

## Various Offices located from the Gold Coast to South Brisbane



**1300 4 42377**



**[employment@gcess.org](mailto:employment@gcess.org)**



**[www.gcess.org](http://www.gcess.org)**



**[@gcess.org](https://www.facebook.com/gcess.org)**

GCESS is a not for profit employment service, assisting people 14 years to retirement age with permanent disability, injury or health conditions to obtain employment. Since 1992, GCESS has grown and our 30 staff now assist hundreds of participants into work. GCESS are committed to deliver Australia Government funded employment services and meet standards by providing a National Customer Service contact number – 1800 880 052 for you to call if you have an concerns or problems with GCESS.



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DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

# GCESS NEWS

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2019 EDITION



**Container Recycling Drive Thru Depot - CASH BACK**  
2-18 High Road Bethania, QLD 4205

Open 7 Days Per Week [www.returnit.com.au](http://www.returnit.com.au)

Searle Industries has hired young people to work at our Return-it Depo at Bethania which operates 7 days a week as a drive thru

container facility. You can either get cash back on the spot or you can enter your details into the iPad for a refund into your bank account. Whatever suits you best as we strive on customer service. We will sort it for you and count it for you. Our goal is to make sure our customers don't wait any longer than 5 minutes to be served.

**GCESS would like to say a huge THANK YOU to RETURN-IT for hiring 4 of our clients – Jai, Torric & Kaleb Pictured.**



A big part of our role at GCESS is finding employers that are a 'good fit' & who understand and support our participants. It was on a marketing day that I was out with Jai (participant) and he told me about a new Recycling Centre that had just opened. We called in and spoke to the Supervisor CJ. I chatted to CJ and let her know that I was assisting Jai in finding work and how GCESS works. She was very interested and showed us around the site explaining how it all worked. They had just hired staff however she promised to pass Jai's resume to the Owner Peter. Two weeks went by when I received a call from Peter and he asked if Jai was available for an interview. We got chatting and he said that he actually had 3 positions available. I was quick to jump onto this opportunity saying I had another two participants who would be suitable as well. Having consent of disclosure I was able to speak to Peter about their disabilities and GCESS's role in supporting our participants. I contacted my participants saying they all had interviews. Interview day arrived and we met with Peter who gave us a run down on the position and then we drove to the site where he gave us a full tour explaining as he went. Peter decided to hire all 3 and they are all loving working at Return It. Well Done Jai, Kaleb & Torric. The support and training that has been provided has been fantastic, and on behalf of Jai, Kaleb, Torric and myself a HUGE thank you to Peter (Searle Industries) and CJ and the team at "Return It" – Story by Sarah. And the 4<sup>th</sup> client, he starts in October.



# GCESS CLIENT CHRISTMAS PARTY



Its Christmas time coming up and we want to invite all of our clients to come along to our GCESS Client Christmas Party.

Below are the dates, times & locations for the Christmas Party for each of the areas we service.

## FREE LUNCH – FREE ENTERTAINMENT

**GOLD COAST** Charis Seafood, Labrador  
Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019 3.30pm – 5.00pm

- Games
- Fish & Chips + Drink OR
- Chicken Nuggets & Chips + Drink OR
- Calamari & Chips + Drink

**LOGAN** Zone Bowling, Loganholme  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019 11.45am – 2.00pm

- 2 x Games Ten Pin Bowling
- Hot Dog, Chips & Drink

**BRISBANE** Zone Bowling, Mt Gravatt  
Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2019 11.45am – 2.00pm

- 2 x Games Ten Pin Bowling
- Hot Dog, Chips & Drink

RSVP by 01<sup>st</sup> November 2019  
Call us on 1300 4 42377



## NEW STAFF MEMBERS AT GCESS



### CHRIS

Chris is passionate about learning and the gaining of new skills and knowledge as a way to making a difference in life. He sees employment as a great vehicle for that and loves the challenge of finding ways people can overcome barriers and breakthrough to a new level of achievement.

### STACEY

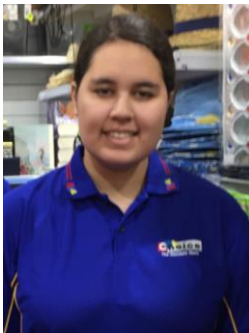
I am very excited to be part of the GCESS team and work in a team environment. I lived in the states playing softball while studying for a few years and that was where I first sparked up an interest of working with people with disability. As a team we volunteered twice a week at a Special school. I have also worked at a special school as a teacher aid and before this as a support worker for 2 years. This is a passion I have and enjoy it as it's very rewarding. I look forward to working together with other follow GCESS workers and to work together to help make an impact on others.



