

# Community Release Pack



A UniSA Rural Health Club Initiative

## **DID YOU KNOW**

Success of rural placements is based on how welcomed and included the students felt they were to the community. A lot of students report that the community didn't know they were there and this has potentially impacted on their experience during the placement.

## **AIM OF COMMUNITY RELEASE PACK**

To help welcome students on rural placements to the host community

## **OVERVIEW**

The Community Release Pack will act as a service provided by ROUSTAH which will primarily be used as a means of introducing ROUSTAH member/s who are undertaking a placement in their community to appropriate organisations within the community.

Organisations that will be contacted:

- Local Council
- Rotary Club
- Country Womens' Association
- Local Newspapers

## **GUIDELINES FOR COMMUNITY RELEASE PACK INITIATIVE**

- Students must be members of ROUSTAH to access this service;
- Students must be attending an allied health placement in a community defined as 'rural' – *This can be achieved by searching postcode on the Governments rural and regional postcode list (<http://www.monash.edu.au/study/applications/undergraduate/musas/rural-and-isolated-postcodes.pdf>);*
- Students must be willing participants if contacted by a community organisation to get involved in community life while on placement; and
- At the end of the placement students must complete a brief evaluation and return to ROUSTAH within 2 weeks of placement completion.



## ROUSTAH Community Release Pack Information Form – to be completed by student

### PERSONAL DETAILS

First Name:

Last Name:

Date of Birth: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

Age:

Phone:

Mobile:

Email:

➡ Please send a photo (jpeg format) of yourself to [studentservices@ruraldoc.com.au](mailto:studentservices@ruraldoc.com.au) which will be attached to the letter and sent to local community organisations.

### COURSE DETAILS

Course:

Current year level:

Please tick:  Undergraduate  Graduate

### PLACEMENT DETATILS

Name of course/ placement:

Location:

Duration: (provide specific dates) Start:  End:

**WHY YOU? WHY RURAL?**

Please give a brief background about yourself (home town, occupations and interests):  
(this will be used in your letter of introduction)

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Please give a brief outline of your reasons for choosing a rural placement:  
(this will be used in your letter of introduction)

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## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

### Documents to include with this form:

- Proof of enrolment** at the University of South Australia (UniSA) and course details
- Supporting letter** from the UniSA Clinical Placement Unit with details of your clinical placement
- Photo of yourself (jpeg format required)**. This will be attached to the letter that will be sent to local organisations. Photo in hardcopy or sent by email to [studentservices@ruraldoc.com.au](mailto:studentservices@ruraldoc.com.au)

## DECLARATION

All applicants must sign this declaration:

I certify that the information provided in this application and in accompanying documents are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I understand and agree to complete an evaluation form provided to me by ROUSTAH and return within 2 weeks of completion of placement.

I agree to provide details of my University of South Australia enrolment and course details, and a supporting letter from the Clinical Placement Unit.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date:     \_\_/\_\_/\_\_\_\_

### Send your Information Form and attached documentation to:

ROUSTAH Club Administrator  
Student Services Officer  
Rural Doctors Workforce Agency  
63 Henley Beach Rd  
Mile End SA 5031

P: 08 8234 8277

F: 08 8234 0002

E: [studentservices@ruraldoc.com.au](mailto:studentservices@ruraldoc.com.au)

## TEMPLATE LETTER TO BE SENT TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Dear

The Rural Outlook for University Students Towards Allied Health (ROUSTAH), a UniSA rural health club, would like to invite you to help welcome UniSA allied health students on rural placements to your community. ROUSTAH's Community Release Pack is designed to introduce ROUSTAH member/s, who are undertaking a placement, to appropriate organisations within the community.

The success of rural placements is based on how welcomed and included students feel; isolation can turn a placement into a negative experience. A lot of students reported that the community didn't know they were there and this may impact on their desire to return to a rural area as a graduate health professional.

A few suggestions to ensure a positive experience:

- invite students along to meetings (just to sit in or as a guest speaker) and/or to other local events held in the town;
- show the student around some local attractions or directing them to explore on their own;
- present a short profile in the local paper and/or newsletters.

Anything you could do to make the student feel more welcome is greatly appreciated by ROUSTAH and the wider community. A great rural placement experience brings health professionals back to the country.

Over the period from «PlacementStart» until «PlacementFinish», «FirstName» «LastName» will be completing a placement at «Town». <First Name> is in their «Year» year of «Degree» and you can contact them via this email address : «Email».

Further information about <First Name> <Last Name>

*Background:* «Background»

*Why they chose a rural location:* «Why»

On behalf of the UniSA rural health club, ROUSTAH, we hope you will support them to have a positive experience within your community.

Yours Sincerely

Stacey Putland  
ROUSTAH President

<<ATTACH PHOTO OF STUDENT >>