

Stay Strong mental health leaders awarded Menzies Medallion

1 November 2023

Menzies Mental Health Research Lead, Professor Tricia Nagel and Lead Cultural Advisor of the Menzies Stay Strong Mental Health Program, Patj Patj Janama Robert Mills have been awarded the 2023 Menzies Medallion.

This was in recognition of their incredible leadership in and contributions to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health research, services and training and mentoring.

Awarded at last night's Oration, this accolade comes as the Menzies' Stay Strong mental health program celebrates 20 years of research.

Professor Tricia Nagel and Patj Patj Janama Robert Mills lead the [Menzies Stay Strong team](#), which focuses on building resilience and healing through strengths-based approaches to wellbeing, mental health promotion and treatment. This has resulted in the co-design of many evidenced based resources, which are used in a wide range of settings and recommended in several best-practice mental health guidelines.

The [Menzies Medallion](#) is the highest award offered by Menzies and is awarded by the Menzies Board to groups or individuals who have made a considerable contribution to health, of relevance to the Northern Territory.

Quotes attributable to Menzies Director, [Professor Alan Cass AO](#):

"The 20-year anniversary of the Stay Strong program speaks to Tricia and Janama's dedication and passion for bettering mental health and wellbeing.

"The program they lead is a true example of working in partnership with communities, to ensure their work meets the needs of those seeking mental health support.

"Congratulations Tricia and Janama on receiving the Menzies Medallion."

Quotes attributable to Menzies Medallion recipient and Mental Health Research Lead, [Professor Tricia Nagel](#):

"Strengthening connections is a big focus of the work we do, through our research, resource development and training courses.

"This success would not have been possible without the support and trust we share within our team and with our community partners."

Quotes attributable to Menzies Medallion recipient and Lead Cultural Advisor of the Menzies Stay Strong Mental Health Program, Patj Patj Janama Robert Mills:

"Mental health is important to everyone and I started working in this field as I wanted to better support Indigenous people to access mental health and wellbeing care.

"It has been great to reflect on the past 20 years of the program and see many of our resources and projects help people from across Australia."

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Menzies School of Health Research

Menzies is one of Australia's leading medical research institutes dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and a leader in global and tropical research into life-threatening illnesses. Menzies continues to translate research into effective partnerships and programs in communities across Australia and the Asia-Pacific region.