

27 January 2023

Staff recognised for excellence in allied health

South Western Sydney Local Health District has congratulated four allied health professionals who are among 35 finalists nominated for the second annual NSW Health Excellence in Allied Health Awards.

The finalists have been selected from nominations across seven categories which recognise allied health professionals who have made a difference in clinical practice, leadership, education and research.

NSW Health Excellence in Allied Health Awards finalists are:

- Aboriginal Health Professional of the Year: Tiffany Sithideth, Social Worker, Primary & Community Health
- Allied Health Professional of the Year: Kylie Stewart, Occupational Therapist, Mental Health
- Allied Health Researcher of the Year: Associate Professor Grahame Simpson, Social Work, Liverpool Hospital
- Allied Health Educator of the Year: Loren Johnson, Occupational Therapist, Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals

The District's Executive Director of Allied Health and Community Services, Ms Sue Colley congratulated the finalists and wished them luck come the Awards night on 23 February.

"I am incredibly proud of the care our multidisciplinary allied health team provides the people of south western Sydney, making a difference every day optimising the health and wellbeing of the communities they serve," Ms Colley said.

"This is a phenomenal achievement recognising our wonderful allied health professionals for their invaluable contributions to allied health education, research and service delivery."

The NSW Health Excellence in Allied Health Awards will be celebrated at a ceremony on February 23 2023 from 6pm, which will be livestreamed.

NSW Excellence in Allied Health Awards

- Tiffany Sithideth is a proud Gomerrigal woman and team leader of the Aboriginal Social Work Team. Her commitment and professional approach to working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families, as well as building cultural capability and evidence-based practice through support, guidance, education and encouragement, has enhanced health outcomes for Aboriginal families in south western Sydney.

- Kylie Stewart is a Senior Occupational Therapist and team leader for the Liverpool and Fairfield Mental Health Service. She has consulted across mental health services and is an avid promoter of occupational therapy and allied health in mental health and quality clinical care.
- Loren Johnson is the Occupational Therapy Student Unit Supervisor at Camden and Campbelltown Hospitals. She has designed and implemented different student models to develop the skills of emerging clinicians and produce high-quality care for patients.
- Associate Professor Grahame Simpson is a leader of research that aims to improve health outcomes and quality of life for people who have suffered traumatic brain injury (TBI) or spinal injury. His research has transformed care nationally and internationally, impacting clinical practice guidelines and frameworks used by clinicians to guide the provision of high quality care.