

Mid North Coast Local Health District

Health Innovation Awards Guidelines 2023

Celebrate Collaborate Communicate Connect



Mid North Coast Local Health District

2023 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 2023 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.

2023 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 the Patient Experience

Individual Awards

7. Volunteer of the Year
8. Nurse/Midwife of the Year
9. Allied Health Professional of the Year
10. Corporate/Administration Employee of the Year
11. Collaborative Leader of the Year

Key Dates

Entries Open	Monday 30 January 2023
Entries Close	8pm, Friday 31 March
Finalists Announced	TBA
Awards Ceremony	6pm Thursday 15 June 2023 Pacific Bay, Coffs Harbour

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

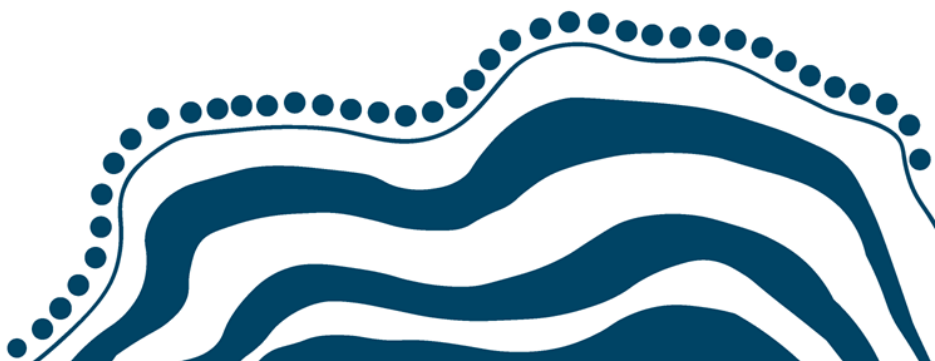
Developing and supporting our people and culture is a priority for the Mid North Coast Local Health District, an employer of over 4500 staff. By supporting the people working for the LHD, positive interactions in the workplace are inspired and health outcomes are improved. Initiatives within this category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

This award aims to recognise Mid North Coast Local Health District Nurses and Midwives who have made an exceptional contribution to the NSW health system.

9. Allied Health Professional of the Year

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

10. Corporate/Administration Employee of the Year

This award aims to recognise Mid North Coast Local Health District Corporate or Administrative employees who have made an exceptional contribution to the NSW health system.

11. 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 for Team Awards (1-6)

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

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 Team-work 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
CORE – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment	<p>The extent to which the project/program demonstrates and promotes the CORE Values - Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.</p>	15
Link to NSW Health Strategic Planning Framework	<p>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 Agreements as well as the eHealth Strategy for NSW Health.</p>	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. All flow-on effects e.g. staff satisfaction = decreased attrition</p> <p>Talk money e.g. reduction in cost / avoided cost / time saved / people etc or income generation</p>	15
	TOTAL	100

Award Criteria for Individual Awards (7-11)

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

7. 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 the CORE values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.	25
TOTAL		100

8. Nurse/Midwife of the Year

9. Allied Health Professional of the Year

10. Corporate/Administration Employee 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage staff, patients, carers or families • Promote new ways of working • Ensures effective use of technology and evidence based research 	25
CORE – Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment	The staff member demonstrates a commitment to promoting the CORE values of Collaboration, Openness, Respect and Empowerment.	25
TOTAL		100

11. 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

Entry templates are available in separate Word.doc formats for Team Awards (Form 1) and Individual Awards (Form 2).

The 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.

SUBMISSION PROCESS AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Submission Process

Awards are open to all Mid North Coast Local Health District staff, either individually, in partnership, or in conjunction with a lay partner.

The most relevant category should be selected with the entry carefully checked against the criteria and entry requirements.

Entries will be accepted from 30 January 2023 up to 8pm Friday 31 March 2023.

Conditions of Entry

Entries are to be submitted electronically to vanessa.edwards@health.nsw.gov.au by the due date – no extensions will be granted.

Entries must be carefully checked for accuracy and compliance with the *Submission Process and Conditions of Entry*.

Entries will be assessed by a judging panel, the decisions of which are final.

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.

Submissions that do not comply substantially with entry requirements or are not sufficiently relevant may not be judged.

Submissions must adhere to the word limits within the application. Applications which significantly exceed the word limit will not be judged.

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:

- Substantial work involving new information, concepts or initiatives are presented;
- The entry focuses on the new work rather than re-presenting previous work; and
- It is at least three years since the previous entry.

Awards will not necessarily be given in all categories and the decision of the panel is final.

Copyright: All entries submitted to the Mid North Coast Local Health District 2023 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.