



7 - 13 September 2014

ISSUED UNDER EMBARGO | EMBARGO EXPIRES 1PM THURSDAY 4 SEPTEMBER

## QLD CHILD PROTECTION WINNERS '14 : OVERVIEW

SUE DIGGLES' work as a student protection officer impacts 71,000 students across 137 schools in the State's south east. The Senior Education Officer, who has responsibilities for student protection at Brisbane Catholic Education, has won 2014's **Professional (Non-Government)** category.

The entire school staff at CAROLE PARK STATE SCHOOL, a small, disadvantaged primary school built between two motorways on an outer Brisbane industrial estate, has won 2014's **Educational Initiative** Award. The school's in-house Art therapy program – run in partnership with the University of Queensland's Medical School – has assisted 30% of students at risk of 'psychiatric disability'.

A real life 'pyjama angel' who reads stories to children in foster care has won the **Volunteer** category of Queensland's top child protection awards, for reading bedtime stories to abused and neglected children. For the past seven years, CATHRYN CROWE has volunteered as a Pyjama Foundation 'angel'.

Brisbane's ANN GEORGE has won the **Community Initiative** award for her beautifully simple *Project: Love and Care*, which gives care packages to Queensland children fleeing abuse and neglect. Since launching in 2005, more than 40,000 care packs have been given to children in care or living in domestic violence shelters. Some 700 volunteers are now involved Statewide.

The respected Aboriginal elder, AUNTY DI MOORE, has won the inaugural Queensland Child Protection Week award for her nearly 30-years' commitment to child protection across Brisbane and surrounding areas. Aunty Di is the inaugural winner of **Addressing Indigenous Over-Representation** award.

Bundaberg's Yarning Up steering committee has won the **Media & Communications** category for a report it produced that is already being credited with making a "significant difference" to child protection. The report is now being used to develop an accredited training program for Indigenous community workers.

The Bundaberg Child Protection Week Action Group has won 2014's **Regional Program** category for their near year-long efforts in promoting child protection.

LEE-ANN DAVIS-COLLIER, a foster carer and artist from the Far North Queensland town of Innisfail, has won the **Youth Participation** award for a public art mural painted by local children in foster care.

Social worker MATTHEW J. ARMSTRONG has won the **Professional (Government)** award. Matthew has worked in Queensland's Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services for close to 20 years, the past 10 in the South Burnett region. His research is cited in top academic texts.

Visit <http://childprotectionweek.org.au/>

### Further information

Teresa Adamson | 0413 682 845 (enquiries at all other times)

Caitlin King QCPW Project Officer | 0418 408 062 (for enquiries between 9am-3pm Wed 3 Sep)

###