



MNCLHD

Health Innovation

Awards Guideline

2022

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2022 HEALTH INNOVATION AWARDS

INTRODUCTION

The annual MNCLHD Health Innovation Awards recognise innovation and excellence in the delivery of health programs and services to the Mid North Coast communities who use the public health system.

The 2022 Awards continue to focus on how MNCLHD meets the objectives of the NSW State Health Plan and ensuring the long-term sustainability of our healthcare system. This is achieved through innovative ways of delivering an integrated health system; creative partnerships; and improving efficiencies to supporting better health for the people of the Mid North Coast of NSW.

2022 AWARDS

Governing Board Chair Award

This Award is selected by the Chair from all Team Category submissions to recognise significant achievement by a team or service.

Chief Executive Close the Gap Award

Closing the Gap is a key strategic priority for Mid North Coast Local Health District. This Award is selected by the Chief Executive from all Team Category submissions to recognise excellence in Aboriginal Health Care.

Team Awards

1. Excellence in the Provision of Mental Health Services
2. Health Research and Innovation
3. Keeping People Healthy
4. Patient Safety First
5. People and Culture
6. Transforming Patient Experience

Individual Awards

7. Volunteer of the Year
8. Staff Member of the Year
9. Collaborative Leader of the Year

Key Dates

Entries Open	Monday 21 February 2022
Entries Close	8pm, Sunday 03 April 2022
Finalists Announced	Monday 9 May 2022
Awards Ceremony	Thursday 9 June 2022

Need more information?

If you require any additional information in relation to the 2022 MNCLHD Health Innovation Awards please visit the Awards website <https://www.mnclhdevents.com.au/> or contact Danielle Jecs, on 6589 2521 or Danielle.Jecs@health.nsw.gov.au

TEAM AWARD CATEGORIES

1. Excellence in the Provision of Mental Health Services

Mental Health is a priority area for the NSW Government, with one in five (20%) Australians aged 16-85 experiencing a mental illness in any year*. This award recognises and showcases innovation in improving the quality and safety of mental health patient care within programs which display:

- best practice, excellence and innovation in mental health service delivery
- development of consumer-focused services
- positive mental health and wellbeing through consumer and carer participation
- improved prevention and early intervention.

*Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2009). National Survey of Mental Health and Wellbeing: Summary of Results, 4326.0, 2007. ABS: Canberra.

2. Health Research and Innovation

Collaboration between researchers, policy makers, service users, health managers and clinicians in research is critical and can lead to findings that are more likely to be innovative and positively inform health decisions. This includes innovative future focused infrastructure and digital health initiatives that demonstrate outstanding and innovative achievements by establishing:

- ways of assisting clinicians and health decision makers to find or use research effectively
- research partnerships or collaborations involving clinicians, health service providers, decision makers and/or consumers that have led to outstanding examples of research that changed policy or practice
- acknowledgement by decision makers of the impact of research on their policy or practice
- eHealth, health information and data analytics to support and harness health & medical research and innovation
- clinical practices and processes delivered through innovatively built spaces including new approaches to effective and efficient building projects that deliver improved clinical outcomes

3. Keeping People Healthy

The Mid North Coast Local Health District is committed to promoting good health through raising awareness of healthy choices, preventing ill health and improving the overall health and wellbeing of the community. This award aims to acknowledge similar innovative projects and programs which promote:

- reducing negative health impacts through improvements in environmental health
- action to support individuals, families and communities to make healthy lifestyle choices
- closing the gap in Aboriginal health outcomes
- improving lifestyles by targeting public health priorities such as tobacco control, physical activity, obesity, infectious disease, oral health, diabetes prevention and addressing harmful risk factors
- identifying and improving health outcomes for risk groups, e.g. children, youth, older people, workers and disadvantaged groups
- primary, secondary and population health prevention
- the integration of the CORE values in promoting healthy living.

4. Patient Safety First

Providing world-class clinical care where patient safety comes first is a key priority for the Mid North Coast Local Health District and has a shared vision that Patient Safety is everybody's business. This award acknowledges a commitment to putting Patient Safety First every day. Projects within this category will display Patient Safety First in:

- leading quality improvement to ensure safer patient care
- delivering innovative approaches to improving patient's safety
- engaging patients in approaches to improve patient safety
- demonstrating leadership or role modelling behaviour that puts patient safety first.

