

MEDIA RELEASE

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CareForce - a Hub and a Pledge for Care Careers

CARE FORCE

Community Industry Group is proud to launch the <u>CareForce Hub</u>, a purpose-built website which will be the 'go-to' place to find your next career in the disability, aged and home care sectors. The CareForce Hub features job vacancies, tools and tips for job seekers, resume templates, employer information and loads of information about the huge variety of roles available.

"The CareForce Hub is an initiative of our Care Careers project," said CEO of Community Industry Group, Nicky Sloan. "And to coincide with the launch of the CareForce Hub, we are also announcing our Care Careers Jobs Pledge. We were hoping to have employers pledge 150 jobs over the next 12 months, but we look like well and truly exceeding that number. On the very first day, we have received pledges for 124 jobs across the region!"

"The community services industry, including aged and disability services, is projected to have the **largest employment growth** of any sector in Australia¹ over the next four years. So it is vital that we build a capable and responsive workforce by raising the profile of jobs and careers in the sector and create partnerships that support sustainable employment outcomes," Ms Sloan said.

Australian Provider of the Year, Warrigal, jumped straight on board, pledging a staggering 80 jobs. "At Warrigal we know that workplace culture is key. We offer rewarding careers in a supportive environment. We have full time, part time and casual roles available, and are keen to explore traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities so people can earn as they learn," Warrigal CEO and Regional Chair for Aged and Community Services Australia, Mark Sewell, said. "Our staff find the work incredibly rewarding. The days are filled with variety, and you can be selective with your availability to maintain a healthy work/life balance or allow time for family or other commitments."

Community Industry Group has worked for many years to advance jobs and careers in the aged and disability sectors. The CareForce Hub and Jobs Pledge are the latest initiatives aimed at encouraging people with appropriate values and traits into the industry.

The Flagstaff Group have also been quick to pledge jobs. "Working in the care industry isn't limited to caring roles," said CEO Roy Rogers. "The CareForce Hub is a place to look for administration, facility maintenance (electricians, builders, gardeners, cleaners) and hospitality positions too. Employers are looking for people who are practical, flexible, patient and trustworthy with good communication and problem-solving skills."

"Working in community services roles also builds transferable skills," added Nicky Sloan. "What you learn with one sector will make you an experienced, in-demand employee. You could, for example, use your skills for working holidays or protect your future through an easy return after career breaks."

Check the CareForce Hub out here www.careforcehub.com

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About the Community Industry Group

Community Industry Group is the peak body working for community services and organisations in Southern NSW. It supports community organisations, promotes expertise and innovation in community development, fosters industry development and provides advocacy for social justice.

Community Industry Group represents the not for profit, non-government community services industry and works closely with organisations which provide support to vulnerable people across the region.