parenting Program, giving families the skills to be the best parents they can be. She also organises and assists with fine motor programs for pre-schoolers and kindies to be ready for school.

When not planning her next overseas adventure, she is volunteering in the Dubbo Community with a children's mobile hearing clinic (Hear our Heart), Meals on Wheels and coordinating craft groups in the local housing estate.

## Deborah Mitchell

### Allied Health Assistant, Southern NSW Local Health District

Deborah is an AHA working in the Sub-Acute Rehabilitation Unit and Physiotherapy team at South East Regional Hospital. She is part of the Quality Improvement team of the Sub-Acute Rehabilitation Unit. She is completing the Allied Health Assistant Cert IV course while working full time.



Outside work she loves gardening and walking her dog, a very exuberant and active Border Collie.

## Judith Armstrong

### Allied Health Assistant, Western NSW Local Health District

Judy is the AHA for Occupational Therapy at Dubbo Primary and Community Health with over 24 years' experience working with children and families. Judy willingly shares her knowledge and experience with rural and remote AHAs and mentors

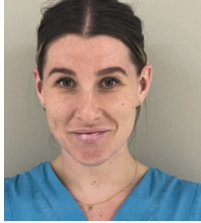


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## Rachael Murdoch

Allied Health Assistant,  
Murrumbidgee  
Local Health District

Rachael is an AHA with the Older Persons Mental Health Unit at Wagga Wagga Base Hospital. Rachael consistently goes above and beyond, and advocates for her elderly consumers and their families whilst maintaining a client centred and recovery oriented approach.



Rachael has been instrumental in implementing the wards sensory rooms, dance therapy and other physical activities. She has developed resources which enable staff to develop evidence-based care plans.

Rachael loves spending time with her family. She is mother to a 3-year-old and is expecting her 2nd child soon. She is also studying at university full time and is known for watching 'The Office' and 'Kath and Kim' on repeat.

