



YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE

Awards Categories

'You Made a Difference' are Canberra/ Goulburn's first annual recognition awards, which will be awarded to individuals and teams whose contribution has 'made a difference' to the Society and to the lives of the companions we assist.

We are calling for nominations from members, volunteers and employees, for awards across various categories for members, volunteers and employees.

Frederic Ozanam Outstanding Achievement



(Team or individual award)

Our Society was founded in 1833 through the leadership and vision of Blessed Frederic Ozanam. We know that great things can be achieved through the dedicated service of a small team or even one individual.

In honour of Blessed Frederic Ozanam's legacy, this Award is presented to a team or individual who, through their everyday works, embodies the Essential Vincentian virtues of the Society:

- **Simplicity, Frankness, Integrity, and Genuineness:** Acts with honesty, transparency, and authenticity in all aspects of their work, embracing a simple and sincere approach to helping others.
- **Humility:** Serving selflessly, putting the needs of others before their own, and working without seeking personal recognition.
- **Gentleness:** Provides friendly assurance, and demonstrates invincible goodwill, which mean kindness, sweetness, and patience in relationships with others.
- **Selflessness:** Generously shares their time, possessions, and talents in the service of others
- **Zeal:** Passionate for the full flourishing and eternal happiness of every person.

The Frederic Ozanam Award will be presented to the individual or team, working on the frontline or in supporting services, takes responsibility to deliver and enable high-quality and safe services that provide a hand up for the people we assist in our social services, commercial operations and/or care and assistance delivery.

Note: For this award, people we assist includes both internal customers or external customers and stakeholders.

Innovation of the Year



(Team or individual award)

Adaptation, innovation and renewal are at the heart of the Society's service, and Part 1 of the Rule, section 1.6, says:

Faithful to the spirit of its founders, the Society constantly strives for renewal, adapting to changing world conditions. It seeks to be ever aware of the changes that occur in human society and the new types of poverty that may be identified or anticipated. It gives priority to the poorest of the poor and to those who are most rejected by society

Awarded to an individual or team who has demonstrated exceptional creativity and innovation, leading to clear and significant contributions that have resulted in positive, social, and sustainable outcomes for The Society:

- Develops and implements innovative practices, processes, or solutions that address challenges and enhance service delivery
- Inspires a culture of continuous improvement, adaptability, and collaboration
- Creates and implements initiatives that benefit MVE's, companions, and communities, driving positive change

The Innovation of the Year will be awarded to the individual or team who have generated, tested, and implemented improvements to existing and/or new services, and ways of working.

Sister Rosalie Rendu Project of the Year



(Team or individual award)

While working as a Sister of Charity and serving the poor of Paris, Sister Rosalie Rendu built and opened a clinic, a pharmacy, a school, an orphanage, a childcare centre, a home for the elderly and a youth club for young workers.

The Project of the Year is awarded to the team or individual who has delivered a project of transformational infrastructure or change (including twinning projects) to improve the outcomes of people we assist, or to achieve the Society's strategic priorities.



St Vincent de Paul Regional Achievement of the Year

(Team or individual award)

The Canberra/ Goulburn Society serves a huge geographic area, nearly the size of Tasmania, and including diverse regional areas in the central west and far south coast of NSW.

The Regional Achievement of the Year will be awarded to the individual or team, working in our Western Regions or Far South Coast, on the frontline or in supporting services, takes responsibility to deliver and enable high-quality and safe services that provide a hand up for the people we assist in our social services, commercial operations and/or care and assistance delivery.



Saint Louise de Marillac Leadership Award

(Individual award)

Leaders at all levels of the Society endeavour to be servant leaders. Our leaders provide an encouraging atmosphere in which the talents and capacities are identified and developed, and are put to the service of our companions and the Society.

Nominees will be a servant leader who creates lasting value and impact, who prioritises the well-being of their people and communities they serve, as well as the health of the environment, finances and resources under their care. This leader focuses on the needs of their team members, helping them grow and succeed, and perform to their full potential. Their approach is a commitment to fostering a supportive, safe and inclusive environment.

Awarded to a leader who effectively drives innovation, inspires change, and achieves measurable impact:

- Leads with creativity and forward-thinking ideas enabling growth
- Motivates and influences others to embrace new ideas and ways of working, promoting continuous improvement
- Takes initiative and drives projects that achieve real results and positive outcomes
- Proactively encourages teamwork, guiding peers, and cultivating an environment where others can thrive and develop their skills

'One Vinnies' Collaborator of the Year



(Individual award)

We are a Society made up of many parts. We are members, volunteers and employees working together across many programs and functions, and spread across a large geographic area.

Awarded to an individual or team who embodies the Mission and Values of The Society in their everyday work, fostering a culture of 'One Vinnies' for the benefit of the companions we assist: The 'Collaborator of the Year' will be awarded on:

- Actively promotes and lives the core values and mission of The Society in daily work
- Works collaboratively across teams and departments to strengthen the 'One Vinnies' ethos, promoting inclusivity and teamwork
- Makes a positive difference in the community through service, advocacy, and support for those in need

This individual or team works collaboratively with Conferences and/or with teams across regions, directorates and divisions to create opportunities, solve challenges, foster the Society's mission, and implement the Strategic Plan.

How to Vote:

Scan the QR code to fill out the [nomination online form](#) or email Cristina at Communications@vinnies-cg.org.au to receive a print version of the form. Every member, volunteer and employee is invited to nominate one or more individuals or teams for their outstanding contribution to Vinnies!

Nominations close at midnight Monday 1 December 2025. Award recipients will be announced at the year in review event on Wednesday 17 December 2025.

