

Finding A Perfect Job Through Volunteering



From Left: Adam, Katherine, Tayla Kelty

When in year 10, Tayla Kelty was required to do work experience; so she decided to go to the special development school in Traralgon for 2 weeks. She absolutely loved it.

The next year she did a course in community services to be able to get a job after school. With that, she started volunteering at Interchange for a year. She volunteered every Wednesday and went on a few weekend trips. She used to take the participants to Warragul, go swimming together, go out for lunch, catch the train, volunteer on Meals on Wheels and do various activities.

Volunteering at Interchange has helped shape her career path. When she turned 18, she is offered a paid position at Interchange, doing 76 hours a fortnight. As a paid employee, she helps the participant get ready for school, pick them up from school, go to the library, bowling or just do a sport activity. She also decided to continue her studies in Community Services.

Tayla loves her job and all the participants at Interchange, "They make you smile all day long. They are so funny. I am just so fascinated by the jokes that they come up with. It doesn't feel like I am working, it feels like I am just catching up with some friends. I just love going to work all the time."

Tayla also volunteered for 3 seasons as a basketball coach, at the Churchill Leisure Centre for the Under 14 boys team. Being only 17 then, Tayla said her group was really good and everyone listened to everything she said. Tayla laughed, "I didn't think of that as volunteering until right now!"

To someone that is thinking of volunteering, Tayla said, "100% do it because it can lead you into a job you want, and it's also a taster to see if you do like it. "

Do you have a volunteer story to share?
Contact us at volunteers@HandsUpLatrobe.com.au