



## Media Release

8 August, 2016

### Carinya Home welcomes TAFE North students

A group of TAFE Queensland North TAFE at School students will get a rewarding experience this week, rubbing shoulders with some golden oldies.

The Year 11 and 12 students from Atherton State High School, St Stephen's Catholic College, Ravenshoe State School and Mareeba State High School will be volunteering at Carinya Home for the Aged on Tuesday, August 9.

The visit is part of their course work, as the students complete their studies for a Certificate II in Health Support Services through TAFE Queensland North.

TAFE Queensland North Teacher, Julia Meredith said the visit is a chance for students to get some hands on experience.

"This will provide the students with some context to their learning and it will also give them an insight into what it is like to work in the aged care sector.

"It will be a great opportunity for them to spend some quality time with the residents at Carinya Home and to see first-hand just how rewarding it is to be involved in this type of care," Ms Meredith said.

Carinya Home Registered Nurse and Education Coordinator, Sandi Nuku has worked in aged care for more than 40 years and she said these types of visits are a win-win.

"A wonderful connection takes place between the young and the old when both groups have an opportunity to interact in this way.

"We get to show the students the importance of combining care services with individual lifestyle options for residents.

"We see the students engage with residents, they have discussion groups, play mini golf, cards and board games and the students help out with exercise programs and morning tea.

"The demand for innovative aged care services is growing and Carinya Home embraces the partnership we have with TAFE Queensland North and the opportunity to introduce more young people to the industry," Ms Nuku said.

TAFE Queensland North General Manager, Joann Pyne said it is great that staff and residents at Carinya Home support this type of student learning opportunity.

"Volunteering is a great way for our students to gain new skills and prepare for the workplace.

"Carinya Home recognises the importance of well-trained staff and we are grateful they are allowing our students to get some industry experience and connect with residents in a real-life aged care setting," Ms Pyne said.

**The media is invited for photographic and interview opportunities.**

**WHERE: Carinya Home for the Aged, 1 Mazlin Street, Atherton**

**WHEN: August 9, 9:30am-10:30am.**

**Media Contact: Sarah Weir 4042 2746 or 0408 746 747**