



**MEDIA RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ACON CEO, Nic Parkhill honoured on Australia Day**

ACON CEO Nic Parkhill's decades of service to HIV treatment and prevention, and LGBTQI health have been recognised with a thoroughly deserved appointment as a Member of the Order of Australia (AM).

Over three decades, Nic Parkhill has fought tirelessly and effectively to advance the health and wellbeing of people in HIV-positive and LGBTQ communities.

The Ending HIV health promotion framework adopted by ACON under Parkhill's leadership is internationally recognised, with key principles adopted across Australia and globally.

Nic has also successfully advocated and overseen the rollout of rapid based testing, and broad based access to the HIV prevention medicine, Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP). These are key planks of NSW's success in driving HIV transmission to its lowest level in recorded history.

AFAO also recognises the Nic Parkhill's important work in crafting and implementing broader LGBTQI health initiatives in areas such as mental health, cancer screening and prevention, and greater focus on the health of LGBTQ women, culturally and linguistically diverse people, and trans and gender diverse communities.

AFAO President Mark Orr AM said Nicholas Parkhill's work and commitment had made a big difference to many communities.

"The diverse communities ACON and AFAO serve and support are stronger and more resilient thanks to the tireless efforts of people like Nicolas. I thank him for his continued service to HIV and LGBTQ health over many years and congratulate him on receiving this prestigious honour."

For media comment, please contact:

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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.