5. People and Culture

Developing and supporting our people and culture is a priority for the Mid North Coast Local Health District, an employer of over 4500 staff. By supporting the people working for the LHD, positive interactions in the workplace are inspired and health outcomes are improved. Initiatives within this category will show support for people within NSW Health by:

- working collaboratively within the NSW Health system to improve health outcomes
- growing and supporting a skilled workforce by hiring and developing the right people, with the right skills, at the right time
- fostering a culture that reflects the NSW Health CORE values & respects diversity
- developing effective health professional managers and leaders.

6. Transforming Patient Experience

This award aims to acknowledge projects/programs which promote collaboration between the patient and the health care team to improve health. Entries should be able to demonstrate innovation in:

- empowering patients to take control of their health and be supported in managing their own health conditions
- shared decision making; the patient is an expert in their own values and needs
- clinicians planning and delivering care in partnership with the patient
- enhancing access to patient centred care for people living with chronic illness
- promotion of CORE values in all patient interaction
- engaging consumers in strategic planning and governance processes.

INDIVIDUAL AWARD CATEGORIES

7. Volunteer of the Year

The Volunteer of the Year Award recognises the significant contribution of an individual to volunteering within the Mid North Coast Local Health District. This award aims to acknowledge an individual who:

- Provides excellent support for patients, carers and families
- Acts as a role model for volunteering within the Mid North Coast Local Health District which promotes volunteer services and inspires other volunteers
- Uses new and innovative ways to engage patients, carers and families.

8. Staff Member of the Year

This award aims to recognise Mid North Coast Local Health District employees who have made an exceptional contribution to the NSW health system. This award aims to acknowledge an individual who:

- As part of their clinical or support role within Mid North Coast Local Health District, provides excellence in service to support staff, patients, carers or families
- Is a role model for promoting positive cultural change and inspiring other staff within the Mid North Coast Local Health District
- Uses new and innovative ways to engage staff, patients, carers or families.

9. Collaborative Leader of the Year

This award aims to recognise a Mid North Coast Local Health District employee who demonstrates exceptional collaboration within their role. This award aims to acknowledge an individual who promotes:

- Innovative skills in collaboration and effective team work
- Supporting teams to work collaboratively to improve patient care
- Achieving sustainable results through successful inter-personal collaboration
- Strong corporate and clinical governance and CORE values in all health services.

AWARD CRITERIA

Team Awards

The Award Criteria and weighting relating to each award category is provided below. This information should be taken into consideration when compiling submissions.

1. **Excellence in the Provision of Mental Health Services**
2. **Health Research and Innovation**
3. **Keeping People Healthy**
4. **Patient Safety First**
5. **People and Culture**
6. **Transforming Patient Experience**

CRITERIA		POINTS
Innovation and Originality	<p>Explain the extent to which the project/program demonstrates an original or innovative approach (new or known) to an existing issue. If the project/program is using a known innovation, the extent to which it has been implemented differently/innovatively.</p> <p>The project should show resourcefulness and creativity. It may include workforce or other innovation and use of enabling technologies with support for a sustainable service model.</p>	15
Sustainable and Scalable	<p>Provide evidence showing the project/program has resulted in systemic and tangible changes which are embedded within the organisation and are sustainable over time.</p> <p>Identify and demonstrate the extent to which the project/program is scalable, able to be replicated and has been (or has potential to be) successfully transferred to other health settings / services.</p> <p>Nominations must include data/evidence to support potential outcomes and return of investment if/when the project is to be scaled.</p>	15
Better Patient Outcomes	<p>Provide evidence showing how the project/program has improved outcomes for patients. This may be either direct or flow-on depending on the nature of the project. For example, reduced length of stay or reduced morbidity. This can also focus on better outcomes in the community, including social and emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>Nominations should include data/evidence to support potential outcomes. Risk reduction is a big positive for patients, carers, staff and organisations so be sure to include references to how this is achieved.</p> <p>Note: MNCLHD encourages submission of projects/programs that address differential outcomes for Aboriginal people and can demonstrate positive outcomes that are either direct or flow-on based on the nature of the project. Evidence to demonstrate there are clear steps to ensure equity of access and reduction in the burden of disease for Aboriginal people is required.</p>	15
Better Teamwork and Partnerships	<p>Provide evidence of improved teamwork, demonstrating effective engagement through community and stakeholder consultation to meet the project/program objectives.</p> <p>Include evidence of effective care which is consumer-focused, integrated and operates across professional boundaries.</p>	15

