Dental students brush with mobile clinic – video transcript 8/11/13

Narrator:

The tiny remote town of Robinvale in the north west of Victoria is a long way from La Trobe’s Bendigo based dental school. But for these final year dentistry students it’s played a significant part of their last practical rotation. This group joined the mobile dental care program run by the Royal Flying Doctor Service and Robinvale was the destination.

Daniel Ang – Student:

I spent two days assisting in the Aboriginal clinic, I was assisting some volunteer dentists that were flown up from Melbourne, spent two days with the Royal Flying Doctors as well doing a lot of oral health promotions, screenings with children and high school kids.

Narrator:

Experienced volunteer dentists including La Trobe’s clinical demonstrator Dr Daniel Lavery travel in the RFDS mobile dental van to isolated townships. La Trobe has partnered with the program allowing final year dentistry students to participate.

Anthony Ramzy – Student:

The Royal Flying Doctor Service were great with everything, they made it really easy for us, we had really good dentists they had sent up guiding us through everything.

Dr Daniel Lavery:

They are seeing people in different situations, seeing people from different socio-economic backgrounds and they’re also watching other very experienced dentists working. They’re always learning from other people, not only the actual clinical skills but their people management skills as well.

Narrator:

Student Grace Campbell agrees.

Grace Campbell – Student:

Its really enjoyable seeing patients every day and really putting your learning into practice and doing things hands on.

Narrator:

The mobile dental care program also gives the students a close look at what it might be like working in remote rural areas where dentists are sorely needed. And for the Robinvale community being a part of the first-hand training of this next generation of La Trobe University dentists may result in some returning to work there and call the town home.

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