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# Media Release

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 12.01AM WEDNESDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010**

## **HUNTER COMMUNITY URGED TO SHOW THEIR APPRECIATION FOR EVERYDAY HEROES WORKING IN THE AGED CARE INDUSTRY**

If you know someone working or volunteering in the aged care industry who you believe “shines” in their commitment to providing excellence in care, then nominate them today for the Hunter Aged Care Achievement Awards!

The inaugural Hunter Aged Care Achievement Awards are being launched today to give the community, families, and aged care organisations the opportunity to nominate staff and volunteers who show a passion for the older person as part of their everyday work and provide outstanding care.

The awards aim to recognise employees, trainees and volunteers working in the aged care sector in the Newcastle, Maitland and Lake Macquarie regions as well as the Hunter, Upper Hunter and Port Stephens regions.

CatholicCare Hunter-Manning is behind the initiative and CEO Joseph McCarthy is encouraging all aged care providers from the region and the community to get on board and nominate staff, volunteers or someone who has provided outstanding care to either themselves or their family.

“As one of the largest providers of aged care in the Hunter region, CatholicCare is committed to highlighting excellence in care in our region and acknowledging staff from all sectors of the aged care industry who do such a wonderful job on a daily basis and affect so many lives with their compassionate care,” said Joseph McCarthy.

“If you work with, know, or have received care from an outstanding employee or volunteer then nominate them today for a Hunter Aged Care Achievement Award and show them how valued they are,” he said.

Nominations are open for the following categories:

- Aged Care Trainee of the Year
- Aged Care Registered Nurse of the year award
- Aged Care Care staff of the year award (residential aged care)
- Aged Care Care staff of the year award (community aged care)
- Aged Care Allied health professional of the year award
- Aged Care CALD Contributor of the year
- Aged care Volunteer of the year award

All judges have been selected for their professional involvement and experience in the aged care industry and are independent of CatholicCare. Entries close on July 22<sup>ND</sup> 2010 with a list of all finalists advertised in the Newcastle Herald on the 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010 before the Awards Presentation Dinner is held at Noahs on the Beach on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2010.

For more information on the selection criteria, awards application process and to download a nomination form please log on to [agedcareawards.com](http://agedcareawards.com)

**Please call Emma Blackford, CatholicCare Hunter-Manning Marketing & Communications Manager on 0408 292 355 to arrange an interview or photo.**

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