FACE OF ACE

Introducing The Little Cove Coffee Hut

From humble beginnings, Baptist Care (SA) – Hallett Cove connected an eager team of 9 learners to The Little Cove Coffee Hut. Using a Homestyle coffee machine and cosy kitchen space, they serve coffee, light lunches and sweet treats to customers. Each week, learners worked in teams to create delicious meals and sweets, whilst practising barista skills.

Through connections and support from the ACE Program Pathways Coordinator, The Little Cove Coffee Hut has borrowed an industry standard coffee machine from the Yankalilla Community Centre. Coffee trainers from Hospitality Industry Training SA (HITsa) connected with the program to provide learners with a short Introduction to Coffee session. In the kitchen, participants were trained by a Chef and Dietitian to produce nourishing and delicious meals.

The Little Cove Coffee Hut provides participants with real life experience working within a hospitality setting, building skills from food preparation, money handling, customer service and introductory barista training. In addition, the program increased participant’s confidence and provided them with the skills to be job ready on completion of the project.

Since beginning the project, two learners have gained employment in the hospitality industry, one has commenced volunteering with a local organisation and one is looking to enrol in further education to improve literacy skills. Connections with HITsa have additionally provided learners with a pathway to further study.

Project participants have been offered the opportunity to undertake paid work, catering an afternoon tea fundraising event for the Suzanne Elliot Trust. The café is now looking to cater future local events and continues to grow a local customer base.