

TASMANIAN PALLIATIVE CARE AWARDS 2025
REMARKS BY
HER EXCELLENCY THE HONOURABLE BARBARA BAKER AC
GOVERNOR OF TASMANIA
GOVERNMENT HOUSE, THURSDAY 21 AUGUST 2025

[VICE-REGAL SALUTE IS PLAYED]

Good afternoon and a warm welcome to our 2025 Tasmanian Palliative Care Awards.

May I begin by acknowledging the Muwinina people upon whose Country we gather. I acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as ongoing custodians of Country. I recognise their enduring culture and continued connection to land, sea, sky and waters.

It is a pleasure to host these awards. As your Patron, I support our palliative care sector in Tasmania and recognise your constant skill and compassion.

National Palliative Care Week is held every year in May, and this year, the week's theme was "What's your plan?"¹ This theme aims to initiate difficult conversations about death and invites all Australians to talk about what matters during the end of life and to make a plan for choices to be respected.

People are at the forefront of palliative care, and they work to support patients, families, and friends. We are here to recognise them with awards this evening. Across eight categories, we shall honour 21 finalists and overall winners, including an inductee to the 'Joy Coghlan' Tasmanian Palliative Care Honour Roll.

These Awards recognise the breadth and quality of our palliative care workforce in our State. The awards also provide a mechanism to thank you all for the contribution each of you provides to our Tasmanian community.

Before we move to the formal Award presentations, may I mention someone who has been a dedicated advocate for and contributor to Palliative Care

¹ <https://palliativecare.org.au/npcw/save-the-date-national-palliative-care-week-2025/> accessed 12 Aug 25

Tasmania over the past five years. She has dedicated considerable time and effort to ensuring our Tasmanian community has access to the very best in education and advocacy for palliative care. Please join me in thanking outgoing CEO Venéy Hiller for her leadership and work.²

May I also congratulate all the finalists in the various palliative care sectors. I also thank everyone who makes up this sector.

May I also recognise your supportive families and friends, many of whom are here today.

Thank you.

David ...

[OS presents recipients to HE in order]

² PCT announcement dated 24 July 2025