

Care Connect volunteer wins Victorian Disability Sector Awards

CARE CONNECT · A DAY AGO

Dorothy Docherty, Chairperson of the Care Connect Consumer Voice Committee has won the Volunteer Award at this year's Victorian Disability Sector Awards.



PHOTO: Dr Pradeep Philip (Secretary, Department of Health) presenting Dorothy with the award.

The award recognises Dorothy's exceptional leadership and vision in ensuring the voice of consumers is heard by home care provider, Care Connect as well as the sector, now and into the future.

At the age of 48, Dorothy experienced an acquired brain injury. Doctors predicted she would not walk, talk or see again. They were wrong. Not only did Dorothy learn to walk and talk – she uses her voice to advocate for those less able to speak up.



Dorothy explains "It was this intense, confusing and life-altering experience that had me decide to dedicate the rest of my life to educating both the health system and the broader community about what is possible for people who suffer from brain injury or who have a disability".

Paul Ostrowski, Chief Executive Officer, Care Connect Group says "In my five years as CEO I have developed an enormous respect for Dorothy Docherty – her passion for consumer needs, her commitment to the sector, her determination to ensure that Care Connect and other organisations are genuinely placing consumers first."

"Dorothy has a unique energy for her role, quietly but tirelessly guiding us in the right direction. By having the courage to volunteer in a very public leadership role, Dorothy has shown how volunteers can impact not only individuals, but organisations, government and the wider community. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award," Mr Ostrowski says.

"The whole organisation congratulates Dorothy and thanks National Disability Services and the Department of Health and Human Services for acknowledging her inspirational leadership and vision".

The Victorian Disability Sector Awards celebrate the achievements of individuals, teams, organisations and businesses assisting people with a disability to achieve their personal goals. The Awards are a joint initiative between National Disability Services and the Department of Health and Human Services.