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Ethical Investor announces SANE as Best Practice Not-For-Profit

SANE Australia today won Givewell's Best Practice Not-For-Profit category at the 6th Annual Australian Sustainability Awards, announced by Ethical Investor magazine.

The awards recognise excellence in sustainability in a range of sectors, including not-for-profit, corporate, environmental, and the community sector.

Presenting the award, Westpac's Group General Manager of Stakeholder Communications, Dr Noel Purcell, noted that SANE is a highly respected and efficient organisation with a refreshing level of passion and integrity.

Barbara Hocking, Executive Director of SANE Australia, says: 'This award is a great honor for SANE, and reflects our commitment to keep working for a better life for Australians affected by mental illness.

'I congratulate the other nominees in this category - The Brotherhood of St Lawrence, Vision Australia, Novita Children's Services and Rainforest Rescue, all highly regarded organisations.

'Indeed, corporate sustainability is crucial in any sector, but even more so for not-for-profits, where we have little room for financial error. SANE works on the basis of self-reliance and sustainability, and has done so for more than 20 years.'

SANE Australia is funded entirely by donation and project grants, with no ongoing government funding. A responsible, well-managed investment portfolio funds the majority of SANE's operating costs and ensures donations directly fund the core business of the organisation: influencing a change in attitudes towards mental illness and helping those in need.

SANE operates Australia's only national Freecall helpline for information and advice for people affected by mental illness, and their families and friends. Through education, research and campaigning, SANE works to improve people's access to treatment, support in the community and to end stigma and discrimination.

'Focusing on our sustainability means that SANE Australia can ensure a continued commitment to Australians affected by mental illness. However, there is much more to be done in this area. Mental health services in Australia have a long way to go and SANE will continue to campaign to increase understanding of mental illness and improve access to services for all Australians.' Ms Hocking said.

Barbara Hocking, Executive Director of SANE Australia, is available for comment.

SANE Australia
a national charity
helping people affected
by mental illness

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SANE Helpline
Information and advice
on mental illness
1800 18 SANE (7263)