LOCAL VOLUNTEER CELEBRATED IN RICHMOND

The Andrews Labor Government is celebrating Heidi Gregory from Richmond of the Dyslexia Victoria Support Admin Team for being awarded a 2018 Premier’s Volunteer Champion Award in the Teamwork category.

Heidi was selected, alongside her colleagues Carolyn Merritt and Sarah Asome, for her work around the clock to provide online support and advice to thousands of Victorians on screening, assessments, assistive technologies, and targeted intervention for people with dyslexia.

Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos and Member for Richmond Richard Wynne revealed the shortlist of local heroes from Richmond, who will each be celebrated at the Awards Ceremony at Government House on 9 September.

During the morning, one will be named Victoria’s Volunteer of the Year, taking home the prestigious Dame Elisabeth Murdoch Trophy and $10,000 for a charity of their choice.

Twenty-year old equality advocate Riley Briese was last year awarded the title for his work with transgender people in regional Victoria, including creating the Wodonga Gateway Health Gender Service.

The Premier’s Volunteer Champion Awards recognise, celebrate and thank Victoria’s 1.5 million volunteers for the incredible impact they have across communities, services and connections.

They contribute more than $23 billion to the state economy, a figure that is expected to jump to $42 billion by 2021.

More than 260 Victorians were nominated for their individual and team volunteering efforts in every corner of society, from emergency services to the arts, sports to health, ageing and disability services.

To learn more about this year’s volunteers, or to find out about the Premier’s Volunteer Champion Awards, visit volunteer.vic.gov.au/awards.
Quote attributable to Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos

“It’s truly an honour to share the stories of volunteers from Richmond – they are making a difference every day in the lives of others, and this is something worth celebrating.”

Quote attributable to Parliamentary Secretary for Carers and Volunteers Gabrielle Williams

“Volunteers play a critical part in every sector of our society, and I hope the stories of this year’s shortlist inspire more Victorians to get involved, lend a hand and recognise volunteers around them.”

Quote attributable to Member for Richmond Richard Wynne

“Every day in Richmond we have wonderful people like Heidi giving up their time for others – these awards are our way of saying thanks.”