

**MEDIA RELEASE**  
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## **Activ customer Phillipa making a difference at Carlisle's Harold Hawthorn Community Centre**

**Activ's career coaching customer Phillipa Graham, who lives with disability, brightens the day of local senior citizens at Harold Hawthorn Community Centre.**

Phillipa has been working with her Activ career coach Amanda Faithfull as part of Activ's career coaching program, where people with disability are provided with tailored coaching to help unlock their potential, discover their strengths and skills and gain meaningful employment.

Working with Amanda, Phillipa identified that working in food service, cooking and catering, as well as helping others are her passions. To gain some experience in all of these areas, Amanda supports Phillipa to attend a work experience placement at Harold Hawthorn Community Centre in Carlisle.

"Phillipa is very kind and helpful, so it's great that in this placement she can work on her skills and help others while exploring environments that aren't familiar to her," said Amanda.

Phillipa attends her placement once a week with Amanda, where she works during lunch hour with the local community's senior citizens.

"I do all the cutlery and I serve food. Before I do that, I say hi to everyone and accept their meal cards, then I ask them if they want tea or coffee and I make it myself," said Phillipa.

"I like meeting all the new people and I've made friends. I like doing different things."

Phillipa says that her next step in the career coaching program involves learning new skills, especially in cooking, and possibly getting some experience in a kitchen or café.

"I want to learn to make pizza!" said Phillipa.

With Amanda's guidance in the career coaching program, Phillipa's on track to achieving more independence at work, while putting a smile on the faces of local residents.

"One of the main things that career coaching is doing for Phillipa is that it's raising her aspirations. Even though Phillipa may not necessarily be looking to work in the mainstream employment market right now, career coaching is showing her that if she wants to, Phillipa can really do anything," said Amanda.

**END**

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## **About Activ**

Activ is the largest disability support provider in Western Australia. We provide individualised services for people living with intellectual disability. We offer services in accommodation, community, employment, training and education, short-term accommodation and behaviour support. Activ was founded in 1951 by a group of families who wanted more for their children who lived with disability and had become marginalised by society. Today, we support more than 1,900 individuals and their families across WA.

For more information visit [www.activ.asn.au](http://www.activ.asn.au)

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## **Important Information**

When referring to people with disability, we ask that you use the term 'living with disability', rather than 'disabled person' or 'the disabled'. The term 'Supported Employee' is used when referring to an Activ employee living with a disability. The term 'customer' is used to refer to a person living with disability that Activ supports.