

# Mollie Dyer Awards 2021

## Leadership Through Crisis –

Celebrating Extraordinary People in Extraordinary Times



**“To my mother, and to all those children and families who taught me so much about their very struggle for survival and their heartache at having their children removed.”**

– Auntie Mollie Dyer



VACCA proudly announces the Mollie Dyer Awards 2021, in honour of its extraordinary co-founder, Auntie Mollie Dyer. The Awards celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living in Victoria who showed extraordinary leadership, who have gone beyond, and everyday heroes who overcame the challenges of the past 12 months in support of Aboriginal children, young people and families.

## Award Categories



EMERGING LEADERS

**Emerging Leaders** (18-24 years) - Celebrating an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young person living in Victoria, who has shown innovation and leadership to support the community during the crisis of the past year. Our young people are the next generation of change-makers. We celebrate how deadly they are!



COMMUNITY LEADERS

**Community Leaders** - Recognising an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person living in Victoria, who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the community. Nominees may have shown innovation in adapting to challenges, been an effective advocate, or provided care to the community during the crisis of the past 12 months.



ACCO LEADERS

**ACCO Leaders** – Recognising an exceptional Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person who has shown strong leadership during the trials of the past year. This could be by improved practice and service excellence, raising awareness, effective advocacy, or overcoming challenges to provide services and care to the community.

## About Mollie Dyer

Auntie Mollie Dyer, a proud Yorta Yorta woman, is remembered as a courageous advocate for the rights of Aboriginal children and families, with an unwavering belief in the strength of Country, Community and Culture.

The mother of six would foster many children and young people. She advocated tirelessly for the Aboriginal community, especially for Aboriginal children in care to be placed with Aboriginal families whenever possible. Mollie co-founded VACCA and played a key role in establishing SNAICC, the national peak body for Aboriginal child welfare.

She created an enduring legacy and remains an inspiration to many people today.

## About VACCA

The Victorian Aboriginal Child Care Agency (VACCA) is the largest Aboriginal community-controlled child and family organisation in Australia.

Strong Aboriginal families and communities mean strong Aboriginal children. VACCA provides a wide range of services to support Aboriginal children, young people and families across Victoria. Standing for self-determination and cultural respect, VACCA advocates strongly for the Aboriginal community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, VACCA has continued to deliver services and meet critical needs.

Our Vision is for Aboriginal self-determination - Live, Experience, Be.

[www.vacca.org](http://www.vacca.org)



VACCA

Connected by culture

VICTORIAN ABORIGINAL CHILD CARE AGENCY

340 Bell Street, Preston, Victoria 3072  
PO Box 494, Northcote Plaza, Northcote, Victoria 3070

**Telephone** 0439 921 589 (9am-5pm Mon-Fri)

**Email** [awards@vacca.org](mailto:awards@vacca.org) **Website** [awards.vacca.org](http://awards.vacca.org)

**NOMINATIONS ARE OPEN FOR SIX WEEKS**  
Monday 30 August - Friday 8 October 2021

NOMINATE online: [awards.vacca.org](http://awards.vacca.org)

By email: [awards@vacca.org](mailto:awards@vacca.org)

By phone: **0439 921 589** (9am-5pm Mon-Fri)