



Media Release 20/06/2024

BMA and Astute Early Years Specialists Earn Nomination for Esteemed Queensland Mining Award with Joint Initiative.

The Childcare Leadership Alliance (CLA) is proud to announce that BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) and Astute Early Years Specialists have been nominated for the Community, Staff Engagement or Equal Opportunity Award at the esteemed Queensland Mining Awards. This nomination celebrates the strategic innovation in regional childcare achieved through the collaboration between BMA and Astute Early Years Specialists, to deliver the Childcare Leadership Alliance project.

The CLA, launched in 2022 with the support and funding of BHP Mitsubishi Alliance (BMA) and with Astute Early Years Specialists appointed as the lead project delivery partner, has been at the forefront of addressing childcare challenges in regional communities. Initially focusing on two pilot towns within the Isaac Regional Council area, the CLA has developed and trialled strategic solutions aimed at empowering early childhood and school-age care providers to attract, retain, and upskill educators.

A campaign targeting the recruitment of international workers achieved remarkable success, attracting expressions of interest from over 130 educators worldwide.

Melissa Comerford, Project Manager of the CLA, expressed her gratitude and excitement for the nomination: **"We are incredibly proud of the work the Childcare Leadership Alliance has achieved in collaboration with BMA and Astute Early Years Specialists. Being recognised in the Queensland Mining Awards is a testament to the dedication and commitment of everyone involved in this initiative. We wish all nominees the best of luck."**

The 2024 Queensland Mining Awards will be held on Wednesday, July 24, in Mackay. The gala dinner will unveil the winners of each of the eight categories, along with the Queensland Mining Contractor of the Year. This year's awards, marking a decade of celebrating excellence in Queensland's resources industry, received a record-breaking 70 entries.

The Childcare Leadership Alliance extends its heartfelt thanks to BMA and Astute Early Years Specialists for their support and dedication to this project. The outcomes have been remarkable, and this nomination highlights the impact of their strategic innovation in regional childcare.

If you would like more information about supporting the Childcare Leadership Alliance and the Isaac community with financial or housing support please reach out to discuss at cla@weareastute.com.au.



Childcare Leadership Alliance

For more information, visit www.childcareleadershipalliance.com.au/

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