

TAFE SA have implemented initiatives as part of the Advanced Diploma of Oral Health (Dental Hygiene) to address the Competencies. In collaboration with the University of Adelaide Community Outreach Dental Program at Common Ground, TAFE SA developed a full-day professional development program focussed on understanding and addressing oral health in marginalised populations.

Staff and students from both TAFE SA and the University of Adelaide attended the event, along with key industry stakeholders. Keynote speaker Dr Trudy Lin, a special needs dentist and 2022 SA Young Australian of the Year, presented intersectional approaches to overcome oral health inequality and marginalisation. Professor Sharon Liberalli, a special needs dentist, presented a second keynote address on trauma-informed oral health care.

### Additional topics covered during the program

- Rural and remote health
- Supporting people experiencing homelessness
- Adelaide Refugee and New Arrivals Program (ARANAP)
- Australian Red Cross Health in My Language Program
- Preventive dentistry in aged care facilities

Second-year students have undertaken placements at Helping Hand residential aged care facility where they develop care plans for the residents in collaboration with aged care workers and nursing staff. Students will also deliver dental health education sessions for aged care workers and nursing staff, providing them with information and strategies to identify and respond to oral health issues experienced by the residents. While visiting Kangawodli, a culturally safe accommodation service available to Aboriginal people, students liaise with renal nurses and Aboriginal healthcare workers to discuss residents' individual concerns regarding their oral health.



*(left to right) Kelly Clemente, First Year Coordinator for the Advanced Diploma of Oral Health (Dental Hygiene) and Dr Trudy Lin, Special Needs Dentist and Young Australian of the Year*