

MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate release

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Worksafe Victoria's Return to Work Award Recognises Outlook's Melissa Johnson

Melissa Johnson's commitment to the welfare of work colleagues has been recognised with the prestigious 'Return to Work Coordinator Excellence Award' at the 2016 Worksafe Victoria Awards. The Worksafe Awards were held at a special gala ceremony on Friday 7 October in Melbourne.

Melissa is the Return to Work Coordinator at Outlook, a Pakenham-based not for profit social enterprise which supports people with disability live active and fulfilled lives within their communities.

Melissa has coordinated a comprehensive Return to Work (RTW) Programme at Outlook which ensures that employees who have injuries or illness are supported in their workplace. Outlook's RTW Programme supports staff regardless if they receive their injuries or illness in or out of a workplace setting.

Outlook has nearly 200 staff with many having a pre-existing disability or coming from a disadvantaged background.

Melissa supports staff through early intervention, a focus on wellbeing, training, using a network of medical practitioners and developing RTW plans.

"As a not for profit this was our first participation in the Awards as a finalist and we are both excited and humbled to be sharing these Awards with such an amazing array of fellow finalists...all of them 'winners' for their contributions to improving workplace safety," said Melissa.

Melissa was one of three finalists in the category of Return to Work Coordinator Excellence with nominees from around the state. Outlook was also acknowledged as a finalist in the Employer Excellence in Return to Work category of the Awards.

Outlook's CEO, Sam Sondhi said, "We're incredibly proud of Mel for this significant achievement. It recognises Outlook's commitment to the health and wellbeing of its employees and to maintaining a safe work place. Outlook congratulates all the other winners and finalists in the 2016 WorkSafe Victoria Awards."



Outlook is a “social enterprise” - an organisation run as a business which directs all profits into fulfilling its vision of supporting personal, social and employment outcomes for those with disability and disadvantage.

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For more information: Emma Reeves, Marketing & Communications Coordinator, Outlook
Phone: 0438 318 427 or 5941 1535
Email: emmar@outlookvic.org.au

