



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Leaders in Australia's HIV response recognised with Queen's Birthday honours**

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations congratulates those who have received honours in this year's Queens Birthday Awards.

Associate Professor Edwina Wright, Janet Jukes, Dr Elizabeth Crock and Gino Vumbaca have all received honours. All four have taken leading roles in Australia's response to HIV.

Associate Professor Edwina Wight has been honoured for her service to medicine and research, particularly for people living with HIV. Professor Wright has been a Senior Specialist in the Department of Infectious Diseases at Melbourne's Alfred Hospital since 1996, and is the co-head of the HIV Elimination Program at the Burnet Institute.

Janet Jukes is the President of Thorne Harbour Health (an AFAO member organisation) and is a member of the LGBTI Taskforce within the Department of Premier and the Cabinet. Janet has been honoured for her contributions to the LGBTI community.

Dr Elizabeth Crock has been recognised for significant service to nursing, particularly for people living with HIV. Dr Crock has served on the board of the Australasian Society for HIV, Viral Hepatitis, and Sexual Health Medicine (ASHM) and is the President of the Australian and New Zealand Association for Nurses in AIDS Care (ANZANAC).

Gino Vumbaca has also been honoured. Mr Vumbaca has extensive experience in the HIV and drug and alcohol fields and served as the Executive Director of the Australian National Council on Drugs for over 15 years. He is the President of Harm Reduction Australia.

AFAO CEO Darryl O'Donnell says the recognitions are well deserved.

"We are very pleased to see Associate Professor Edwina Wright, Janet Jukes, Dr Elizabeth Crock and Gino Vumbaca honoured in the 2021 Queen's Birthday honour list."

"These honours are well deserved and rightfully recognise their significant and long running roles in Australia's response to HIV."

Media contact Levi Joule 048111 2074

**Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations**

Level 3, 414 Elizabeth Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010 | P +61 2 9557 9399 E [enquiries@afao.org.au](mailto:enquiries@afao.org.au) | [afao.org.au](http://afao.org.au)

The Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations (AFAO) is the national federation for the HIV community response in Australia. AFAO works to end HIV transmission and reduce its impact on communities in Australia, Asia and the Pacific. AFAO's members are the AIDS Councils in each state and territory; the National Association of People with HIV Australia (NAPWHA); the Australian Injecting & Illicit Drug Users League (AIVL); the Anwernekenhe National HIV Alliance (ANA); and Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association. AFAO's affiliate member organisations – spanning community, research, public health and clinical workforce – share AFAO's values and support the work we do.