

Young Victorian champion for the aged a finalist in national primary health awards

Today, HESTA announced a Victorian aged care facility manager as a Young Leader finalist in the HESTA Primary Health Care Awards, for his work to advance improvements in end-of-life care for elderly residents.

Committed to improving residents' quality of life and the quality of care provided by staff, Facility Manager, Mr Dana Ieraci said he provides leadership through mentoring and training colleagues, while using his understanding of best practice services to offer highly valued advice for developing policies and procedures.

"By working with other health providers through primary health networks I've gained insights and strategies to influence change in my workplace and improve care for residents," said Mr Ieraci.

"Since joining Lynch's Bridge, I've worked closely with residents and the team to implement processes to improve the way end-of-life care is provided, both within our facility, and across the primary health care sector more broadly.

"I'm passionate about advance care planning, which encourages residents to reflect on what is important to them, which I have found improves both the residents and their families' experience when entering residential aged care—especially when dealing with the emotions of grief and loss and, a complete change of life.

"Driving change is a team effort. I work with a steering group to oversee a state funded collaborative and inter-sectoral project aimed at improving the way advance care planning is undertaken across inner north west Melbourne.

"I'm committed to planning and implementing quality end-of-life care by inspiring those around me and I take a practical approach by embedding the steps into routine care, along with keeping my academic and clinical knowledge current."

Seen as a champion of quality care for the aged by his peers, Mr Ieraci is an exemplary young nurse committed to empowering staff, vulnerable residents and their families who are undergoing life transitions.

The HESTA Primary Health Care Awards recognise the dedication and professionalism of those working at the frontline of health care, including physiotherapists, dentists, pharmacists, therapists, GPs, rehabilitation professionals, health educators and medical practice managers.

Winners will be announced at the Awards dinner in Melbourne on Tuesday, 10 November.

The Young Leader and Individual Distinction Award winners will each receive a \$5,000 **ME** EveryDay transaction account and \$5,000 towards further education. The Team Excellence Award winner will receive a \$10,000 development grant.

For more information visit hestaawards.com.au

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The HESTA Primary Health Care Awards is a HESTA initiative, proudly sponsored by the bank owned by industry super funds, ME.

Media contact

Atika Fraval, Media Manager – 03 8660 1684 or 0488 250 049