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[www.connections.org.au](http://www.connections.org.au)

## CONNECTIONS UNITINGCARE ANTI-POVERTY AWARDS

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## ABOUT CONNECTIONS

CONNECTIONS IS A COMMUNITY WELFARE AGENCY OF THE UNITING CHURCH'S UNITINGCARE NETWORK IN AUSTRALIA SUPPORTING PEOPLE IN NEED AND EMPOWERING THEM TO LIVE MORE FULFILLING LIVES AS VALUED MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY.

Connections cares about the wellbeing of children, young people, families, couples and individuals. Our services, focussed in the eastern and southern suburbs of Melbourne, provide practical and innovative support to those in need.

We understand that people's need for support can vary depending on their unique situation. For this reason we offer a range of services across a continuum of care from preschool and childcare through to counselling and in-home support.

As a UnitingCare agency, we especially understand that there are times when things are difficult and we have developed particular skill and capacity to help at these times. We offer a variety of services that may assist you to:

- » Understand the difficulties you are facing
- » Help you to build on your strengths
- » Make a plan to work on the issues you or your family are facing

We are committed to working in partnership with you to achieve your aims.



Respect | Equity | Responsiveness | Relationship | Learning



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## CONNECTIONS UNITINGCARE ANTI-POVERTY AWARDS

THE CONNECTIONS UNITINGCARE ANTI-POVERTY AWARDS RECOGNISE YOUNG AUSTRALIANS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 AND 30 WHO ARE MAKING A CONTRIBUTION TO THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY, LOCALLY, NATIONALLY OR INTERNATIONALLY.



### What do the Awards aim to do?

- » Recognise, support, encourage and link young people who are making a contribution to the eradication of poverty,
- » Increase public awareness of the causes and consequences of poverty within our local community, throughout Australia and the world,
- » Stimulate discussion, activity and specific actions to deal with poverty related issues.

### What are the Awards?

One Award recipient will receive a grant up to the value of \$4000 to continue their work. Encouragement Awards up to \$1000 are also offered.

### Eligibility

Applications are invited from any young person who meets the following criteria:

- » At the time of application has at least attained the age of sixteen years and is not more than thirty years of age,
- » Is currently living in Australia (or if overseas on temporary assignment will return to a permanent place of residence in Australia),
- » Has been working by her/his self or has led a team to perform significant ongoing work or a significant specific project to work towards the eradication of poverty.

Please note that the Awards are to an individual, rather than a group or organisation. So, although it is fine to be working within the context of a group or organisation, the Award is for an individual.

### How will applications be reviewed?

Applications will be reviewed by the Selection Committee made up of representatives from a range of community service, cultural and faith backgrounds.

This review will recommend a short-list of applicants who will be invited to a discussion with members of the Selection Committee to help inform a main recipient and encouragement awards. This will take a variety of forms depending on the location of the applicant.

### What sort of 'Anti-Poverty' work are we looking for?

We understand that people do work at all levels and that the term 'eradication of poverty' and such is open to broad interpretation. We are prepared to accept nominations based on a broad reading of these terms and without imposing a specific definition. By setting firm definitions we may run the risk of discouraging those who have undertaken or intend to undertake (for example) small, innovative projects which have had large impact in their specific context.

The work done by an applicant may have included (but is not limited to) ongoing work or projects in:

- » tackling homelessness,
- » mental health support,
- » social justice activities,
- » education,
- » financial literacy and debt reduction,
- » cultural awareness,
- » building entrepreneurial skills,
- » any of these areas in an overseas context.

### Applying for a Connections UnitingCare Anti-Poverty Award

Visit [www.connections.org.au/anti-poverty](http://www.connections.org.au/anti-poverty) to download an Application Form. For any questions or queries, contact:

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This Connections publication is printed by a Carbon Neutral printer on recycled paper using vegetable based inks. Published by Connections in June 2009.