



JOHN ELFERINK MLA | MINISTER FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
BESS PRICE MLA | MINISTER FOR WOMEN'S POLICY

DESERVING TERRITORIAN ANNOUNCED MOTHER OF THE YEAR

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A mother who dedicated her life to caring for more than 100 children has won the Northern Territory's 2014 Barnardos Mother of the Year.

The award aims to acknowledge and celebrate the valuable role mothers play in the community, and is now in its 19th year.

Minister for Children and Families John Elferink congratulated the winner, Joy White, on her achievement and thanked her for the tireless years of care she dedicated to children in the Northern Territory.

"Mrs White, aged 66 years, has raised five of her own children and cared for more than 100 others at Darwin's Bagot Community," Mr Elferink said.

"Originally from Belyuen, Mrs White is a much loved and respected mother in her community, who has opened up her heart and home to children in need.

"I also congratulate the Northern Territory's two runner-up finalists, Roma Groth from Palumpa and Pauline Corpus from Darwin."

Minister for Women's Policy Bess Price, while announcing Mrs White as the winner at today's ceremony at Parliament House, said the awards are a time to recognise the nurturing and unconditional care provided by hard working mothers.

"The Barnardos Mother of the Year Awards gives children and young people the chance to tell others about the huge impact their mothers have made in their lives" Mrs Price said.

"Mums play such a vital role in teaching and guiding our children to be our next generation of leaders.

"It's great to see this wonderful Indigenous woman taking out this award and her hard work to protect the most vulnerable in our society being recognised."

Mrs White will now join other State and Territory finalists in Sydney to celebrate the announcement of the national winner of the 2014 Barnardos Mother of the Year.

Past Northern Territory winners have included Sharen Lake (Tennant Creek) in 2013, Tammy Lewis (Palmerston) in 2012 and Rebecca Healy (Tennant Creek) in 2011, who went on to win the national Award.

The Northern Territory Government is a proud sponsor of the awards event.

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