Jodi connected with the ACE program at Pooraka Farm Community Centre through a personal friend in 2017 when she commenced the Introduction to Women’s Studies program. She was studying a Certificate 4 in Mental Health online and coping with significant anxiety. Jodi was a student who was enthusiastic, actively engaged and always willing to stand up and speak for herself. She was passionate about mental health and making a difference in the field.

Jodi explained to trainers that she had come into the program to see if she could cope with being in a classroom to learn and that she had not felt confident in doing this prior to commencing the program. As the program progressed, it became evident that Jodi’s confidence was increasing and she was finding her power and purpose.

Jodi’s energy and commitment knows no bounds! She is currently completing her Certificate 4 in Mental Health, undertaking a Diploma in Nursing and working as a School Support Officer fulltime at Salisbury Heights Primary School. She is happy, enjoying life, managing her time and health and looking after her family, whilst still managing to juggle work and study commitments.

The girl who initially walked into the Community Centre is transformed. Jodi aims to work in youth mental health nursing long term and looks forward to a successful career.