The competition is hotting up to name Ayrshire’s health heroes. This year’s Ayrshire Achieves awards gave local people – and other NHS staff - the chance to recognise the contribution of health workers and volunteers who had gone the extra mile.

The winners of the eight categories will be revealed at an awards ceremony on Thursday 11 June at University Hospital Ayr.

A judging panel comprising nurses, directors, senior managers, a member of the public and a representative from local media met this week to select the 26 finalists and overall winners in each category.

John Burns, Chief Executive of NHS Ayrshire & Arran said: “On behalf of the organisation, I would like to thank everyone who nominated their health hero for an award, and congratulate all those members of staff and volunteers who were nominated.

“Every day we hear of examples of our dedicated staff going the extra mile. They don’t do this in anticipation of awards, but because they are committed to providing safe, high quality care.

“Congratulations to the finalists and I wish you the best of luck.”

The 26 finalists come from a wide range of disciplines – from nursing staff and clinicians to volunteers and office-based staff.

The finalists in the eight award categories are:

**Building relationships**

- Musculoskeletal (MSK) Centre administration team
- Employability team
- Speech and language therapy - Supporting Prevention and Early Intervention in North Ayrshire (SPIN)

**Caring for people**
Media information
For immediate use

- Amanda Byrne, Team Manager - Intermediate Care and Enablement Service
- Jeanette Henderson, Senior Charge Nurse - Ailsa Hospital
- Norma Langford, Staff Nurse - University Hospital Crosshouse

Customer commitments
- Karen McCormack, Senior Charge Nurse - University Hospital Ayr
- Maureen McKay, Catering Assistant - University Hospital Ayr
- Sharon Hamilton, Waiting List Co-ordinator - Medical Services

Learning achievement
- Dr Karen Stevenson, Clinical Psychologist - Learning Disability Service
- Early Years team
- Amy Ross, Assistant Management Accountant and Shona McMillan, Assistant Management Accountant

Light bulb moments - creativity and innovation
- Holistic Clinic team
- Christopher Johnston, Dietetic Support Worker
- Christine Hedley, Community Staff Nurse - Kilwinning District Nurse Team
- Activity team

Staff health, safety and wellbeing
- Catherine Hail, Senior Charge Nurse - Ailsa Hospital
- Liz Bacon, Promoting Attendance Lead

Team of the year
- Community Peritoneal Dialysis team
- Family Nurse Partnership
- Station 8, University Hospital Ayr
- Senior Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) team - Cumbrae
- Intensive Care Unit (ICU) team - University Hospital Crosshouse

Volunteer of the year
- Vicky Clark, Breastfeeding Network Peer Supporter
The winners of Ayrshire Achieves 2015 will be announced at an awards ceremony on Thursday 11 June 2015.

There will be a Chairman's award which will be presented to an individual or team who the Chairman feels deserves special recognition for the work that they do. There will also be a People's choice award, which will be given to a nomination made by a member of the public, and who the judging panel awarded the highest score.

Ayrshire Achieves is supported by NHS Ayrshire & Arran's Area Partnership Forum. We would also like to acknowledge and thank our sponsors, Royal College of Nursing, Unison and Bauer Holdings (West Sound and WestFM).

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