

MEDIA STATEMENT



22-Year old Castlemaine youth says company boards need young people

Castlemaine resident Gabrielle Breheny is young, ambitious and amazingly, at just 22 years old, she is already a Board member for a social enterprise. She is keen to see more young people on boards of organisations in Victoria as well as across Australia.

Gabrielle says: "I am super passionate about being a Board member. Having young people on a Board can really help inject energy, progressive thinking and vigour to an organisation. Another element that is really important for Boards is that they maintain their company's vision and mission."

Gabrielle initially became involved in Melbourne-based social enterprise, the I CAN Network through the Doxa Cadetship program in 2013 when she attended a youth leadership camp at Doxa's Malmsbury site and was introduced to the organisation's founder, Chris Varney.

Having already developed leadership skills, communication skills and navigated complex environments as part of her professional development in the Doxa Cadetship program, Gabrielle was eager for a new volunteer opportunity. After getting involved, she has slowly worked her way up to the position she is in now as Board Member, Chair and HR Director.

In addition to her work as a young Board member, Gabrielle is in her fourth year studying Psychology at Monash University. She also has a work placement and mentor at the Australian Taxation Office which is arranged through the Doxa Cadetship program.

Doxa run programs for disadvantaged young people from across rural, regional and metropolitan Victoria so that everyone can access positive life experiences, education opportunities and employment pathways.

Ends.

About Doxa

Doxa is a not-for-profit organisation. We provide programs for young people so that everyone can access positive life experiences, education opportunities and employment pathways. We've been around since 1972 and our programs support over 5,300 young Victorians – typically aged eight – 22 years each year. Every young person we interact with has a different set of life circumstances. Our aim is to ensure that all young people enjoy enriching experiences and educational opportunity and advancement.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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