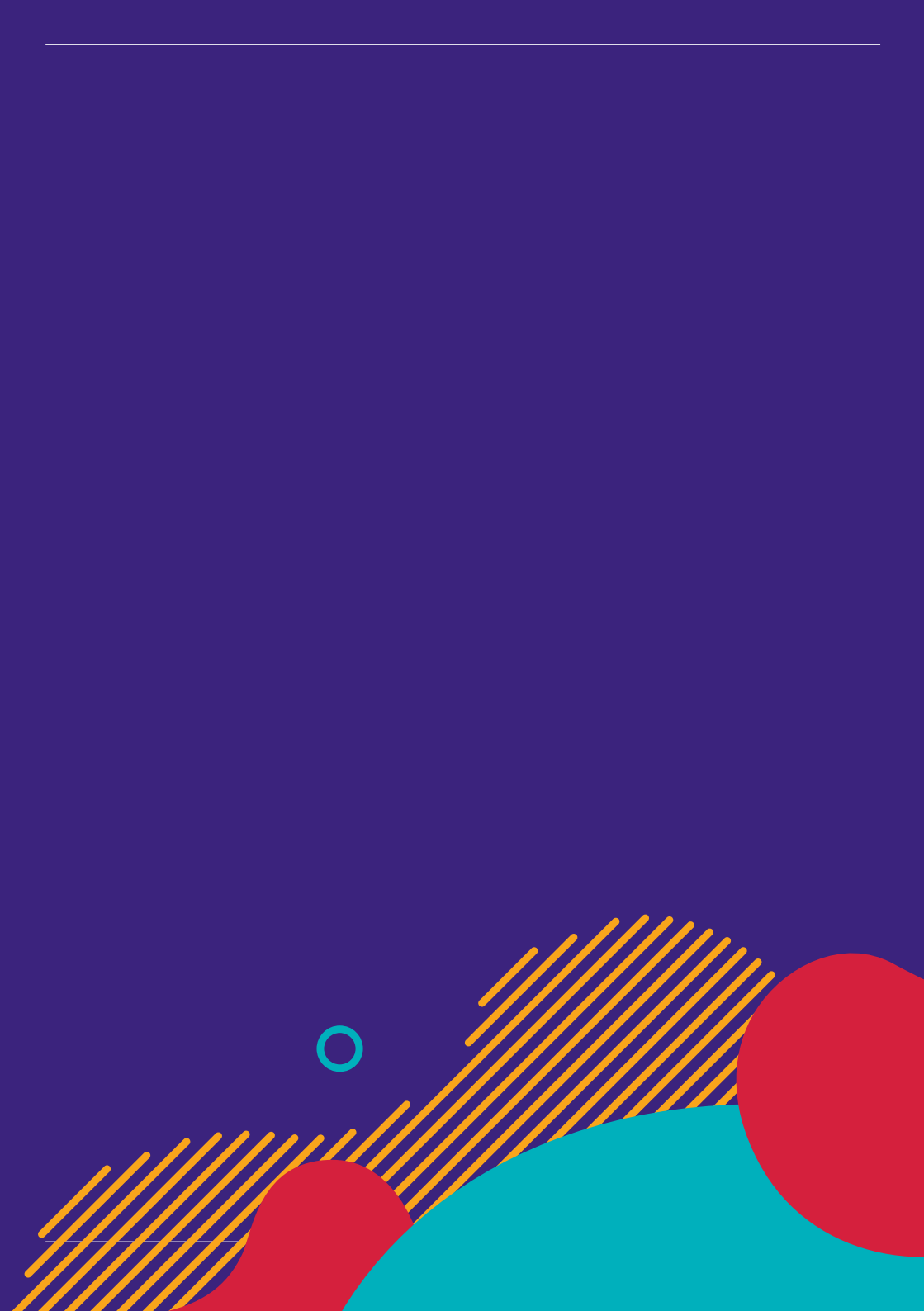
## Angelica Anna Torrijos

Allied Health Assistant,  
Sydney Children's  
Hospital Network

Angelica is an AHA for the Child Life and Music Therapy Department at The Children's Hospital at Westmead. She works within the Oncology Clinic supporting children and families to cope with their healthcare experiences through the provision of play opportunities.



Angelica has been instrumental in creating a sense of community within the Oncology treatment space. She is a warm and welcoming presence who goes above-and-beyond in creating interactive displays to allow children and families to share their journeys. Angelica can be found caring for and playing with her cousin who has additional needs. She has a newfound interest in Korean drama which is helping her to learn a new language.



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# Allied Health Researcher of the Year

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The Allied Health Researcher of the Year has made exemplary contributions to research to enhance Allied Health service delivery.

Their activities have been impactful and can be translated into practice. If applicable, research has commenced and the researcher is working towards peer reviewed publication, has had a peer review publication in last 4 years and/or the researcher is a supervisor/ co-author for a paper.



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## A/Professor Grahame Simpson

Social Work,  
South Western Sydney  
Local Health District

Grahame is a social worker who has worked at Liverpool Hospital Brain Injury Unit for the last 35 years. He established the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Research Group at the Ingham Institute, which delivers an allied health-driven research program in the field of neurorehabilitation.



Grahame developed two psychoeducational interventions now successfully trialled in the United States, funded by the US Department of Defence and the National Institute for Disability Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research respectively. In 2019, he was awarded an International Visiting Research Fellowship by the Swedish Research Council for Health. He enjoys following YouTube channels that focus on spaceflight, playing with his toy poodle, and as COVID-19 permits, travelling interstate or overseas.

## Rachel Sutherland

Nutrition and  
Dietetics,  
Hunter New  
England Local  
Health District



Rachel is a Dietitian and Public Health Nutritionist in the Population Health Unit at HNELHD. She is passionate about the use of digital technologies to support programs that aim to prevent the onset of chronic disease.

Rachel's service delivery and research focuses on the use of implementation science to translate research evidence into practice to benefit the community. The research she has led has been the recipient of two NSW Health Awards, including the 2022 Research and Innovation Award for the design, implementation and scale up of the SWAP IT Healthy Lunchbox program. This program is now being delivered across 11 LHDs in NSW and nationally to more than 3000 schools across Australia.

Outside work, she's usually Uber'ing her three children to multiple sporting events.

