

## **A stitch above the rest - Froniditha Care laundry worker receives highest accolade at Staff Awards**

11 June 2019

A dedicated laundry worker, who regularly stays at least an hour after her shift to sit and chat with the elderly residents and mend their clothes, has taken out the Outstanding Contribution Award this year at Froniditha Care's annual Staff Awards.

Magda Karasavidis, who has worked at the 60-bed THALPORI residential aged care facility in St Albans for 11 years, was given the accolade on Friday 7 June 2019 at Vogue Ballroom.

Nominated by THALPORI's Manager of Residential Care Sue Donaldson, Magda was visibly teary, emotional and humbled at the recognition.

"It makes me so happy. I get so much joy from the smiles of our residents. It literally fills me up as a human," she said.

"I give my time to the Pappous and Yiayias, I learn so much from them. I stay long past my shift because I love it. From the bottom of my heart, I consider Froniditha Care as my second family."

Marking his last Staff Awards before his departure, Froniditha Care CEO George Lekakis AO, congratulated the staff for their spirit and hard work.

He spoke from the heart about the importance of embodying leadership qualities, and implored the staff to continue refining their own leadership skills in the future.

"Working for Froniditha Care has been an ambition and a vision fulfilled," he said.

Mr Lekakis AO has led the now 700 strong workforce over eight years and leaves a lasting legacy to the staff and volunteers.

The awards also acknowledged staff for their years of service, from five years all the way up to 35 years.

A further 39 employees received service excellence awards and safety awards for their work.

President Faye Spiteri also congratulated the efforts of all staff members, saying "you all make up who we are, do so many things exceptionally well and make a significant impact each and every day."

Froniditha Care is a not-for-profit organisation providing aged care services to approximately 1000 people every week. More than 700 people in Victoria and NSW are employed by the charity.

Aged care is one of the largest service industries in Australia and makes up around three per cent of the Australian workforce.

For more information on this story, please contact Zoe Angeli, Executive Manager for Public Affairs on 0418 696 794 or [zoea@froniditha.org](mailto:zoea@froniditha.org).

## Award categories

### Five Years Service:

Ioannis	Androulakis
Fotini	Apostolou
Konstantinos	Armenis
Elena	Bendrycheva
Anurag	Chawla
Karen	Deer
Josefina	Del Mar
Nivya	Ebi
Janice	Fisher
Dimitra	Gilekas
Katia	Goura
Stephanie	Gray
Wai Hang	Jim
Sotirios	Kaitatzis
Effie	Kapnias
Kally	Karagiannis
Ganga	Kekulthotuwage
Despina	Koukouzikas
Helen	Leptos
Christina	Marko
Jennifer	McMurtrie
Kathreen	Mendoza
Ekaterini	Papadopoulos
Maria	Papioglou
Sohrabkha	Pathan
Stylios	Piakis
Anna Mae	Shrestha
Christina	Sofianopoulou
Maree Jamie	Stamatakis
Paraskevoula	Tastidis
Evangelia	Togia
Orlandina	Villa-Gouliovas
Alicia	Workman
Demitra	Zeglinas
Kamaljeet	Khinda
Vivi	Michailidou
Nyima	Nyima
Toula	Selemidis

### 10 Years Service:

George	Bahtsevanis
Lizabelle	Barker

Dasbar	Benberu
Kay	Fountis
Konstantina	Ioakimidis
Obinna	Iroeche
Mary	Nunez
Nilmi	Palihakkara
Vassiliki	Petrogiannis
Adelaide	Rompante
Evangelina	Skevofylakas
Peter	Thiveos
Seenamol	Thuruthikattu
Peter	William
Abeba	Birhanu
Melina	Karagiannis
Catherine	Katsambanis
Aliki	Kyrkou
Rena	Levedelis
Alexandra	Mantzaris
Freaheiwot (Zoe)	Seyoum
Maria	Bragagnolo
Tina	Marinis
Dina	Sideras
Panayiota	Erevnidis
Sophie	Lamprou
Maria	Papadakis
Konstantinos	Siavelis
Magdalini	Politidis
Josephine	Webb
Vatthana	You

George	Bahtsevanis
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Obinna	Iroeche
Mary	Nunez
Nilmi	Palihakkara
Vassiliki	Petrogiannis
Adelaide	Rompante
Evangelina	Skevofylakas
Peter	Thiveos
Seenamol	Thuruthikattu
Peter	William
Magdalini	Politidis
Josephine	Webb
Vatthana	You

15 Years Service:

Abeba	Birhanu
Melina	Karagiannis
Catherine	Katsambanis
Aliki	Kyrkou
Rena	Levedelis
Alexandra	Mantzaris
Freaheiwot (Zoe)	Seyoum

20 Years Service:

Maria	Bragagnolo
Tina	Marinis
Dina	Sideras

25 Years Service:

Panayiota	Erevnidis
Sophie	Lamprou

35 Years Service:

Maria	Papadakis
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Excellence Awards:

Magdalini	Politidis
Josephine	Webb
Vatthana	You
Kamaljeet	Khinda
Vivi	Michailidou
Nyima	Nyima
Toula	Selemidis
Peter	Aguelo
Zacharias	Andreakis
Grigoria	Andriolas
Angela	Athanasiou
Anna	Couvara
Lisa	Davies
Tapiwa	Dhliwayo
Dasinee	Dunlavie
Iris	Filoli
Laurey	Garratt
Maria	Halvatsiotis
Helen	Horvath
Lilliana	John-Mustafa
Yashoda	Kandel Rjjal
Brixhida	Kastrati
Manjit	Kaur
Radhiki	Mulakalapalli
Sofia	Prodromou

Ralph	Rodrigo
Wendy	Sheen
Amrinder	Singh
Eva	Sofronidou
Charmaine	Steyn
Louisa	Storer
Theo	Terprou
Theo	Terzakis
Georgina	Tsolakis
Vicky	Tzouvelis

**Health and Safety Awards:**

Tzenisa	Brachimai
Helen	Bryans
Junhui	Gu
Nikoletta	Stamatopoulos

**Outstanding Contribution Award:**

Magdalini	Karasavidis
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**Community Services**

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Patron: Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria