

MEDIA RELEASE

Vivid's kitchen rules - thanks to community spirit

For immediate release: Friday, 9 July 2021.

Vivid offers a range of short courses for adults with disability. Our Creative Kitchens course is 'cooking with gas' thanks to an astonishing array of appliances donated by four very generous businesses.

Creative Kitchens' trainer and cook, Jodie-Anne Barlow, teaches how to plan, cook, serve, clean, and maintain hygiene and safety in the kitchen.

Vivid CEO, Scott Alexander, said the new equipment is a big boost to enhancing course outcomes, such as basic cooking and kitchen skills for the learners.

"With the help of the new appliances, kitchenware and a brand new stove, learners can now enjoy preparing and presenting delicious meals using modern equipment," Mr Alexander said.

Former My Kitchen Rules contestant and producer of 'Champagne Food on a Beer Budget,' Jodie-Anne Barlow, has been the driving force behind the makeover.

"We are fortunate to have Jodie-Anne at Vivid. Her tremendous skills in the kitchen and relentless enthusiasm is of great value to our learners," Mr Alexander said.

Jodie-Anne joined the Vivid family in March and has successfully supported participants in developing their skills in meal planning, preparation, cleaning and general kitchen safety.

"I have always wanted to share my passion for food with people living with disabilities. I jumped at the chance to work with Vivid and share a common value in helping people of all abilities to thrive," Ms Barlow said.

"When I first started at Vivid, I set the smoke alarms off twice in two weeks and knew that it was time to replace the stove. Having industry contacts made this feasible and I am delighted to play my part in providing resources to Creative Kitchens," Ms Barlow added.

A brand new Euromaid stove, along with around 14 Sunbeam appliances have been generously donated by Harvey Norman Echuca. Additionally, Décor Plastics have donated 17 boxes of plastic ware for secure food storage.

“In class we often cook more food than is required as I like the learners to take their work home as well as dining in. The new plastic ware makes it possible for them to share their culinary delights with family and friends,” Ms Barlow said.

Local Store Manager at House, Brett Buckley, has rolled up his sleeves and donated cooking sets, utensils, tea towels and more to Creative Kitchens.

“We are tremendously grateful for the support of local businesses - Richard and the team at Harvey Norman Echuca, Brett and the crew at House Echuca, as well as Décor Plastics and Euromaid,” Mr Alexander said.

The success of Creative Kitchens in Echuca after just two terms has made the course extremely popular. Vivid now offers the course in Swan Hill.

For Information on courses offered at Vivid, contact Jo Duncan on 5480 6611.