

Since 2014, FUSION has seen:

FUSION



**6,295 HOURS
VOLUNTEERED**



**338 STUDENTS
PARTICIPATED**



**174 SESSIONS
VISITED**

Connecting cultures, generations & employment pathways through volunteering in Aged Care

FUSION encourages, supports & increases participation in volunteering at an early age. It assist students in making the transition from school to work by enhancing their life & employability & skills.

It improves the self-esteem, physical & mental health of the aged residents through regular interaction, especially for residents who may not have relatives living nearby that are able to visit regularly.

Each session, a group of students visit the aged care centre to interact with residents. A buddy system is thoughtfully worked through, looking at language & culture, abilities & interest.

Benefits & Objectives:

- Students learn about the Healthcare & Aged Care industry, how to care for the residents & the pathways they can follow to start a career in this industry.
- Students can use these skills with their own grandparents or continue to volunteer in the community.
- It provides employment pathways, skills & knowledge about the aged care & health care industry for students.
- Bridging the generational gap by sharing values and respect for our diversity, culture & heritage
- Increasing awareness & issues related to health & the ageing population
- Improving community connectedness & social inclusion

SummitCare RESIDENTS WERE ASKED: How do you feel about being part of the FUSION Program?

"Makes
me
happy"

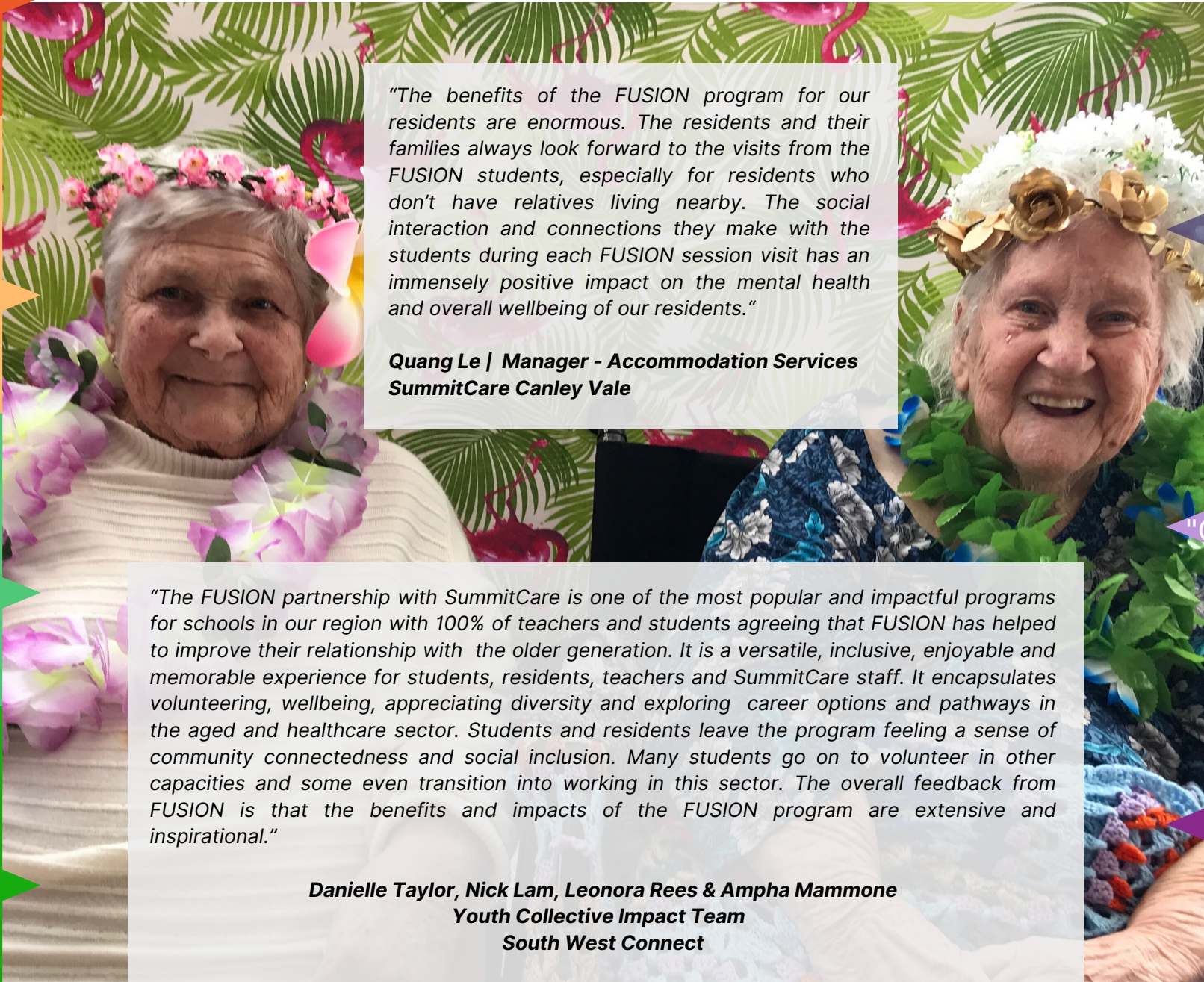
"Fun,
Enjoyment,
Cultural"

"Fulfilled"

"When I see
the children it
makes me
happy"

"Companionship"

"Engaged
with others"



"The benefits of the FUSION program for our residents are enormous. The residents and their families always look forward to the visits from the FUSION students, especially for residents who don't have relatives living nearby. The social interaction and connections they make with the students during each FUSION session visit has an immensely positive impact on the mental health and overall wellbeing of our residents."

**Quang Le | Manager - Accommodation Services
SummitCare Canley Vale**

"The FUSION partnership with SummitCare is one of the most popular and impactful programs for schools in our region with 100% of teachers and students agreeing that FUSION has helped to improve their relationship with the older generation. It is a versatile, inclusive, enjoyable and memorable experience for students, residents, teachers and SummitCare staff. It encapsulates volunteering, wellbeing, appreciating diversity and exploring career options and pathways in the aged and healthcare sector. Students and residents leave the program feeling a sense of community connectedness and social inclusion. Many students go on to volunteer in other capacities and some even transition into working in this sector. The overall feedback from FUSION is that the benefits and impacts of the FUSION program are extensive and inspirational."

**Danielle Taylor, Nick Lam, Leonora Rees & Ampha Mammone
Youth Collective Impact Team
South West Connect**

"I feel
useful and
enjoy the
children's
company"