

*Julie Anderson – Project Lead*

*Community Services Gateway to Industry Schools Project*

*The Gateway to Industry Schools Program is funded by  
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*Community Services: Pathways, Possibilities, and  
Partnerships for Schools*

I'm Julie Anderson, Project Lead for the Community Services Gateway to Industry Schools Project.

Joy Collins, our Project Assistant, and I support 68 schools across Queensland by connecting them with over 300 industry partners. Together, we create real-world learning opportunities that build student skills, confidence, and clear pathways into community services careers.

# About the Community Services Gateway to Industry Schools Project

The Community Services Gateway Industry Schools Project (CSGISP) works to strengthen connections between schools, industry, and community to create meaningful pathways for young people.

Our focus is on:

- Enhancing student readiness for life after school
- Building employability skills through real-world experiences
- Supporting local industry by developing an informed and skilled future workforce
- Facilitating partnerships that create mutual value for both students and the broader community
- Through targeted programs, industry engagement, and collaborative initiatives, CSGISP ensures students gain practical insight into pathways across VET, higher education, and employment.

# How We Support Our Schools and Students

- CARE Program – providing structured, industry-aligned learning experiences that build confidence, awareness, readiness and employability.
- Immersion Days – giving students hands-on exposure to real workplaces, industry environments and career pathways.
- Connection Events – bringing schools and industry together to build partnerships and discover new opportunities.
- Industry Presentations at Schools – showcasing real career stories, roles and pathways directly to students.



- Site Visits for Staff and Students – allowing teachers and learners to see industry settings first-hand and understand expectations.
- Attendance at Career Expos – supporting schools by representing community services professions and promoting pathway options.
- Mock Interview Participation – helping students build confidence, communication skills and job-readiness.
- Facilitating Work Experience & School-Based Traineeships – connecting students with meaningful placements that develop skills and support future career choices.



# Strengthening Intergenerational Connections

## Community Services Gateway to Industry Schools Project (CSGISP) & COTA Queensland

COMMUNITY SERVICES  
*Gateway to Industry Schools program*

Council on the Ageing  
**Queensland**



# Our Collaboration with COTA Queensland

- Shared commitment to supporting ageing Queenslanders
- Tackling social isolation through intergenerational engagement
- Connecting students with older adults in purposeful ways
- Co-designing programs that create mutual benefit

# Why This Partnership Matters

- Social isolation is a growing challenge for older Queenslanders
- Students gain empathy, communication & life skills
- Reduces stereotypes and builds understanding
- Strengthens community connection across generations

# Benefits for Students

## Communication Skills

Building confidence & respectful interaction  
Adapting communication styles

## Employability & Life Skills

Emotional intelligence  
Problem-solving & teamwork  
Responsibility & leadership

## Career Exposure

Insight into aged care & community services  
Real-world experience  
Awareness of diverse roles in the sector



# Benefits for Older Queenslanders

- Reduced social isolation
- Emotional connection & shared purpose
- Opportunity to pass on stories and knowledge
- Feeling valued and included
- Improved wellbeing

# Planned Opportunities & Activities

- Intergenerational conversation programs
- Digital literacy and tech support sessions
  - Volunteering opportunities
- Story-sharing / oral history projects
- Activity-based engagement (craft, games, wellbeing)
- Career insight days into aged care & community services





## Long-Term Vision

- Sustainable intergenerational engagement model
- Stronger future workforce for the care sector
- Greater youth awareness of ageing & wellbeing
- Enhanced dignity, connection & quality of life for older Queenslanders

# Our Commitment

- Co-design programs with COTA
- Support students and seniors through structured activities
- Create opportunities that are safe, supported & meaningful
  - Continue building an inclusive, connected Queensland community

# Contact Us

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