



24/02/16

## Showcase of Rewarding Career Opportunities

Following the success of last year's inaugural event, the Aged Care Illawarra Workforce Action Group (ACIWAG) is pleased to be once again hosting a Career Expo to help build a stronger and more vibrant workforce across the Illawarra.

Last year attendance at the Expo soared above expectations, with more than 500 job seekers coming through the doors to meet 30 exhibitors from across the aged and disabilities sectors as well as training organisations, and health care providers. This year, we hope to attract 40 exhibitors and even more job seekers.

"Aged and disability services are huge employment growth sectors for the Illawarra and Shoalhaven" said Mark Sewell, ACIWAG member and Aged and Community Services (ACS) Regional Chair "We need to attract between 300 and 500 new workers into aged care every year in caring roles alone. Add to that the nearly 90,000 new jobs which are expected in NSW after the roll out of the NDIS, and the many other administrative and professional roles which both aged and disability providers will need, and it is a formidable number of new workers to recruit."

ACIWAG member and CEO of the Illawarra Forum, Nicky Sloan said "Whether you are a young person looking for inspiration for the future, a career-changer looking for the next opportunity, or one of the region's many job seekers, the Careers Expo is a fantastic opportunity to come and learn just what our sector is all about."

Aged and disability services can offer many advantages for their employees including flexible working conditions, local opportunities, challenging and rewarding activities, and secure careers with interesting pathways.

"Imagine a job where you are appreciated and respected, and can make a really huge and positive difference in someone's life" said Mr Sewell "There will be many employers there on the day with actual job vacancies ready to meet the right people, as well as facilities and support for job seekers to complete online applications."

This is a great opportunity for employers and training providers as well.

"Exhibitors will be given access to the region's future workforce" said Ms Sloan "We encourage employers to bring details of their current and future job vacancies. For training providers, its also a chance to showcase the range of training options which can lead to a career in the industry.

Exhibitors are encouraged to secure their booth, places are filling fast and there are only 10 more places available. Please contact the Illawarra Forum direct for details on how to secure your booth.



The ACIWAG Careers Expo will be held from noon – 6pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2016 at Café Essay & Conference Centre, 11-13 Burelli St, Wollongong.

## Media Contact: Nicky Sloan 0407 933 279 Mark Sewell 0407798881 or 0409833101

## About ACIWAG

The Aged Care Illawarra Workforce Action Group (ACIWAG) is a partnership project of Aged & Community Services NSW & ACT (ACS), the Illawarra Forum, NSW Dept Industry State Training Services, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet, RDA Illawarra & TAFE Illawarra.