

Case Study: The Camp Utility Worker

SARAH Miles is one of 20 Indigenous Australians who took the opportunity to gain a Certificate II in Hospitality and begin employment in the resource industry's hospitality support sector.

Government funded resource industry skills initiative AMMA Skills Connect worked closely with Indigenous careers centre Access Working Careers and food and support service company ESS Support Services Worldwide to screen, select, train and mentor Sarah and her fellow classmates in preparation full-time employment.

Sarah is now commencing a role as a camp utility worker at a Pilbara mining accommodation village serviced by ESS Support Services Worldwide. Here, she speaks to AMMA Skills Connect about her experience in the program and why she's positive about the future.



Sarah tells us about her experience.

Why did you want to be involved in the industry training and employment program?

I was unemployed at the time I heard about the program. I had never worked in the mining industry in any way, but I was encouraged to apply by my job service agency and I'm glad I did.

I wanted to be involved in this program because I knew if I completed the training, there was a chance to start work right away.

What appealed to you about working in the industry?

I had heard that people working in the industry can make a really good living. But I also thought it was somewhere I could work for a long time and learn new skills.

What part of the program did you enjoy the most?

Probably the six days that we spent outside of the classroom, doing all of the work that we would actually do on the job, like cleaning, laundry and helping in the kitchen. I really enjoyed meeting all the people onsite.

The more I learnt about the industry and the type of work I would be doing in camp utility, the more excited I was to finish the training.

Do you believe partnership between government, job service agencies and employers can really make a difference?

Yes, sometimes people just need some motivation and encouragement to believe that they can achieve something like this. I was unemployed and didn't really know what to do, but now I have a great new job.

> Get involved today

To learn more about AMMA Skills Connect visit www.amma.org.au or call **1800 627 771**.

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