

A FAMILY AFFAIR IN AGED CARE



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Provider Name

Tomaree Community College

Contact

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Program

Full qualification CHC30212
Certificate III in Aged Care

Target Group

Low Income /
Community Welfare Recipient

Details

2 days/week for 16 weeks
plus work experience 100 hours

Key points of difference

Enrolment, orientation and
monitoring procedures.
Focus on practical skills and
preparation for workplacement.
Links with industry.

Four women from the small community of Limeburners Creek are now employed in an Aged Care residential facility thanks to CSO funded training at Tomaree Community College.

A mother and her friend, the daughter and her friend, enrolled together in CHC30212 Certificate III in Aged Care. All four intend to continue their studies by enrolling in Cert IV Ageing Support and one is planning on becoming a Registered Nurse.

Initially College staff were concerned about the two young women, both 16 years old enrolling in the program due to the often confronting aspects of personal care for the aged. Lengthy and detailed conversations with the students and their parents ensured the two young women were well aware of the content of the course and the nature of the work.

The College highlights a number of factors that contribute to the success of this program:

- Structured enrollment and orientation process including: Pre-enrollment interview with VET Manager confirming course requirements and industry expectations; Orientation session including LLN assessment to ensure students can manage the level of work
- Regular meetings between trainer, and VET Manager (and student if required) to identify any potential problems or issues
- College atmosphere designed to build rapport and provide mentoring, for instance an open door policy for student access to the VET Manager
- VET Manager tracks individual student progress to enable timely support
- Small class size
- Encourage group dynamic to create a team environment for example, introducing fun activities as part of the training such as a pot luck multicultural food fest to coincide with the cultural diversity unit
- Purpose built aged care training room with equipment to maximise practical skills development
- Excursions to Senior Citizens clubs to improve communication skills with older people. Excursion to leagues club to use wheel chairs, walkers and blindfolds and play bingo to develop empathy with aged clients. Excursion to funeral home to develop understanding of the process
- Visits to the residential facility with their trainer for clinical skills practice with residents and their equipment prior to workplacement so they feel comfortable before starting their workplacement
- Regular visits by the VET Manager and Trainer/assessor to ensure students are well supported on workplacement
- Buddy arrangement between student and experienced staff in the workplace
- Trainer/assessor works in the industry as a clinical educator, so has industry currency and is aware of local facilities' staff needs and expectations
- A strong relationship with the local care facility. They appreciate the fact that the College puts in extra effort to building students skills prior to them going on workplacement.

This training is subsidised by the NSW Government.