

Lisa Kingman McGlinchey recognised with Medal of the Order of Australia

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She was imbued with a sense of social justice that's carried into her work connecting businesses to charities to improve their contributions to the community.

"My parents and grandparents exposed me to social challenges in our community. It was just normal to contribute to your community," Ms Kingman McGlinchey, of Drumcondra, said.

"I found people in the charity and not-for-profit sector were some of the most amazing and inspiring people. I feel like I've been the lucky one to get to help them.

"I've always felt strongly about social challenges and inequality."

In 2004, Ms Kingman McGlinchey co-founded EdConnect in Geelong to help retirees volunteer in schools — a charity that's since grown to a national scale.

Her 30-year contribution to the sector has also included a role with Tanarra Philanthropic Advisors, since 2018, where she's instilled business nous into the leaders of about 100 charities.

"Helping them shift from good to great is what we say. They don't often have access to high level business expertise and we do that for free."

For service to business and community engagement Ms Kingman McGlinchey will today be recognised with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM).

“Half of the time I’ve been self-employed helping companies connect with great causes and the other half I’ve been running community organisations.

“It’s been an absolute privilege. I don’t feel like I deserve this recognition because I think it’s the people I’ve been working with in the charity sector that are the true unsung change makers. But I will accept (the honour) with grace.”

Ms Kingman McGlinchey was also recognised for her work with Courthouse Youth Arts and the Cathy Freeman Foundation, and being a member of numerous community references groups.

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