

## Tai Poutini Polytechnic Media Release

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### Community benefits from TPP's free defibrillator training

Tai Poutini Polytechnic (TPP) is helping support the health of the community with free sessions on the safe and effective use of in-house defibrillators during emergencies.

TPP's Lead Tutor First Aid Janet Jamieson has been out to local businesses around a dozen times to help them learn how to use their Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDs).

"A lot of businesses and organisations have these devices on hand, but many people don't know how to use them. It came up a few times during our training programmes, so I started offering to go out and help people become more familiar with them.

"People found it useful and once we realised there was a need, TPP agreed we would continue to offer this free service to any organisation that has a defibrillator and would like to become more familiar with its use.

"It's like anything – it's no good having it there if you don't know how to use it and the more you practice the better you're likely to respond when the worst happens."

TPP has offered the service for the past two years free of charge to community organisations and businesses who have their own defibrillators.

TPP Leader – Engagement Mequa Hourston says the polytechnic sees it as a community service and is happy to help.

"Janet and the other tutors have extensive knowledge of first aid offer a range of training programmes designed with industry in mind. As well as these formal programmes, the community work that Janet offers is a great way for TPP to reach out and do something that benefits our region."

TPP is a member of the Association of Emergency Care Training Providers (AECTP) The Peak body for First Aid delivery in New Zealand. TPP offers First Aid training, including a Comprehensive First Aid Course addressing Work Safe requirements. This covers a wide spectrum of trauma and medical issues, including fractures, burns, major wounds, internal bleeding, head injuries, shock, poisoning, heart attack, stroke and seizure, obstructed airways and CPR. Refresher programmes and more specific training is available on request.

### For more information contact:

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