

**Name:**

April Carlisle

**Current role:**

Student nurse

**How long have you been a nurse/midwife?**

studying since 2018

**Why did you want to you want to become a nurse/midwife?**

I went into nursing because I enjoy working with people and I am passionate about closing the health gap. I like the challenges that nursing provides and the hands-on aspect of the job.

**What were the enablers and barriers for you to complete your degree? Pathway into nursing/midwifery – how did you get to where you are today?**

I think I am very lucky that my community and family are supportive of my aspirations and my career pathway. They have enabled and encouraged me to pursue higher education. I think a barrier for me would be growing up in a rural community means that I had to move away from family and my community to study which has been difficult at times.

**Do you believe our nurses and midwives are role models for our communities, if yes do you think it is a priority that we increase our workforce and why?**

Growing our Indigenous workforce within the healthcare system is certainly a priority as representation is an integral part of creating culturally safe practices and making sure that the healthcare system is accessible to our mob. More Indigenous nurses means that the gap between western medicine and traditional practices is closer to being bridged.