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MEDIA RELEASE

BENETAS CEO RECOGNISED FOR VISIONARY LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION TO HELPING OLDER VICTORIANS

After just 18 months in her role as Chief Executive Officer of leading aged care provider Benetas, Ms Sandra Hills has been recognised for her achievements at the SACS Awards for Leadership.

Ms Hills was announced as a finalist for the SACS Awards for Leadership in the Not for Profit Sector – Executive Leaders. Winners of the category were Allen Dewhirst, CEO of Salvos Stores and Louise James, Chairperson of One in Five Association. The awards are held annually by SACS Consulting, a human resource and organisational psychology firm.

Ms Hills was nominated for her role as a visionary leader, dedicated to building a society in which older people are respected and valued. She is a firm believer in Harry Truman's saying; "it is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit." Benetas Deputy CEO Sharon McGowan explains, "Sandra is the first to acknowledge others' contribution and celebrate their success; she believes that we all have the capacity to make a positive difference in the lives of older people providing we give our best."

Sandra joined Benetas in 2009 as CEO with a background and qualifications spanning nursing, psychology, sociology and business management. Sandra has held leadership positions from early in her career, managing numerous portfolios before ultimately assuming the role of General Manager Aged and Community Care for the Brotherhood of St Laurence prior to joining Benetas.

Sandra has been an active participant on boards and advisory groups, and remains a Director of Aged and Community Care Victoria (ACCV), a member of the Aged Care Consultative Committee for the Department of Health and Ageing and Director of Anglicare Australia.

Ms Hills says, "I am committed to working with older people who are disadvantaged and advocating on their behalf. Recognition from SACS and my peers is confirmation that I am fulfilling my objectives and inspiring others to do the same. I'm really honoured to be recognised as a finalist."

The SACS Awards are held annually to provide recognition and encouragement to those who contribute to the community through dedicated leadership of their organizations.

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Benetas is a not-for-profit organisation, founded by the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne in 1948. Benetas provides quality aged care services for more than 2,000 older Victorians within its 12 residential care facilities and through its extensive community care programs that enable older people to stay at home with support. Benetas is also one of the leading providers of dedicated day and overnight respite services in Victoria.