

Caring for mob is a life changing job

“We need our mob to sign up!” Carly Wallace says, speaking up on the importance of mob caring for mob as part of a national campaign to encourage people to join the care and support workforce.

Carly is a proud Dulguburra Yidinji woman from the Atherton Tablelands in Far North Queensland who is passionate about mob helping mob.

She said she supported the *A Life Changing Life* campaign to encourage more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mob to consider joining the care and support sector after seeing firsthand the need and benefits of having mob caring for mob.

She said her own journey into the care and support workforce was an unexpected one and started long before she applied for a formal role in the sector.

“When I think about my role in the care and support workforce I’ve actually been in this role for a long time,” she said.

“My journey with care and support started with my kinship role with looking after my little brother, who was born with foetal alcohol syndrome and had ADHD and ADD.”

Taking on caring responsibilities was a sudden and unplanned adjustment for Carly, who was in her mid-twenties and working in the media industry as a community broadcaster at the time her mother passed away.

She said on reflection she recognised being an



A LIFE CHANGING LIFE: Carly Wallace.

unpaid carer gave her some lived experience that could be developed into a career pathway able to offer stability and flexibility.

Since then Carly has taken great strides in the care and support workforce, from starting out as an unpaid carer to a role as Senior Advocate for the First Peoples Disability Network.

Carly said she drew on her experience of looking after her brother when it came to interviews and showcasing her experience when she applied for her first support role looking after youth in the community.

She wanted more mob to know lived experiences and cultural knowledge could provide a strong foundation for a rewarding job in the care and support sector, and could be communicated in resumes and interviews when applying for paid roles.

“When I was doing my youth work, I definitely drew on my experiences with my brother, but also the wider community and having a passion for working with our mob,” she said.

“I think that transferable skill is something that a lot of our people don’t realise they have.

“We, just naturally, are carers for each other.

“We have that kinship system of looking after each other but then we don’t then think about, ‘oh we could do that in a job’, or, ‘we could make a career out of that’, which you definitely can.”

She said having more Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people in care and support roles supported cultural safety in care settings and was a great way to connect.

“Traditional language and family kinship ways can be a huge barrier from the get-go for

someone who needs care and support,” Carly said.

“Knowing language or broken English, kinship ways and cultural ways is an important skill and can be vital for mob who need care and support. It helps to ensure a better quality of care and support.

“The more of our

mob that aren’t doing these jobs, means it may be harder for us to be cared for how we need to be cared for... and that’s why we need our mob to sign up!”

You can find an opportunity for a life changing life at <https://www.careandsupportjobs.gov.au/now-hiring>

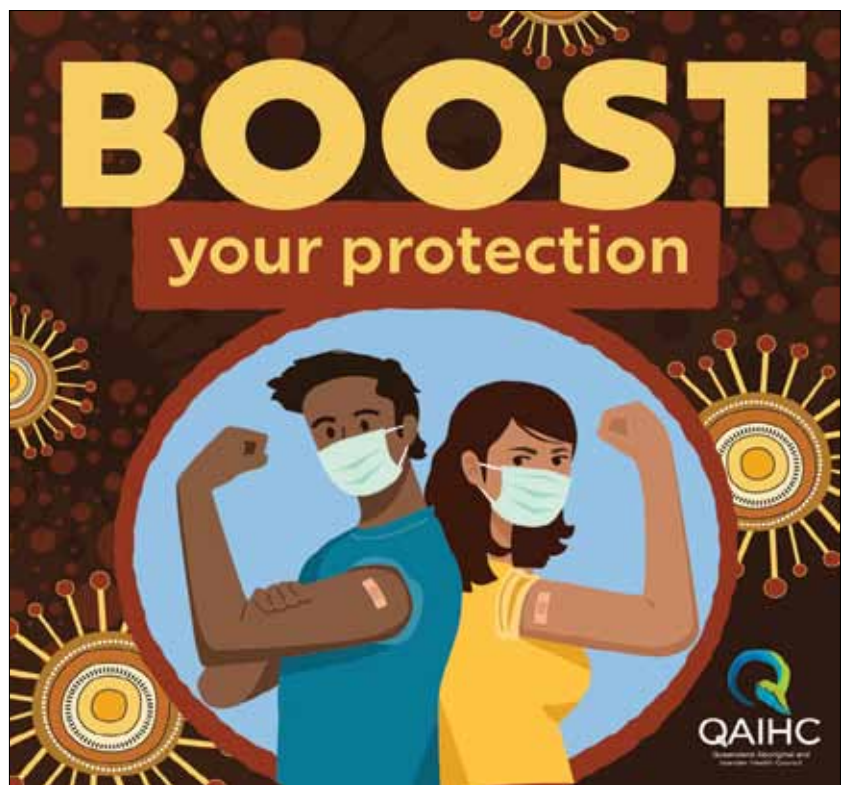
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TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL

To lead, provide & facilitate a sustainable, safe and culturally vibrant community

NOTICE OF ADOPTION

TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN 2022 AMENDMENT

At its Ordinary Meeting of 25 January 2022, Torres Shire Council resolved to adopt the Torres Shire Council Local Government Infrastructure Plan 2022 amendment (the 2022 LGIP amendment).

The 2022 LGIP amendment will commence on

28 February 2022

The purpose of the 2022 LGIP amendment is to align the Local Government Infrastructure Plan with Council’s new planning scheme, the Torres Shire Council Planning Scheme 2022, which will commence on the same day. The 2022 LGIP amendment will form part of the new planning scheme.

A copy of the new planning scheme, including the LGIP (as amended), may be inspected and purchased at Torres Shire Council, 68 Douglas Street, Thursday Island QLD 4875. A copy is also available on Council’s website at www.torres.qld.gov.au.

For information about the the 2022 LGIP amendment please contact:

Dalassa Yorkson, Chief Executive Officer, Torres Shire Council on 07 4069 1336 or via email admin@torres.qld.gov.au.

**Dalassa Yorkston
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
February 2022**