



UMBRELLA CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER ANNA HARRISON WINS *LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT* AWARD

Perth, Western Australia - Umbrella Multicultural Community Care Services Inc.'s CEO, Ms Anna Harrison, was named the winner of the Lifetime of Achievement Award category in the 2018 Aged and Community Services Australia: Aged Care State Awards on Friday 13th July 2018.

The ACSA Aged Care Awards celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions of organisations, teams and individuals in the aged care industry. The awards generate pride in education and training, showcase innovation and teamwork, highlight unique leadership capabilities and focus on the passion, hard work and dedication of those who work across the not-for-profit aged care and community care sector.

This award honours Anna's more than 40 years of hard work in making a positive and lasting difference in the lives of many people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CaLD) and LGBTI backgrounds. Anna was instrumental in supporting the WA Association of Polish Women to receive funding from the Commonwealth Government for the community aged care packages (program under the name of 'Rainbow' Multicultural Aged Care Programme. It was the first CaLD specific program serving multicultural communities in Perth. In 2000, Ms Harrison established the next CaLD specific aged care program under Home and Community Care *Umbrella* Multicultural Community Care Services Inc. Anna is also a passionate advocate for the LGBTI community and has created the first LGBTI specific aged care program in WA.

Ms Harrison expressed her sincere appreciation and thanks to the Aged & Community Services Australia for recognizing people who made a true difference in the lives of elderly through their Aged Care Awards. "To receive a state and possible national recognition for the work I have done in the community for the last 40 years is incredibly humbling. Migrants face several challenges when they are restarting their life in the country. Being a women migrant added to those challenges specially in the 70's and 80's. I had a choice back then: travel through life and do nothing or stand up and make a difference in my community. I chose the latter. Australia is my home for 41 years and I always wanted to pay back Australia for its kindness, acceptance and fair go to all. My biggest achievement is that we have an organisation that invites everyone to be part of an amazing family that looks after them. Ageing is not a sentence, it's a beautiful stage in life that should be celebrated. I think my Umbrella team is outstanding because we break barriers and look after people the best we can. I am lucky and blessed to work with such an amazing group of people, who also share my vision. Thank you to those who nominated me and supported my nomination. "

Anna will represent WA as a finalist in the National Awards, held in September at the ACSA National Summit.

About Anna

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Anna Harrison is the Chief Executive officer of Umbrella Multicultural Community Care Services Inc. Umbrella Inc. is a not-for-profit organisation that provides community aged care services for over 750 seniors from 58 different countries including LGBTI seniors. Umbrella programs focus on recognition and celebration of diversity, wellness and promoting independence. Umbrella believes that it is the recognition of the value of difference that combats discrimination and promotes inclusion. Services are provided by culturally trained and bilingual workers from culturally diverse backgrounds. The organisation's key objective is to accommodate the culturally diverse needs of our clients and ensure that the cultural backgrounds and languages of our clients are well matched with support staff.

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