17 May 2013

The Territory’s top volunteers and organisations recognised in the Northern Territory Volunteer of the Year Awards.

The Awards are the result of the close working partnership between the Northern Territory Government and Volunteering SA&NT (the peak body for volunteering in SA and the NT) to celebrate and reward the valuable work volunteers contribute to our community.

Evelyn O’Loughlin, CEO of Volunteering SA&NT said: “The Awards acknowledge the significant role the non-profit sector plays in the ‘social economy’ of our country, and this recognition definitely helps to increase the awareness of the volunteer force in the Northern Territory.”

At the Awards ceremony in Darwin, Chief Minister Adam Giles said: “The level of volunteering in the Territory is high, with 38 per cent of people volunteering in a formal capacity.”

“Volunteers play an important role in the community and are the mainstays of support within many sporting and community organisations.”

The Awards continue to grow with 68 nominations received, 14 more than last year and to recognise the hard work of the NT Emergency Services, a new Medal for Emergency Service category was introduced this year.

The award winners are:

Jimmy Doyle, Chief Minister’s Medal for Volunteering Achievement

Donald McKinnon, Chief Minister’s Medal for Volunteering Service

Garry Casey, Chief Minister’s Medal for Emergency Service

Riding for the Disabled, Alice Springs, Volunteering SA&NT Award for Organisational Excellence (Small Organisation)

Carers NT, Volunteering SA&NT Award for Organisational Excellence (Small Organisation).

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Media enquiries: Evelyn O’Loughlin, CEO of Volunteering SA&NT on 0421724272
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The winners of the Chief Minister’s Medals each received $2500 to donate to a not-for-profit organisation of their choice.

The winner of the small organisation award received $3000 and the winner of the large organisation award received $2000.

Community organisations also nominated 16 volunteers to receive Most Valuable Volunteer Certificates at the awards.

A function will be hosted in Alice Springs on 20 May by the Minister for Central Australia to specifically acknowledge winners, nominees and other volunteers from Central Australia.

Available for interview:
Evelyn O’Loughlin, CEO of Volunteering SA&NT on 0421724272

For more information on volunteering – go to www.volunteeringsa-nt.org.au

The awards are an initiative of the Northern Territory Government and Volunteering SA&NT.