## Professor Elizabeth Lobb

Counselling,  
South Eastern  
Sydney Local  
Health District



Liz works at Calvary Health Care Kogarah and has 28 years' experience in genetics, psycho-oncology, palliative care and bereavement research, clinical practice and education.

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She has conducted multi-site clinical trials and developed patient information materials; carer psycho-social and educational interventions, decision-making tools and communication guidelines.

In 2020 Liz received funding from the Medical Research Future Fund to identify the information and support needs and mental health outcomes of people bereaved during the COVID-19 pandemic. Over 2,000 bereaved Australians completed surveys and interviews to develop a National Pandemic Bereavement Preparedness Plan.

She loves walking her two energetic puppies, keeping up with her reading group and finding time to complete a piece of sculpture.

## Dr Kirupamani (Mani) Viswasam

Psychology,  
Nepean Blue Mountains  
Local Health District

Dr Kirupamani Viswasam (known as Mani) is a psychologist working at Nepean Hospital with a passion for excellence in mental health and improving outcomes for people with mental health conditions.



Mani's recent research investigated the impact of maternal mental health and the psychological outcomes for their offspring and the quality of life for the family.

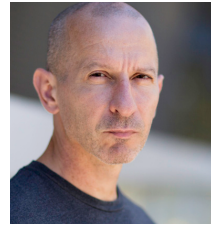
Mani's research has implications for understanding the psychological sequelae of anxiety disorders in pregnancy for women and their babies.

Outside work she spends time with her grandkids, embroiders and loves going for walks.

## Dr George Ntoumenopoulos

Physiotherapy,  
St Vincent's Health Network

George is a Senior ICU physiotherapist at St Vincent's Health Sydney. George also has a role as Consultant Physiotherapist and undertakes research in the ICU investigating the uses of lung/muscle ultrasound.



George obtained funding to spend 1 month in Bergen, Norway, in 2022 on a research project to validate the use of ultrasound of the larynx/voice box during non-invasive ventilation and mechanical cough assist.

Outside work George loves spending time with his partner Billy planning their next holiday and looking after their pet budgerigars.





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# Allied Health Educator of the Year

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The Allied Health Educator of the Year has made exemplary contributions to the education of others to improve Allied Health services.

This could include teaching of: Allied Health professional peers, students, other health disciplines, patients or the general public. Their activities have been impactful to improve the practice standards of Allied Health Professionals, the knowledge of specific health conditions or understanding of Allied Health services.

The education can be provided as part of a formal teaching role or in an informal capacity.

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## Sally Connell

### Occupational Therapy, Illawarra Shoalhaven Local Health District

Sally is the Allied Health Educator in ISLHD for palliative care.



Sally has worked on projects for aged care facilities, allied health competencies, education needs, and education of community nursing and medical professionals on the role of Allied Health. She also works clinically as an occupational therapist for palliative care.

When not working she enjoys bushwalking, beach days with her dogs and baking.

## Amanda Jenkins

### Physiotherapy, Sydney Children's Hospital Network

Amanda is a physiotherapist who has over 14 years' experience working in educator roles in SCHN during her 17-year career. She was recently appointed as the Associate Director of Education and Training (Non-Medical) working across Randwick and Westmead campuses.



Amanda founded the SCHN Allied Health Grants Program to support staff engaged in professional development and to develop new education. Under Amanda's leadership, Schwartz Rounds and clinical supervision portfolio were established for all SCHN staff. Amanda has supervised over 550 students on 5-week clinical placements.

Outside work Amanda is usually playing sport, watching sport or thinking about sport. On weekends she can be found running next to her 4-year-old daughter riding her scooter.

## Loren Johnson

### Occupational Therapy, South Western Sydney Local Health District

Loren is an occupational therapist who has worked at Campbelltown and Camden Hospitals for 10 years. Loren has an interest in Neurology, Clinical Education and the NDIS.



Loren has developed and implemented the Student Intensity Training Program which won a SWSLHD quality award, as well as implemented an NDIS clinician toolkit that led to the establishment of local and district procedures for inpatients and outpatients.

On weekends Loren can be found baking fondant cookies, planning a holiday or brunching with friends.

