

# Future Leaders



Haley participated in the 2019 Future Leaders Program.

Being part of the Future Leaders Program gave her direction and purpose. She says before the program “I was disconnected between my authentic self, and who I thought the world wanted me to be... that separated me from the best parts of myself”.

Haley says that the program reconciled that disconnection and gave her the opportunity to learn about leadership and advocacy in a supported environment, and set relevant and realistic personal and leadership goals. She was also able to travel and meet new people outside of the remote area where she lives, enabling the building of networks and friendships across Australia.

The impact of the Future Leaders Program will be felt by others as Haley continues to advocate for herself and other autistic people, and teaches her TAFE students to facilitate the empowerment of people with disability.

Haley is excited for the future and says because of the program she could “reconcile my personal disconnection, then use my strengths and abilities to plan and fulfil some goals... it’s been life changing.”



Above: Haley with the 2019 Future Leaders participants and project team.

Within six months of completing the program she gained paid jobs as a TAFE lecturer and co-facilitator in occupational therapy groups, and now has stable finances. The program also inspired her to re-engage with study, and start an advocacy and support organisation in a rural area where this is lacking.

*The Future Leaders Program is Australia’s first holistic leadership capacity building program for autistic adults. It empowers autistic adults to explore and develop their leadership skills and networks to positively impact their communities. The Future Leaders Program is delivered in partnership with Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect).*

To find out more, visit [sylviarodgeracademy.com.au](http://sylviarodgeracademy.com.au)



# Sylvia Rodger Academy

The Sylvia Rodger Academy delivers nationwide programs that empower autistic adults.



Above: The 2018 Future Leaders participants.

## Our vision

Autistic people thriving through discovering and using their strengths.

## Our mission

Providing programs, pathways and networks that create communities where autistic people fully contribute and influence policy, practice and culture in partnership with their peers.

## Our Programs

Backed by research. Co-designed and developed by autistic adults, for autistic adults.



### Research Program

Upskills autistic adults and researchers to work together as research co-producers.



### Future Leaders

Australia's first holistic leadership capacity building program for autistic adults. Delivered in partnership with Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect).



### Governance

Australia's first training program in corporate governance for autistic adults.

## Our Programs involve

Interactive learning modules

+

Residential workshop

+

Practical experience

## Contact us

### Sylvia Rodger Academy

Autism CRC  
The University of Queensland  
Long Pocket Precinct  
Level 3, Foxtail Building  
80 Meiers Road  
Indooroopilly Qld 4068

T +61 7 3377 0600

E [info@autismcrc.com.au](mailto:info@autismcrc.com.au)

W [sylviarodgeracademy.com.au](http://sylviarodgeracademy.com.au)



@autismcrc



AutismCRC



Australian Government  
Department of Industry, Science,  
Energy and Resources

AusIndustry  
Cooperative Research  
Centres Program