



# Lending a hand

By Lucille Keen

IN A bid to attract more workers to the aged care sector the Federal Government has announced a \$9 million package to promote careers in the industry.

Scholarships worth \$30,000 will be offered over three years to train more aged care nurses.

Federal Minister for Ageing Justine Elliot said 680 nursing scholarships would be on offer across the country, but specifically for rural and regional areas.

"The aged care industry is Australia's ninth biggest employer and we are committed to building an aged care workforce for the future," Ms Elliot said.

"The funding will support undergraduate and postgraduate nurses predominantly living in rural, regional and remote Australia."

Murray Bridge Resthaven aged care worker Crystal Snewin said her job did not feel like work.

"It's like hanging out with friends all day," she said.

The passion and dedication to her career is obvious when you first meet the

20-year-old.

As she walks through the corridors of Resthaven Murray Bridge residents faces light up as she stops to have a chat.

Miss Snewin has worked for the organisation for 15 months after completing a TAFE course in Pathways to Nursing in Aged Care, which she began while at school.

"I love everything about my job," she said.

"It is very rewarding.

"You are continually learning."

Miss Snewin said to begin with she thought some aspects of her career were a little "gross".

"But once I got into it, that was quickly forgotten," she said.

"I recommend working in aged care.

"Everyone gets old and needs to be looked after and there is always room for more carers."

Resthaven Murray Bridge resident Marion Warner said she appreciated how kind Miss Snewin was to her.

"This girl is good to have around," she said.



**Dedicated:** Aged care worker Crystal Snewin shares a laugh with Resthaven Murray Bridge resident Marion Warner.