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## Katrina Travassaros

Occupational Therapy,  
Northern Sydney  
Local Health District

Katrina is an occupational therapist and Student Unit Clinical Educator at RNS Hospital. Her career has spanned the clinical continuum of care in the public and private health sectors as a clinician, manager, educator, and rehab consultant in Australia, Europe and North America.



Her projects and clinical initiatives include pioneering the OT Student Summer Internship Program, Three Principle-Resilience Staff/Student Training and the Occupational Science Learning Circle Collaborative.

Katrina is a festival enthusiast - from world music, all things art, film, biennales, through to photography. She is also currently mastering meditation practice and exploring the world of epigenetics.

## Ryan Fitz-Henry

Physiotherapy,  
Nepean Blue Mountains  
Local Health District

Ryan is a physiotherapist at Nepean Hospital. He works across a variety of outpatient clinical areas including hydrotherapy, orthopaedics and hand therapy. Ryan has also been in the role of outpatient clinical educator at Nepean Hospital since 2016.



In 2022 Ryan worked on a QI project responding to changing university and student needs. The project expanded the role of Nepean as a teaching hospital by increasing the diversity of placements, the number of staff taking students and the number of student placements.

Outside of work at NBMLHD, Ryan loves touring across Europe sharing his music at various pubs venues.



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# Early Career Allied Health Professional of the Year

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This award recognises Early Career Allied Health Professionals who have shown exceptional potential during their first two years of practice.

This Allied Health Professional is committed to supporting a positive culture in line with NSW Health CORE values.

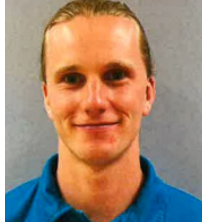
The Early Career Allied Health Professional demonstrates passion and commitment to the provision of quality, safe and compassionate care to patients and their family/caregivers. They are committed to seeking continuous learning opportunities and are driven to demonstrate emerging clinical excellence for their discipline.

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## Koby Old

### Occupational Therapy, Mid North Coast Local Health District

Koby is an occupational therapist at Port Macquarie Base Hospital with a special interest in acute care and hand therapy.



As a new graduate he has engaged in numerous working groups such as the falls prevention committee, documentation working parties and social committees. Koby has also developed skills in a range of settings, including rehabilitation, hand therapy, and outpatients.

When not at work Koby can be found relaxing at the beach with friends, surfing, playing rugby or training for a marathon with local running groups.

## Stephanie Wylie

### Nutrition and Dietetics, Far West Local Health District

Stephanie is a dietitian at Broken Hill Hospital and has had the opportunity to work across inpatient and outpatient caseloads since joining the team mid-2022.



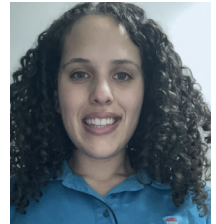
Stephanie has had the opportunity to implement a new healthy eating and exercise program for osteoarthritis patients, alongside the FWLHD exercise physiologist.

She is involved with local sports and loves exploring Broken Hill and surrounding areas.

## Marina Mansour

### Occupational Therapy, Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network

Marina is an occupational therapist at The Forensic Hospital with a special interest in working with young people. Her passion to optimise the wellbeing of young people also extends to working in WSLHD as a Child and Adolescent Mental Health occupational therapist.



Presenting on a quality improvement project at the Mental Health Occupational Therapy Forum in November 2022 is one of many career highlights for Marina. Her oral presentation examined the impact of music streaming services on a high secure forensic adolescent unit.

Outside work she loves walking by the beach and drinking numerous cups of coffees with family and friends.

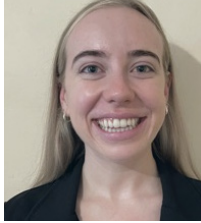
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## Ivy Moore

Nutrition and Dietetics,  
Western NSW  
Local Health District

Ivy is a dietitian at Bathurst and Orange Health Services in Western NSW with a special interest in nutrition in oncology. Earlier this year Ivy had a manuscript published in the Journal of Kidney and Dialysis regarding the prevalence and lived experience of pain in patients undertaking renal replacement therapy. Ivy looks forward to engaging in quality projects within NSW Health as her career progresses.

Outside work Ivy spends time fawning over her corgi puppy, Kevin.



