



media release

Corner Hawkesbury Road & Hainsworth Street, Westmead NSW 2145

the
children's
hospital at Westmead



The Sydney children's
Hospitals Network

19 August 2020

LOCAL NURSING AND MIDWIFERY AWARD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Alexandra Penn from the Grace Centre for Newborn Intensive Care at The Children's Hospital at Westmead is among 24 statewide finalists nominated for the 2020 NSW Health Excellence in Nursing and Midwifery Awards.

The finalists have been selected from nominations across seven categories which recognise nurses and midwives who have made a difference in clinical practice, management and leadership.

Alexandra has been named a finalist in the 'New to Practice Nurse/Midwife of the Year' category, which recognises graduates who have shown exceptional potential during their first year of practice as well as demonstrated passion and commitment to providing quality, safe and compassionate care to patients.

"I feel incredibly honoured to have been chosen as a finalist for this award. I am extremely grateful for the support and guidance I receive from the education and management teams, and feel very lucky to be surrounded by a group of nurses that share my passion for neonatal nursing," said Alexandra.

An enthusiastic and respected member of her team, Alexandra has a knack for putting families at ease in any given situation – from supporting a family grieving the loss of their baby to empowering another to have the confidence to take their chronically sick bub home for the first time.

NSW Health Chief Nursing and Midwifery Officer, Jacqui Cross said the awards recognise the contribution and dedication of nurses and midwives working in the NSW public health system, who this year have been facing the additional challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. "These awards are an opportunity to honour nurses and midwives across NSW who go above and beyond and make a real difference not only within their teams but, most importantly, to the patients they care for," Ms Cross said.

Each Local Health District and Specialty Network nominated their nurses and midwives in six award categories.

NSW community members were eligible to vote for the Healing Heart consumer award, the seventh category, which recognises nurses and midwives who deliver outstanding patient care and support for families and carers.

This year, in line with COVID-19 safety measures, the Awards ceremony will be virtual. Nurses, midwives, their families and the broader community will be able to watch the Award show, which will be streamed on November 26.

There are more than 53,000 nurses and midwives working in NSW Health hospitals and health services. The NSW Government is investing \$2.8 billion to recruit 8,300 extra frontline staff over the next three years, including an additional 5000 more nurses and midwives. For more information on the 2020 Excellence in Nursing and Midwifery Awards [click here](#).

Media contact: Sylvia Baraya
sylvia.baraya@health.nsw.gov.au | 9845 3364