

Monday 15 July 2019

**2019 Gwen Scott Grant Program – for Diabetes Professional Development:
recipients announced****Diabetes Victoria invests in ongoing learning for Health Professionals**

Diabetes Victoria is pleased to announce, during *National Diabetes Week 2019*, the recipients of funding support under the *2019 Gwen Scott Grant Program*. Health professional members of Diabetes Victoria were encouraged to apply for these grants and, this year, Diabetes Victoria has awarded just over \$28,000 to its health professional members so that they can further their training and professional development in diabetes.

“We have awarded the *2019 Gwen Scott Grants* to eight worthy recipients, who intend to use their grants in a myriad of ways – such as completing a Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education or attending diabetes conferences or workshops,” says Diabetes Victoria CEO: Craig Bennett.

Diabetes Victoria established the *Gwen Scott Grant Program* in 2006, as part of a commitment to health professionals who support those affected by, or at risk of, diabetes. “More than 330,000 Victorians are known to be living with diabetes and there is an increasing need to provide health professionals with opportunities to increase their knowledge and understanding of diabetes, including up-to-date management options and general health promotion strategies,” Mr Bennett adds. “Diabetes increases a person’s risk of heart attack, stroke, kidney failure, loss of vision and loss of a limb; so, the more we can encourage health professionals to further their learning in the field of diabetes, the better for all Victorians.”

“Diabetes is a complex and serious condition to manage. As information about diabetes changes quickly due to research findings and advances in technology, continuous learning is essential. Health professionals need to update their knowledge and reflect on their practice in order to constantly improve the education and care they provide. This is why Diabetes Victoria supports its health professional members through the *Gwen Scott Grant Program*,” Mr Bennett concludes.

Gwen Scott was Australia’s first nurse employed as a specialist in diabetes education and the first employee of the Diabetic Association of Victoria, which is Diabetes Victoria today. Ms Scott was influential in establishing the role of diabetes educators, both in Victoria and nationally.

*We **support, empower and campaign** for all Victorians affected by, or at risk of, diabetes.*

For more information:

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2019 Gwen Scott Grant Program recipients:

Lauren Bais – To attend a DAFNE Pump Program & Health Professional Training (UK).

Ginn Chin – Master of Counselling at Monash University.

Nicole Duggan – To attend the 12th Annual APS/ISPAD Diabetes Workshop (Newcastle, NSW)

Sandra Mingerulli – Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education & Healthcare.

Renae Roll – Australasian Paediatric Endocrine Group (APEG), Annual Scientific Meeting (Adelaide).

Fiona Scott – 45th Annual ISPAD Conference (Boston).

Fiona Thomas – 55th Annual Meeting of the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (Barcelona).

Lauren Zuegn – Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education & Healthcare.