## Maddison Breen

Nutrition and Dietetics,  
Sydney Local Health District

Maddi is a clinical dietitian working at Royal Prince Alfred Hospital with a keen interest in home enteral nutrition and inflammatory bowel disease.



She recently commenced a pilot feasibility study in inflammatory bowel disease. She has also worked on quality improvement projects, presented at grand rounds and continues to further her professional development.

Outside work Maddi can be found catching up with friends and family at the newest restaurant or bar in town.





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# Allied Health Professional of the Year

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The Allied Health Professional of the Year makes an outstanding contribution to clinical excellence, leadership, education and culture.

They advocate for evidence-based practice, focus on value-based health care and provide safe, quality and compassionate patient care. They actively support a positive culture in line with NSW Health's CORE values.

This Allied Health Professional shows commitment to supporting, empowering and upskilling those surrounding them. They passionately advocate for their profession, allied health and collaborate across professions and services. The individual is recognised by peers for their outstanding professionalism and the continuous demonstration of pride to be an Allied Health Professional within NSW Health.

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## Nikki Ridley

Psychology,  
South Eastern Sydney  
Local Health District

Nikki is a clinical neuropsychologist who works in Drug and Alcohol Services (DAS) across South Eastern Sydney. She works in community outreach and community-based drug and alcohol treatment services.



Over the last eight years, Nikki has developed and implemented a service-wide process to screen DAS clients for cognitive impairment, ensuring that clients with brain injuries and intellectual disabilities have access to appropriate treatment. She also collects and publishes clinical research (25 publications and conference presentations to date).

When not working as an Allied Health Professional, you can find Nikki chasing after her one-year-old son and energetic Kelpador (Kelpie cross Labrador) with coffee in hand.

## Kylie Stewart

Occupational Therapy,  
South Western Sydney  
Local Health District

Kylie is an occupational therapist who has worked at Liverpool and Fairfield Mental Health service for the past 23 years in both inpatient and community settings. She has presented her clinical work and projects at local, state, national and international levels. Kylie's mentoring of occupational therapists has seen her OT team accepted to present 5 different projects at the last National Mental Health Occupational Therapy Forum. She has a busy life outside work, caring for five kids, two dogs, one pygmy bearded dragon, and a fish, while completing a PhD, attempting karate, and crocheting up a storm.



## Jessica Trembath

Social Work,  
Mid North Coast  
Local Health District

Jessica is a Social Worker working in Perinatal Infant Mental Health in Port Macquarie Community Mental Health with a background in working CAMHS, Early Psychosis and Paediatric Psychiatry Consultation Liaison.



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Jessica developed the Gathang Lullaby project, an infant emotional health intervention focusing on singing a lullaby in Gathang language, developed with local Elders and language groups on Birpai Country to support early attachment in pregnancy and postpartum.

She loves spending time at home enjoying her two young children and also time at the beach.

## Leigh Ambrose

Radiation Therapy,  
Northern Sydney  
Local Health District

Leigh is a senior radiation therapist at the Northern Sydney Cancer Centre and leads the department's adaptive radiation therapy program. Leigh has 30 years' experience in her profession.



In 2022, Leigh travelled to San Antonio, Texas to present on implementing adaptive radiotherapy into a department. She is currently studying a Master of Advanced Radiation Therapy Practice at Monash University.

When not at work, Leigh can be found studying for university as well as sourcing great travel hot spots in Scandinavia, baking sourdough and chasing her two crazy spoodles around the dog park.

## Bronwen Craig

Speech Pathology,  
Western Sydney  
Local Health District

Bronwen's 20-year career in Speech Pathology has been spent in Western Sydney working across Westmead, Blacktown-Mt Druitt and Auburn Hospitals.

Bronwen commenced working with adult patients, however, has since specialised in the field of neonatal feeding in the NICU at Westmead Hospital.



Over the course of her career Bronwen has mentored speech pathologists from around the state in the area of neonatal feeding. She has also been heavily involved in data governance and data entry, providing input into most of the state-wide Allied Health projects in the past 15 years.

When not at work Bronwen enjoys spending time with her two young daughters and baking. Her colleagues have greatly benefitted from the latter over the years.

