

Mellisa Silaga

New Zealand born and Australian raised, Mellisa is of Samoan heritage and is very passionate about culture, community, youth, communication and rugby. She has worked in across diverse fields from being an entertainer at the Polynesian Cultural Centre in Hawaii, to retail and hospitality, to teaching in the islands of Samoa as a Year 11 English Teacher. Before her current occupation, Mellisa worked as a frontline staff at GV Health and in Health Promotion where she led the Hospital Tours for GV Health and developed and implemented the My Health in Shepparton – A guide to health services throughout Greater Shepparton. She currently works for Primary Care Connect as an Executive Support Officer, a support to Human Resources and works in Media and Communications for Primary Care Connect. In her spare time, Mellisa is passionate and active in helping youth in the Pacific Island community reconnect with their cultures, in order to better live, respect and embrace their new home and community, through her Know Your Roots program. Mellisa has also been part of the Shepparton Rugby Union Club as a Former President and currently as a Club Facilitator, Public Relations & Media and Communications Officer. Mellisa attended Brigham Young University – Hawaii and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Intercultural Communication Studies, Graduate Certificate in Management and is currently completing her MBA with the Australian Institute of Business. Mellisa attributes her work ethics to her parents and the Orchards of Varapodio in Ardmona and Kaso's in Coomboona that taught her that dust and sweat provides abundance if you put in honest time and give it your all. When she is not busy with work and Community, she smooths her son and husband with all the baking and love they can manage and practices her faith in order to keep her grounded