2022 MNCLHD Health Innovation Awards

CRITERIA		POINTS
CORE – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment	The extent to which the project/program demonstrates and promotes the CORE Values - Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.	15
Link to NSW Health Strategic Planning Framework	Evidence that strategies, performance measures or health specific indicators relate to the NSW Health Plan, the NSW Health Performance Framework and Mid North Coast Local Health District Service Agreement as well as the eHealth Strategy for NSW Health.	10
Productivity and Efficiency	<p>Demonstrate evidence-based improvements in productivity and efficiency/value for money and how the project contribute towards MNCLHD Productivity Savings Efficiency Strategies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All flow-on effects e.g. staff satisfaction = decreased attrition • Talk money e.g. reduction in cost / avoided cost / time saved /people etc or income generation 	15
	TOTAL	100

AWARD CRITERIA

Individual Awards

The Award Criteria and weighting relating to each award category is provided below. This information should be taken into consideration when compiling submissions.

Volunteer of the Year

CRITERIA		POINTS
Provides Excellence in Volunteering	Provides excellent support for patients, carers and families.	25
Promotion and Engagement	Acts as a role model for volunteering within the MNCLHD which promotes volunteer services and inspires other volunteers.	25
Innovative Approaches	Evidence that the individual uses new and innovative ways to engage patients, carers and families.	25
CORE – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment	The extent to which the individual promotes any or all of the CORE values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.	25
TOTAL		100

Staff Member of the Year

CRITERIA		POINTS
Provides Excellent Services	As part of their clinical or support role within MNCLHD provides excellence in service to support staff, patients, carers or families.	25
Positive Cultural Change	Is a role model for promoting positive cultural change and inspiring other staff within MNCLHD.	25
Innovative Approaches	Evidence that the individual uses new and innovative ways to engage staff, patients, carers or families.	25
CORE – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment	The staff member demonstrates a commitment to promoting any, or all of, the CORE values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.	25
TOTAL		100

Collaborative Leader of the Year

CRITERIA		POINTS
Achieves Outcomes	<p>Demonstrates the ability to set and implement a clear strategic direction and pathway including through partnerships.</p> <p>Demonstrates positive outcomes for patients and clients while meeting service agreement targets that help improve performance.</p> <p>Demonstrates the ability to improve efficiency in meeting agreed objectives through delivering desired results.</p>	30
Transforming the System	<p>Evidence that the leader uses new information, research findings and ideas to shape health service delivery.</p> <p>Demonstrates success in change management and includes approach to dealing with issues and interests of others.</p>	20
CORE – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment	Achievements which demonstrate a commitment to promoting any, or all of, the CORE values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.	20
Engages People and Builds Partnerships	<p>Evidence that the leader has brought together two or more clinical/clinical support teams to work collaboratively to improve patient care.</p> <p>Achieves sustainable results through successful interpersonal collaboration.</p>	20
Sustainability	Evidence that system changes are favourably adopted and embedded.	10
	TOTAL	100

ENTRY FORMS

The following templates have been designed to assist in identifying the relevant components relating to the award category and addressing the award criteria. The quality of all award submissions is considered by the judging panels. Please ensure information is presented in a logical, coherent manner supported by evidence and/or research.

