



# Geelong Health Experience



**On October 27, 2021, GRLEN in partnership with Skilling the Bay and Barwon Health hosted a Geelong Health Experience Forum Online.**

Initially this program was to be delivered face to face, but due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions it was decided to pivot to an online platform.

The aim of the experience was to assist students in Years 10 & 11 to gain an insight into the variety and diversity of careers in health, both in clinical and non-clinical areas. As well as the different entry levels into this sector, enabling them to make informed pathway choices upon exiting the school gate.

GRLEN's role was to provide the online platform, Webex, technical support for the day and to liaise with schools and handle registrations.

Barwon Health Clinical Education and Training Unit organised presentations and health staff.

Skilling the Bay provided promotion and facilitation for the day.

GRLEN also developed an online student resource with activities that consolidated what they heard on the day and to enable the students to explore further a career in health of interest and its pathway. This was sent out to participants following the Forum.

Although schools were given short notice of the event due to off campus learning and school holidays, 46 students registered from 11 different schools.

Of this 46 participating students:

- 31 were in year 10
- 14 in year 11 and
- 1 in year 12.

On the day 40 students and 9 teachers got online and participated in the sessions.

Barwon Health had organised 10 clinical and 4 non-clinical health staff to present and be part of the sessions for the morning.

The clinical staff came from the following health areas: Podiatry, Aged Care, Allied Health Assistant, Mental Health, OT, Midwifery, Pathology, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Orthoptics and Radiography.

The non-clinical staff were from: Finance, Environmental Services, Talent Acquisition and COVID-19 Contact Tracing.

Health as a career was introduced by Barwon Health and this led into a panel discussion where Barwon Health staff were asked about; why they got into their career; what they find satisfying about their job and their aspirations for the future.

Students then had the choice to go into three smaller breakout rooms and with different health presenters. Being in a smaller group students could choose a health career that they find interesting and ask questions to the presenter.

Non-clinical staff explained their role in the health industry; why it is important and what they enjoy about the job.

Clinicians in the last session explained their pathway to the current role they are in.

In closing the event GRLLLEN referred the participants to the Student Health Resource and were asked to fill out an evaluation.

Feedback from the experience was positive from both teachers and students.

“My favourite thing about the program was the panel talks with a few of the people from the different fields of medicine.

I also really enjoyed being able to get into the breakout rooms and work in a small group to learn about the particular field of health.”

~Student

“Observing as a teacher, the students were highly engaged.

Lots of targeted pathway discussions afterwards.”

~Teacher.

Although a face-to-face hands on approach to learning about careers in health would be preferred, this online experience provided an avenue to deliver a career exploration that can be used and support a face to face approach.

The GRLLLEN would like to thank:

- **Angela Brommeyer** from the Barwon Health Clinical Education and Training Unit for putting the program together and organising Barwon Health staff and
- **Brooke Hyland** from Skilling the Bay with the support and promotion of the event.

### Who Participated?

- **Barwon Health Clinical Education and Training Unit, Skilling the Bay, GRLLLEN**
- **11 Schools**
- **40 Students**
- **9 Teachers**
- **10 Clinical Health Staff BH**
- **4 Non-Clinical Health Staff BH**

**Health Experience Program**  
Student Resource

## Careers in Health

**Subject Links:**

- Biology
- Chemistry
- VET Health
- Health and Human Development
- VET Laboratory Skills
- Mathematics

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

This resource supports Vocational, Applied Learning and Industry and Enterprise Curriculum.

Skilling THE BAY Barwon Health GRLLLEN