

9 July 2018

## **2018 Gwen Scott Grant Program recipients announced**

### **Diabetes Victoria invests in ongoing learning for health professionals**

Diabetes Victoria is pleased to announce, during National Diabetes Week 2018, the recipients of funding support under the *2018 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 \$25,000 to health professional members to further their training and professional development in diabetes.

“We have awarded the *2018 Gwen Scott* grants to 12 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. Grants are open to health professional members of Diabetes Victoria at all levels of training and experience – including those new to diabetes.

“More than 323,000 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, up-to-date management strategies 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:**

Jane Kneebone 0416 148 845

[jkneebone@diabetesvic.org.au](mailto:jkneebone@diabetesvic.org.au)

***2018 Gwen Scott Grant Program recipients***

Elizabeth Arland – to partially cover the cost of completing the Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education.

Tammie Choi – to partially cover the cost of attending the Australasian Diabetes Congress.

Eileen Collins – to cover the cost of DAFNE Pump Program & HP Training (UK).

Kate Edwards – to partially cover the cost of attending the Australian Paediatric Society – International Society for Paediatric & Adolescent Diabetes – Diabetes Workshop.

Pauline Evers – to partially cover the cost of attending the Australasian Diabetes Congress.

Hsiu-Ju Lee – to partially cover the cost of completing the Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education & Health Care.

Jiamin Liao – to partially cover the cost of attending the Australasian Diabetes Congress.

Heather McKenna – to partially cover the cost of completing the Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education.

Robyn Perlstein – to partially cover the cost of attending the American Diabetes Association Conference.

Irene Robbins – to partially cover the cost of attending the Australasian Diabetes Congress.

Kerryn Roem – to partially cover the cost of attending the Australasian Diabetes Congress.

Manju Soni – to partially cover the cost of completing the Graduate Certificate in Diabetes Education & Health Care.