Entry Form One

Awards 1-6 – also refer to Appendix 2: Style Guidelines

AWARD CATEGORY	
Award Category:	
ENTRANT CONTACT DETAILS	
Team Contact Name: (please select one member of your team)	
Contact Position Title:	
Contact Number:	
Facility or service unit:	
Contact Postal Address:	
Email Address:	
Number of People in Your Entry Team:	

SECTION	WORD LIMIT	GUIDELINES
Entry title	<i>Max. 50 characters</i>	Keep the title short and interesting for the judges
Partner Organisation		List any partner organisations

SECTION	WORD LIMIT	GUIDELINES
Abstract	<i>150 Words</i>	<p>Provide a clear succinct outline of the project/program noting the aim, method, results and conclusion.</p> <p>Please note this abstract will be used for promotional materials if this entry becomes a finalist.</p>
Relevance to entry category	<i>125 words</i>	<p>Explain how:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project relates to the Award Category 2. The project meets the strategic aims of the Award Category 3. Any substantial benefits impact across other Award Categories.
Innovation and Originality	<i>250 words</i>	<p>Explain the extent to which the project/program demonstrates an original or innovative approach (new or known) to an existing issue.</p> <p>If the project/program is using a known innovation, explain the extent to which it has been implemented differently/innovatively.</p> <p>The project should show resourcefulness and creativity and may include workforce or other innovation and use of enabling technologies with support for a sustainable service model.</p>
Sustainable and Scalable	<i>250 words</i>	<p>Systemic changes which are embedded within MNCLHD and are sustainable over time. Identify the extent to which the project/program is scalable, able to be replicated and has been (or has potential to be) successfully transferred to other health services/ settings, including metrics, examples, research/evaluation programs or publications.</p> <p>Nominations must include data/evidence to support potential outcomes and return of investment if/when the project is to be scaled.</p>
Better Patient Outcomes	<i>200 words</i>	<p>Provide evidence (including metrics, examples, research/evaluation programs or publications) showing how the project/program has improved outcomes for patients. These may be either direct or flow-on depending on the nature of the project. For example, reduced length of stay or reduced morbidity. This can also focus on better outcomes in the community, including social and emotional wellbeing.</p> <p>Note: MNCLHD encourages projects that address differential outcomes for Aboriginal people and can demonstrate positive outcomes that are either direct or flow-on based on the nature of the project. Ability to demonstrate there are clear steps to ensure equity of access and reduction in the burden of disease for Aboriginal people.</p>

SECTION	WORD LIMIT	GUIDELINES
Better Teamwork and Partnerships	<i>100 words</i>	Provide evidence of improved teamwork, demonstrating effective engagement through community and stakeholder consultation to meet the project/program objectives. Provide evidence of effective care which is consumer-focused, integrated and operates across professional boundaries.
CORE Values – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment	<i>100 words</i>	Explain the extent to which the project/program demonstrates and promotes the CORE Values – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.
Link to NSW Health strategic planning framework	<i>100 words</i>	Explain how the project/program links to the NSW Health strategic planning framework. Provide evidence of strategies, performance measures or health specific indicators which relate to the NSW 2021 Plan, the NSW Health Performance Framework and MNCLHD Service Agreement as well as the eHealth Strategy for NSW Health.
Productivity and Efficiency	<i>100 words</i>	Show the project /program demonstrates an improvement in productivity and efficiency/value for money. Include any metrics, examples, research/evaluation programs or publications.
Total Tables and Graphics	1375 words <i>Must be in pdf, .doc, .xls, .xlsx, .docx, .jpg, .jpeg, or .png format and under 3MB</i>	Including references; but excluding reference list and entry title. Tables and graphics are to be included as separate attachments. These should be clearly referenced in the body of your submission and correspond to the file name, for example 'Table1' and Table1.doc.
Reference list	List any references	

Entry Form Two

Awards 7-9 – also refer to Appendix 2: Style Guidelines

AWARD CATEGORY	
Award Category:	Choose one of the Individual Award categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteer of the Year • Staff Member of the Year • Collaborative Leader of the Year
NOMINATOR 1 CONTACT DETAILS	
Contact Name:	Nominees for an Individual Award must be nominated by two people. Enter the contact details of Nominator 1 in this section.
Contact Position Title:	
Clinical Network / Facility/Unit:	
Contact Phone Number:	
Contact Email Address:	
NOMINATOR 2 CONTACT DETAILS	
Contact Name:	Nominees for an Individual Award must be nominated by two people. Enter the contact details of Nominator 2 in this section.
Contact Position Title:	
Clinical Network / Facility/Unit:	
Contact Phone Number:	
Contact Email Address:	
NOMINEE'S CONTACT DETAILS	
Nominee Name:	Enter the nominee's contact information in this section.
Clinical Network / Facility/Unit:	
Nominee Position Title:	
Nominee Postal Address:	
Nominee Phone Number:	
Nominee Email Address:	

SECTION	WORD LIMIT	GUIDELINES
Relevance to entry category	100 words	Succinct statement of how the individual meets the Award Category and meets the aims as described in the relevant Award Criteria. Please note this will be used for promotional materials if this entry becomes a finalist.

