

# Victorian Public Health Awards for **Excellence** and **Innovation**

## Call for nominations

2006



Celebrating  
10 years of  
excellence and  
innovation in  
public health

The Public Health Awards for Excellence and Innovation recognise and celebrate the significant contributions made each year by Victoria's public health community. 2006 marks the tenth anniversary of the Awards, which have commended close to 100 outstanding Victorian public health projects over the past decade.

The diversity of these award-winning projects reflects the breadth and complexity of public health practice. From groundbreaking research studies on the health of newly arrived refugees to innovative chronic illness peer support programs, the quality of public health initiatives in this state continues to raise the bar each year.

The Public Health Branch is proud to host the Awards again this year, and I invite individuals, organisations and partnerships working in public health across Victoria to nominate in one of the three award categories:

- Public Health Research
- Public Health Programs
- Public Health Spotlight

The theme for the 2006 Spotlight category is childhood health and wellbeing.

In each of the categories awards are presented for:

- Excellence: recognising quality
- Innovation: recognising promising new work

Each nomination will be assessed against the selection criteria by a judging panel comprising specialists from a range of public health fields. The Awards will be presented by the Minister for Health, the Hon. Bronwyn Pike MP in a ceremony to be held on 5 September 2006.

I hope that you will help us highlight the valuable contribution that quality public health practice makes to the health and wellbeing of Victorians by nominating your work for the 2006 Public Health Awards.

**Dr Robert Hall**  
Director Public Health and  
Chief Health Officer  
Public Health Branch  
Department of Human Services

*Public health is the organised global and local effort to promote and protect the health of populations and to reduce health inequalities. The scope of public health practice is broad and ranges from the control of communicable diseases to the leadership of intersectoral efforts to improve health. The key public health perspective is the population-wide approach to the prevention and control of health problems.*

Beaglehole R. (ed) *Global Public Health: a new era*. Oxford, OUP, 2003: vii.

## Award categories 2006

### Public Health Research

This category is open to teams, organisations and partnerships who have completed an original piece of research within the past two years that has made a substantial contribution to public health practice or policy. The research must have been published in a peer reviewed journal or equivalent to be eligible.

### Public Health Programs

This category is open to teams, organisations and partnerships who have designed, implemented and evaluated a public health program to fulfil an unmet public health need or that have made a significant improvement to the effectiveness of an existing public health program.

### Public Health Spotlight: Supporting childhood health and wellbeing

Each year the Spotlight category highlights a priority issue that requires coordinated action across the public health field. This year's topic area is childhood health and wellbeing. The category will highlight public health projects and initiatives that have made a significant contribution to improving or supporting childhood health and wellbeing. Teams, organisations and partnerships that have designed, implemented and evaluated a childhood health and wellbeing program or research are eligible to nominate.

## Criteria

### Submissions for all categories must address each criterion

1. Originality and innovation in approach
2. Use of an evidence-based approach
3. Strategic partnerships and alliances
4. Demonstration of quality processes in planning/implementation/evaluation and analysis
5. Achievement of objectives and/or health outcomes
6. Communication and dissemination of findings.

### How to nominate

Please download and complete the official nomination form available on the website: [www.health.vic.gov.au/publichealthawards](http://www.health.vic.gov.au/publichealthawards) or request a copy of the nomination form by phoning Spiro Iliopoulos on (03) 9096 5753.

### Closing date

All nominations are to be received by 5pm, Friday 7 July 2006.

### More information

For further information about the Awards, please contact Spiro Iliopoulos:

Phone: (03) 9096 5753

Fax: (03) 9096 9165

Email: [spiro.iliopoulos@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:spiro.iliopoulos@dhs.vic.gov.au)

### Conditions of entry

1. All nominations are to be completed using the official nomination form, which is downloadable from the website. Submissions must be clear and succinct (max. 2000 words) and include a plain English summary (250 words). The final word count for the entire submission should not exceed 2250 words. The Harvard system should be used for referencing.
2. All nominations must be submitted via email to [spiro.iliopoulos@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:spiro.iliopoulos@dhs.vic.gov.au) and must be received by 5pm Friday 7 July 2006.
3. No hard copy supporting information, such as videos, CDs or posters, will be accepted.
4. Up to two tables or charts can be included in each entry. They should be provided in a standard PC-compatible program and not exceed 500kb each.
5. All nominations become the property of the Department of Human Services.
6. The Department of Human Services reserves the right to publicise nominations, and entrants may be required for media interviews.
7. The Department of Human Services reserves the right to invite nominations.
8. Any member of the public may nominate a team, organisation or partnership. Nominees must agree to be nominated.
9. All nominated services must meet relevant regulations and standards.
10. Teams, organisations and partnerships can nominate, or be nominated for one or more of the categories.
11. Individuals or teams from government departments working together with outside consortiums on public health endeavours can be nominated.
12. Nominations are subject to review by a panel of judges. The judges reserve the right to not confer an Award in any given category. The judges also reserve the right to declare joint winners in any given category.
13. Nominations will be considered in one category only. The judges reserve the right to move an entry to a different category if determined that the entry fits more appropriately within the parameters of a category other than that for which it has been submitted.
14. The judges' decisions will be final on all matters relating to the assessment of nominations and no correspondence will be entered into.
15. It is intended and agreed that the conduct of the Awards shall not give rise to any legal obligations or duties, valid or enforceable in any way against the Department of Human Services.

