

TAFE students put skills to the test in fight against women's cancers

TAFE Queensland South West students in Toowoomba are putting their event planning skills to the test, to create the perfect Girls' Night In.

The event will be held on Thursday, October 13 from 6pm at TAFE Queensland South West, Futures Training Restaurant, 100 Bridge Street, Toowoomba.

This October, thousands of Queenslanders will host a Girls' Night In, to give hope to the one in six women diagnosed with breast or gynaecological cancer in their lifetime.

In South West Queensland alone, more than 300 women will be diagnosed with breast or gynaecological cancer this year, and around 65 will die from these women's cancers.

Event organiser Di Marshall said Diploma of Events students are given a choice of events to choose from for their major assessment piece – she and Bridgette chose Girls' Night In.

The cause is one that is close to Ms Marshall's heart, as she lost her mother to breast cancer.

"We would like to raise awareness of women's cancers in our community and much-needed funds to help Cancer Council continue their support services," Ms Marshall said.

"We are utilising TAFE Queensland South West facilities and students to put the event together, and to raise funds we have organised nail-painting and hair spraying."

For \$25, guests will enjoy a buffet dinner and pink sweets.

There will be three pink baskets raffled, a photo booth with props, plus beautiful centrepieces created by Ms Marshall.

To book your place call (07) 4694 1660 today.

Ms Marshall also encourages others to host a Girls' Night In fundraising event.

"Everyone knows someone who has been affected by breast cancer," she said.

"As women we should band together and help raise funds to find a cure."

Cancer Council Queensland spokesperson Katie Clift said those Queenslanders who hosted a Girls' Night In made a big difference in the fight against cancer.

"Women have never needed an excuse to get together, but if ever there was one – Girls' Night In is it!" Ms Clift said.

"Girls' Night In events can be as big or small as you would like – simply spend a night in with your girlfriends and donate what you would have spent on a night out to Cancer Council Queensland.

"Whether you host a pyjama party, pot luck dinner, movie night, clothes swap or a pamper party – your support will make a tangible difference to those affected by women's cancers."

Around 3000 Queensland women are diagnosed with breast cancer annually, and about 1000 are diagnosed with an ovarian, cervical, vaginal, vulva or uterine cancer.

“Girls’ Night In is also an opportunity for women to get together and talk about their health,” Ms Clift said.

“From sharing healthy recipes to fitness tips, checking up on cancer screening and sharing personal stories – we want women to connect over their health and wellbeing.”

Cancer Council Girls’ Night In aims to raise \$1.4 million through 3000 hosts in Queensland in 2016.

All funds raised will be invested in vital cancer research, patient support services and prevention programs for women affected by breast and gynaecological cancers.

For more information, visit girlsnightin.com.au or call 1300 65 65 85.

More information about Cancer Council Queensland is available at cancerqld.org.au or Cancer Council’s 13 11 20.

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