SECTION	WORD LIMIT	GUIDELINES
Individual Achievement	<i>1100 words</i>	Statement of the individual's specific achievement in relation to this award. To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline of the individual's contribution to MNCLHD and the health sector more broadly • Evidence of the individual's contribution to each of the specific award criteria for the award being applied for.
Relationship to CORE Values	<i>50 words</i>	CORE — Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment. Describe how the individual promotes or enacts any, or all of, the CORE values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.
Total	<i>1250 words</i>	Including references; but excluding reference list.
Reference list	List any references	
<p>I declare that the individual's performance is at a level satisfactory and I support this award nomination.</p> <p>Senior Executive Signature</p> <p>Date:</p>		

SUBMISSION PROCESS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Submission Process

1. Awards are open to all Mid North Coast Local Health District staff, either individually, in partnership, or in conjunction with a lay partner.
2. The most relevant category should be selected with the entry carefully checked against the criteria and entry requirements.
3. Entries will be accepted from 21 February 2022 up to 8pm Sunday 03 April 2022.

Conditions of Entry

1. Entries are to be submitted electronically to Danielle.Jecs@health.nsw.gov.au by the due date – no extensions will be granted.
2. Entries must be carefully checked for accuracy and compliance with the *Submission Process and Conditions of Entry*.
3. Entries will be assessed by a judging panel, the decisions of which are final.
4. Each entry will be considered within one category only and will be judged in the category to which it has been submitted. Selection of the most relevant category for each entry is entirely the responsibility of the submitter.
5. Submissions that do not comply substantially with entry requirements or are not sufficiently relevant may not be judged.
6. Submissions must adhere to the word limits within the application. Applications which significantly exceed the word limit will not be judged.
7. Previous entries are not to be re-submitted. However, where significant new developments have taken place e.g. follow-up outcome evaluation of a previous project, an entry may be made providing that:
 - a. Substantial work involving new information, concepts or initiatives are presented;
 - b. The entry focuses on the new work rather than re-presenting previous work; and
 - c. It is at least 3 years since the previous entry.
8. Awards will not necessarily be given in all categories and the decision of the panel is final.
9. Copyright: All entries submitted to the Mid North Coast Local Health District 2022 Health Awards assign copyright ownership to the Mid North Coast Local Health District. The work may be published, used for promotional material, media interviews or as models to support policy development.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Key Dates

Entries Open	Monday 21 February 2022
Entries Close	8pm, Sunday 03 April 2022
Finalists Announced	Monday 9 May 2022
Awards Ceremony	Thursday 9 June 2022

Need more information?

If you require any additional information in relation to the Mid North Coast Local Health District 2022 Health Innovation Awards, please contact Danielle Jecs by phone 6589 2521 or by email Danielle.Jecs@health.nsw.gov.au

Appendix 1: Style Guidelines

The following style guidelines must be followed for all category submissions.

Style

- Use Arial font size 11
- Use simple, direct and correct common Australian English spelling
- Avoid the use of “inverted commas”, *italics*, **bold type** or underlining
- The headings of each section of the submission should be presented without punctuation, without underlining or bold type, capitalising only the first letter
- Use gender-neutral language

Tables and graphics

If integral to the application tables and graphics should be included as separate attachments and clearly referenced in your submission. If large graphics or images are to be attached, please compress them to reduce the file size to fewer than 3MB to facilitate electronic submission. Supported formats are pdf, .doc, .xls, .xlxs, .docx, .jpg, .jpeg or .pngformat.

Written permission

Written permission should be obtained for reproduction of previously published figures and tables.

References

When referring to other publications in the text, state the author’s name followed by the date of the publication. List full details of the publication in a reference list at the end of the submission using the Harvard Referencing Style.