

Stories from Ara – Airport Jobs & Skills Hub

Tuesday 7 June 2016



Nathan Tuvae

Nathan was referred to Ara through a training provider he was previously with. Nathan lives in South Auckland but was traveling to Henderson each day for work (approx. 50 mins). He'd been employed for four months as a carpenter but was having trouble with his employer – he hadn't been paid for a few weeks. Ara interviewed Nathan and referred him to a sub-contractor at the airport who employed him in December last year and linked him to an apprenticeship. Ara has organised Nathan's Site Safe and Elevated Work Platform training. Ara has helped him out with drivers license lessons, preparing him for his test which he recently passed. And now it only takes him 15 mins to get to work.



Chris Lautua

Chris was referred to Ara by MPTT (Maori & Pasifika Trades Training) after he'd completed his electrical level 4 with MIT. Ara matched Chris to an electrical company at the airport who had a vacancy for an electrical apprentice. Chris began his apprenticeship at the start of this year. Chris has a degree in communication, but was finding it difficult to secure work in this field. He decided to change his pathway towards a trade and now is well on his way to being a qualified electrician.



Tony Morrison

Just three days after his Clendon Work and Income work broker referred him to Ara in January, Tony Morrison was on the job as a handyman, working around the construction areas at the Airport. Tony's great attitude and experience as a handyman and factory supervisor saw him quickly promoted to site supervisor. Tony's a familiar face around the Ara office, he'll often pop in with a big smile to say hi and if there's something that needs fixing, he's on to it. Now that Tony is a site supervisor, Ara works regularly with him putting forward candidates to interview as he builds his team of general labourers.



Vanja Kovacevich

Mother of 3 Vanja (Varn-ya) came along to an Ara registration session last month. She was referred by Soloman Group, and had just completed her certificate in infrastructure level 2, and traffic controller level 1. Vanja was previously receiving financial assistance from MSD, but is now working full time with an employer at the airport doing traffic management – something she says she has always had her sights set on.



Vakatosi Hirinuki

An Ara staff member was in a store and took a call on her cell phone from someone looking for work. A lady in the store overheard the conversation and afterwards approached her to ask if she could help her Uncle who was looking for work. Vakatosi had been working as a Machine Operator for a company for 20 years, and it had recently shut down. He'd been walking the streets knocking on doors looking for work. Ara connected Vakatosi to an employer in March and now he works at the airport as a Hoist Operator.