**MEDIA RELEASE - Manna Gum Community House – 24 March 2023**

**FREE TRAINING OPPORTUNITY IN FOSTER FOR JOB SEEKERS**

Discover employment opportunities in the care and support sector with the ‘Work For Yourself’ job readiness skills training program to be offered for the second time at Manna Gum Community House as part of their Learn Local program.

The course was developed in partnership with Gippsland Skills and Jobs Centre, TAFE Gippsland and other Learn Local organisations across Gippsland to fill a worker shortage in the care and support sector.

This 9-week program will run for every Thursday starting 27 April and will assist participants to take the first steps setting up as a sole trader and providing ‘light touch’ services such as gardening, shopping and cleaning to people on National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) plans. It will also provide insight into the NDIS, and advice on professional conduct and boundaries when working with clients.

Teacher Genevieve Moore has worked in education and training roles for many years and in many different sectors including the Commonwealth and State public service, and now the community sector.

“There are a range of jobs available working in care and support, and you don’t need a qualification to start many of these jobs,” says Rebecca Matthews, Manager of Manna Gum Community House. “People find success in entry-level support roles with skills drawn from their own life experience, and a sense of compassion and respect. It can suit people looking for a flexible working environment who want to choose the hours that they work.”

The course also provides information and support for the next steps into higher education study such as a Certificate course in Disability, Childcare or Aged Care.

For people on a JobSeeker Centrelink benefit, a Learn Local government funded course counts towards their requirements which is a point-based system. It is free and accessible and delivered in an informal, supportive environment at the Community House.

For further information and to register your interest contact Rebecca or Genevieve at Manna Gum Community House on 5682 1101.

Pictured below are participants of the 2022 Work For Yourself program with guest speaker Laura from Wazka Support Services.

