

Study Mental Health with Gold Coast TAFE and make a difference

With Australia stopping to recognise Mental Health this week it is a good time for those who want to make a difference and give back to the community to consider undertaking a Mental Health course at Gold Coast Institute of TAFE (GCIT).

GCIT Chief Executive Officer, Aaron Devine said the Government is investing considerable funds to deliver on its commitment to make mental health a national priority.

“This funding means there will be a requirement for additional mental health workers and importantly good job prospects for those considering undertaking the Certificate IV in Mental Health at GCIT.

“Participants are likely to gain employment in a range of community services focusing on rehabilitation and support for those affected by mental illness.

“Students will also learn the skills and knowledge to supporting community based activities and mental health promotional work.

“Importantly, on completion participants will be able to provide a caring and competent hands-on approach to working with people with a mental health issue,” he said.

Mr Devine said the topics covered in the Mental Health course are quite diverse.

“Students will learn how to work effectively in a variety of mental health environments including the alcohol and other drugs sector.

“Other modules covered in the program include the ability to work within a relevant legal and ethical framework, how to apply an understanding of mental health issues and recovery processes, how to assess and respond to individuals at risk and much more.

“On successful completion students may find themselves working in a range of settings with a focus of engaging people with mental illness in community participation, prevention of relapse and promotion of recovery through a range of programs.

“This work may also involve supported employment and programmed respite care.

“Graduates may also consider further study at a higher tertiary level within the vocational education and training sector,” he said.

The 12-month Certificate IV in Mental Health commences in January 2012 and is delivered using a combination of on-campus, face-to-face classroom instruction and simulated learning environments. Students will be required to undertake 120 hours of vocational placement for this program which GCIT will source and coordinate on behalf of the students. Enrolment is dependent upon candidates meeting pre-entry criteria.

To enrol or obtain further information please visit www.gcit.edu.au or call GCIT Customer Service on (07) 5581 8300.

13 October 2011