

Bronwyn's Story

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I commenced this position in September 2013 and have been educating community members and facilitating monthly seminars since then. Participants are normally referred to the RTSSV program through the court system as part of their sentencing, however I have also met participants who have been recommended to the program by their legal team so they are more informed of road trauma.

I feel very rewarded and proud of the RTSSV program and the effects I have seen it have on participants. I witness people when they first arrive - when they often feel closed to the experience - only to see their attitudes change during the seminar and in particular after hearing volunteer stories. To have the opportunity to raise awareness and guide participants on the possible effects of road trauma in a non-judgemental environment has been an extremely rewarding position to be a part of.

To help facilitate this great referral base I attend the local court users group monthly to liaise with lawyers, police and magistrates. During this time I am able to

promote the RTSSV program by sharing stories on the effects the program has had on past participants, and how it has made participants aware of the possible effects their driving behaviour can have on other road users. This is a fantastic opportunity to make community members more aware of the positive changes education can have when participants are not judged but are open to change.

Another highlight for me is working alongside my fabulous volunteers. From members of the local community who have felt the effects of road trauma personally to the police officers who can explain first-hand the effects that road trauma has had on their lives, I am fully inspired by hearing their stories and the courage and strength they all display. Over the next 12 months I will be working to increase the volunteer base by continuing to meet with potential speakers who are willing to share their personal stories.

Over the next twelve months I will continue to raise awareness and promote RTSSV educational seminars to local

secondary schools. I hope to liaise further with youth groups and secondary schools, as well as local media. Having grown up in Horsham I have experienced firsthand some barriers such as isolation and the lack of public transport. My goal living in a rural community is to educate services, police, school students and the community to understand these barriers and hopefully work together to achieve some viable solutions for all road users.

I look forward to meeting more of my colleagues over the next year. I was able to attend the Educators Training Day held in August where I had the opportunity to meet some new faces as well as gain some valuable knowledge from Chris and fellow educators.