### SIMON

I would like to introduce myself to the GCESS team for the South Brisbane area. I've been working in disability employment for 4 years now and love making a difference in people lives. I look forward to working with the GCESS team over the Gold Coast and south Brisbane area and seeking employment opportunities for our clients that will change there lives for the better.





**KEITARIA**  
on her first day at  
Choice Discount



**SETH**  
got to dress up for his  
workday at  
Adventure Land



**BRANDON**  
working at Bridge  
Tyremart

Congratulations to **Ali** who is an accredited driving instructor and has started her own driving school. If you would like affordable driving lessons, please call **Ali** on **0421 971 354**.



## 11 tips for Successful Interviews

1. Write down the time & Location of interview
2. Map out your route in advance
3. Take a pen and notepad to the interview
4. Polish shoes, shower and clean nails
5. Do not wear too much perfume / cologne
6. Clothes look professional, clean and ironed
7. Shake hands upon meeting
8. Smile and speak clearly and positively
9. Sit quietly while waiting to be called
10. Turn off mobile phone
11. Do not take anyone else to the interview, unless already agreed



# AccessAbilityDay

There are 2.2 million Australians living with disability who are of working age, but Australians with disability are under-represented in the workforce. In fact, the employment rate for people with disability is almost half compared to those without disability.

During the week of 25 – 29 November 2019, GCESS will be taking part in AccessAbility Day – a new Australian Government initiative developed to connect jobseekers with disability and employers.

AccessAbility Day allows employers to connect with jobseekers with disability, who are current and active Disability Employment Services (DES) participants looking for work. Employers can explore the concept of employing a jobseeker with disability, while also

providing an opportunity for jobseekers to gain an insight into a particular job or type of work. AccessAbility Day is an opportunity for you to gain insight into a particular role or industry, develop confidence in the workplace, network and meet new people, learn about work requirements and employer expectations, identify and explore employment opportunities and find out more about business in your community.

If you would like to be involved, let you  
Training & Placement Officer at GCESS know.



25-29 NOV 2019 [www.jobaccess.gov.au/accessabilityday](http://www.jobaccess.gov.au/accessabilityday)



# GOOD NEWS STORIES



**LIAM**

Our new Trainee Liam who is working at Logan East Community Neighbourhood Association Inc. Liam has been extremely helpful and shown compassion towards clients of the Community Centre. Liam is in Year 11 at High School and has recently started his Cert II in Business. Liam's dream job is to work within the Disability Sector and with the skills and experience he will gain throughout this traineeship, he is certainly on his way to his dream role in the future.

**ANDREW**

Andrew is becoming an exceptional craftsman in wood and metal work in his year 12 industry classes. Since Andrew commenced high school, Andrew has not always been able to give everything a go as the challenges he faced have been tough. Through Andrew's determination and hard work, he has successfully overcome them and keeps challenging himself to do better. Andrew recently received a "Growth Award" from school to acknowledge Andrews academic improvement. With the assistance from GCESS Andrew has successfully secured a 4 year hairdressing apprenticeship.



**MAURICE**

Maurice is very happy to have begun his new position as maintenance worker at Surfers Views. The employer is well aware of Maurice's health issues and has structured his position so that Maurice can continue to attend medical appointments and maintain his health while still holding down a job. The restart wage subsidy has helped facilitate this position. Look at that Smile - photograph sent by employer Sam!



**Congratulations to the school based trainees that have started in 2019**

**Logan area – 34**

**Gold Coast area – 62**

**South Brisbane area – 23**

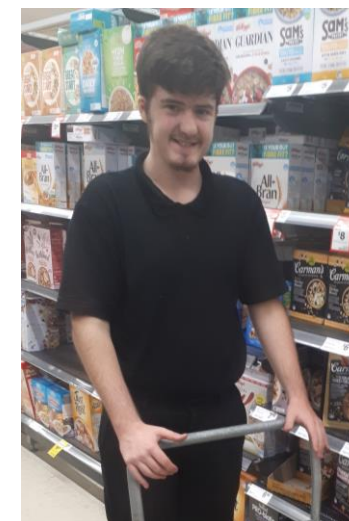
From the start of the year until the end of September there have been a large number of students starting traineeships. For most, this is their first job and for all, this is a stepping stone into amazing career opportunities and pathways of further discovery. As the end of Year 12 gets closer, there are a number of students completing their traineeships and gaining ongoing employment. Congratulations to all of them for working so hard with both the practical work and the theory that they have completed.



**SANDI**  
working  
at  
Petbarn



**EMMA**  
working  
at  
Target



**HARLEY**

is really enjoying his second shift of paid employment and meeting new people. The team at Woolworths is a great fit for Harley in his traineeship.