My name’s Cindy and I’m in Year 11. I’m currently doing ah Units 3 and 4 of VET Community Services this year.

I think the main reason why I chose to do VET Community Services was because it was talking a lot about our own communities and how we could contribute to that, so, a lot of the stuff we learn here is relating back to how we can make a difference in our own communities and unlike the other subjects it was really hands on.

Yeah, I think it’s really important to have a subject that you could relate to and want to do passionately, instead of doing it for the sake of doing it, so that’s why I chose it.

In my first year of doing the subject I found it really interesting to do, as I said before, hands-on activities, mainly surrounding first aid, such as CPR and, um, how to treat someone if they’re unconscious, stuff like that, but we also learnt how to bandage people properly and we also learnt how to give them back blows if they’re choking. Stuff like that, very hands-on stuff.

This year has been really good in terms of, um, educating us on how we can make a difference as individuals and we learn a lot about community approaches and how there’s community-based approaches. Um, it broadens your perspective of the world and it also helps you with a lot of life skills as well.

So I undertook my structured workplace learning at a child care centre, and I’m glad that I did that because it really opened my eyes about, like, children in general and how they’re smart in their own ways. The child care placement taught me a lot about that and taught me that we need to pay more attention to people in different ways because everyone’s not the same and everyone has their special qualities. Yeah.

All the skills we learn in VET Community can be applied to the real world, whether it’s how to communicate with people, or how to handle situations in different ways. I was considering, like, a social worker pathway because I was always really interested in paving better paths for people and to help them in our own communities, and I think that gaining the Certificates II and III in Community Services would really give a head start to pursuing careers that are heavily involved with the community or just people in general.

For now, I’m thinking of undertaking a nursing course, and I’m thinking of completing VCE so I can go ahead and do university in the future, and VET Community Services can go towards my ATAR, as well. I personally recommend VET Community Services as a subject for students to do in the future, mainly because it’s a hands-on subject that, um, even if we do theory, still can be applied to everyday life, ah, whether you’re talking to people or you’re doing your work placement it can help you a lot and overall I think it’s just a really interesting subject to do because it teaches you a lot about life and the workings of a community and yeah.

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