

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **YOGIE AWARD WINNERS**

#### **Celebrating Outstanding Achievements in Youth Work**

Ms Joy Burch MLA, Minister for Disability, Housing and Community Services, today presented 10 YOGIE Awards to a number of youth services and youth workers for excellence in youth work.

The YOGIE Awards, coordinated by the Youth Coalition of the ACT, recognise outstanding contributions to young people and youth work.

Some of the winners included (please see attached booklet for the full list of winners):

*Outstanding Youth Worker Award: Steve Byrne*

Steve Byrne most recently worked as a youth worker at headspace ACT, and has been involved in the Canberra youth sector for a number of years.

*Outstanding New Talent Award: Maryse Pietersz*

Maryse works as a youth worker in the Transition Program at Barnardos, which provides support and accommodation to chronically homeless young people in the ACT.

*Outstanding Contribution to Young People Award: Carrie Fowlie*

Carrie is the former Deputy Director of the Youth Coalition of the ACT, and is well-known in the youth sector for her commitment and dedication to supporting and advocating for young people in the ACT.

*Lifetime Achievement Award: Andy Miles*

Andy is currently the manager of Barnardos Transition Program in Canberra, and has been working with young people for more than 12 years.

**For further comment please contact Emma Robertson on 0422 665 469**

# 2009 YOGIE Award Winners

## **Organisation, Service, Program or Project Awards:**

### *1. Outstanding Achievement in Youth Participation Award*

This award recognises an organisation, service, program or project that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to developing meaningful partnerships with young people.

### *2. Innovation in Practice Award*

This award recognises an organisation, service, program or project that has demonstrated exceptional “thinking outside the square” to create beneficial change for young people.

### *3. Collaboration for Change Award*

This award recognises an organisation, service, program or project that has demonstrated an outstanding collaboration or partnership in their community as a means to achieving positive outcomes for young people.

### *4. Excellence in Research and Evaluation Award*

This award recognises an organisation, service, program or project that has conducted research and / or evaluation for the advancement of knowledge in youth affairs and / or the improvement of practice with young people.

### *5. Excellence in Organisational Practice Award*

This award recognises an organisation, service, or program that has demonstrated excellence in organisational development as a means to achieving positive outcomes with young people.

## **Individual Awards:**

### *1. Outstanding Youth Worker Award*

This award recognises an individual youth worker who has advanced the rights and well-being of young people by advocating for systemic change, supporting young people to access full membership of society and to be decision-makers in their own lives.

### *2. Outstanding New Talent Award*

This award recognises an individual youth worker, youth work trainee or volunteer that has demonstrated an outstanding commitment to improving the well-being of young people.

### *3. Lifetime Achievement Award*

This award recognises an individual who has consistently demonstrated a commitment to supporting and improving the well-being of young people in the ACT.

### *4. Outstanding Contribution to Young People Award*

This award recognises an outstanding individual who works to improve the well-being of young people in the ACT.