

Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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College students capture community diversity through the lens

An exhibition which shares and celebrates the lives of families who care for a child with a disability will open **tomorrow** (Wednesday) at the University's Cradle Coast campus.

Snapshot North-West, is a partnership project presented by the University's Peter Underwood Centre for Educational Attainment featuring photographs of children from the School of Special Education with their families.

With the help of volunteers from the Wynyard Camera Club and the support of Special Education Tasmania, Year 11 and 12 Hellyer College students helped coordinate fun photo opportunities with each family to capture these portraits, and collated personal stories of Caregivers which will accompany each image in the exhibition.

Sonia Hodgetts, UniLink Coordinator for the Peter Underwood Centre for Educational Attainment said the *Snapshot* exhibition had been facilitated by the University's Pathways to Success program.

"Part of the impetus behind *Snapshot North-West* has been to showcase the richness of the relationships between families supporting children with a disability while providing Hellyer College students with an opportunity to participate in work-related learning through their engagement with these families and the School of Special Education," Ms Hodgetts said.

Hellyer College Community Services Coordinator Jo Richards said the project formed part of the assessment requirements for students to complete their Certificate 2 in the subject.

"As part of this project, students also visited the University's Cradle Coast campus where they met with community service workers and teachers who advised them about a number of career pathways and helped them realise that everyone can enrol in higher education to reach their professional goals," Ms Richards said.

Director of the Peter Underwood Centre for Educational Attainment, Professor Elaine Stratford said the exhibition aligned with the University's commitment to celebrate diversity.

"Snapshot North-West has provided these students with an early opportunity to work closely with a diversity of individuals while allowing them to see the positive impact they will have in shaping their community after completing their education and training for their chosen profession," Professor Stratford said.

The Snapshot exhibition was inspired by a similar project led by the Franks Family called *Snapshot: Celebrating our Community* which opened in Hobart last year.

Snapshot North-West will continue at the Cradle Coast campus until Friday, 30 September.

Information released by:

University of Tasmania, Communications and Media Office

Phone: 6430 4966

Email: Media.Office@utas.edu.au