

Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 2017



Three ACH Group finalists in ACSA Awards

ACH Group has three finalists in the Aged & Community Services (ACS) SA & NT Awards for Excellence, to be announced at the National Wine Centre on Friday 23 June.

The ACS Awards promote and recognise excellence in a range of areas that contribute to the quality of life of older people, people with disabilities and or their carers.

The Awards also acknowledge efforts to increase public confidence and community involvement in aged and community care services.

ACH Group finalists are:

ACSA Trainee of the Year Award: *Samantha Manoel, ACH Group Healthy Ageing Coordinator*

Samantha has worked for ACH Group for 10.5 years and has worked across a variety of roles, starting as a volunteer working with residents in 2003. She has worked as a cleaner, care worker, enrolled nurse and dementia consultant.

Among her achievements, Samantha has:

- Developed a 'singing in the shower' program which uses residents' favourite music to reduce anxiety around showering time.
- Established a 'namaste' massage program for people with late stage dementia.
- Strengthened the Dementia Champions Program by providing coaching and mentoring to dementia champions operating in residential division.
- Developed a training program for students undertaking placements at ACH Group to develop their confidence and allay fears associated with working with people with dementia.

ACS Innovation in Service Award: *ACH Group Interprofessional Learning Program*

Developed in partnership with Flinders University, University of Adelaide and University of South Australia, this program has delivered 176,000 hours (1,328 student placements) in the last three years for students in South Australia studying Aged Care, Bachelor of Medicine, Business, Dietetics, Enrolled Nursing, Physiology, Psychology, Social Work, Speech Pathology and more.

ACS Volunteer Award: *Ann Bain*

Ann has been a dedicated volunteer with ACH Group for 15 years. As well as helping to run the ACH Group Hydro Class at Seaford State Swim every week for the last 13 years, Ann has been heavily involved in volunteering in a wide range of roles for many other organisations in the Southern Districts area, including the McLaren Flat Netball Club (33 years) as umpire and committee member.

End Media Release

About ACH Group

ACH Group is a not-for-profit aged care organisation that has been offering services to support good lives for older people in South Australia since 1952. As well as accommodation options across Adelaide, the Fleurieu Peninsula and East Melbourne, the group offers a range of health, wellbeing, respite and support services, help at home and social activities. Our 1700 specialist staff and hundreds of volunteers share the belief that older people should be valued and respected, connected to their communities and in control of their lives.

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