



Media Release

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It's Graduation Time!

TAFE Queensland North students from ARC Disability Services Inc. are ditching hair nets, knives and coffee beans for a graduation ceremony.

After 12 months of studies and on-the-job training, Lisa, Jimmy, Alex and Adam have gained a Certificate II in Hospitality.

Adam and Lisa are looking forward to their graduation ceremony at Café Connect on Friday, December 2.

"I'm really excited about graduating, it's been great fun," Adam said.

"I was excited about doing TAFE it was a great experience. It was great working with my friends and teachers and I am looking forward to graduation," Lisa said.

TAFE Queensland North General Manager, Joann Pyne said the students have really thrived on campus.

"It has been a real privilege for our teachers to help these young individuals learn more about table service, barista skills, food preparation and cooking techniques," Ms Pyne said.

ARC Disability Services Inc. CEO, Benjamin Keast said the training project is the first of its kind offered through ARC in partnership with TAFE Queensland North and funded through the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative.

"ARC is always looking for ways to further support individuals to achieve their goals and aspirations and this has been an exciting project for all involved," Mr Keast said.

ARC Disability Services Inc. General Manager, Sheridan Lawton is excited for the graduation ceremony.

"The students have thrived on the experience and learning of the program, stepping up to the challenges and we are so proud of all they have achieved," Ms Lawton said.

Lisa, Jimmy, Alex and Adam have been learning under the guidance of several TAFE Queensland North teachers including Hospitality Trainer, Kerri Maruff.

"The students have been really impressive with their enthusiasm, motivation and general desire to learn front of house skills since the beginning of the course.

"They are inspiring, not letting any barrier get in the way of their learning," Ms Maruff said.

Jimmy and Alex have heaps of confidence about their new skills.

“I have learned how to make food and drinks and I would like to work with little kids at a tuckshop in a school,” Jimmy said.

“I liked learning how to make non-alcoholic beverages, I’d like to try and get a job as a bar attendant,” Alex said.

The media is invited for filming, photographic and interview opportunities.

Where: Café Connect, 52 MacNamara Street, Manunda.

When: Friday, December 2. The graduation ceremony starts at 10:15am.

For more information, please contact TAFE Queensland North Communications and Public Relations Officer Sarah Weir on 4042 2746 or 0408 746 747.