Ways to make healthy difference

The Central Australia Health Service is looking to recruit future staff for a variety of areas at the Skills, Employment and Careers Expo 2016.

Barbara Baugh, from the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts, is attending Territory Skills, Employment and Careers Expo.

A graduate of the Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts is helping make dreams come true for indigenous performers.

ACPA is a unique Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander performing arts training institution.

It provides high-quality training in the performance disciplines of dance, music and theatre at Certificate IV, Diploma and Advanced Diploma levels.

The centre attracts students from urban, regional and remote communities across Australia.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures have been maintained over time by a strong tradition of storytelling through performance – words, music and dance.

The programs offered by ACPA respect, support and build on that tradition, in the context of preparing students for employment in the broader Australian creative industries.

The centre’s work contributes strongly to Council of Australian Government’s (COAG) Closing the Gap agenda in the key areas of:

- Maintaining, valuing and strengthening Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures;
- Improving Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians’ levels of skills, training and employment.

Former student Barbara Baugh is the training manager for the centre.

This involves her in recruitment, training, compliance, event coordination, castings, stakeholder management and student support.

"I was asked to apply for the job as the executive training support officer, got it and worked my way up to training manager," Ms Baugh said.

"I love the performing arts, especially this school.

"I am an original student from 1998 and one of the first graduates.

"I have an Advanced Diploma in Performing Arts and also did a traineeship in business administration.

"It was not hard getting my qualifications as I love the performing arts.

"I did something that I was passionate about so it made it easy.

"I chose this industry to give back to my community and help others achieve their dreams."

Ms Baugh has been working with Queensland-based ACPA for five years.

"You need passion, commitment and to be able to work hard," she said.

"I am heading to Alice Springs and Darwin for career expos this month.

"There would be too many crazy, weird things at my work to list – it’s the performing arts. I would only recommend this industry to people who are passionate about the arts, dedicated and are willing to work hard for it.

"It is a tough industry but very rewarding."