



Media Release

Tuesday 27 May 2008

Colac Doctor Wins Award

Colac doctor Danny Jones was honoured for his outstanding service to the Victorian rural community at the prestigious, Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) 2008 *Victorian Rural Doctors' Awards*, on Friday night in Melbourne.

Victorian rural doctors were nominated by their peers, patients and local community members in two categories, *35 Years of Service to Rural Communities* or *Outstanding Contribution to Rural Communities*.

Dr Jones was one of 10 recipients of the *Outstanding Service to Rural Communities* award.

Minister for Rural & Regional Development, the Hon. Jacinta Allan presented the doctors and their families with the awards at a gala dinner in the National Gallery of Victoria's Great Hall.

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria's (RWAV) Chairman and Mildura General Practitioner, Dr Philip Webster commends the doctors and their families for their commitment to rural Victorians.

"Our annual awards are significant as they're an opportunity to publicly acknowledge and honour our doctors for their dedication to rural Victorians," Dr Webster said.

"More importantly, the doctors provide terrific role models that will inspire and enthuse our medical students to seriously consider a career as a rural GP."

The Awards were attended by 200 guests that included Award recipients and their families, health professionals from all disciplines and medical school students.

Other doctors who received an award herald from Apollo Bay, Ballarat, Mansfield, Wodonga, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Orbost, Foster, Bendigo, Kerang, Portland, Mildura, Hamilton and Omeo.

An awards panel comprising Australian College of Rural & Remote Medicine (ACCRM), RWAV, Rural Medical Family Network (RMFN), Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), Committee of Chairmen of Victorian State Committees of Medical Colleges, Rural Doctors Association of Victoria (RDAV) and Australian Medical Association Vic (AMA) representatives assessed each of the nominees against the criteria for each of the categories.

.....Ends.....

For high resolution images or to discuss further story ideas please call Samantha Marnell on 0439 551 720.

Background information

Dr Danny Jones

Dr Danny Jones has been a strong advocate for the role of midwives in the provision of obstetric services in Colac. His work has provided an outstanding rural obstetrics unit.

Danny has had the largest obstetrics practice for 21 years in Colac, with an estimated delivery rate of 75 babies per year, or over 1500 babies during his time in Colac. His devotion to his patients is exemplary, with Danny providing after hours service and delivering as many babies as possible even when not on duty. He is dearly revered by his patients and is held in a very high esteem within the community. He has been a provider of anaesthetics for all his professional life in Colac.

Danny has been a mentor to many medical students from Monash and Melbourne University – students would often be invited to stay with the Jones' family and on his day off Danny would show the student around the Colac Otway Shire. Danny has also been a mentor to many Registrars who have been educated at Corangamite Clinic.