**CHILD SAFETY OFFICERS**

**TRANSCRIPT [MARYBOROUGH]**

- My name's James from the Maryborough office in the Central Queensland Region. I started at the department 11 years ago as a Child Safety Support Officer and there was an opportunity to interview for the CSO role. Every day is different, every day can have its challenges.

I have a young person on my case load who I've known since she was eight years old. Having worked in the department so long, you see a lot of kids grow up. She has recently had a baby. She was able to identify herself that, from her experience as a kid in care, she didn't want that for her child. It's been really rewarding to see her where she is now.

Charles started about a year and a half ago. We've been able to mentor him in his role as a Child Safety Officer.

- I like to have a lot of freedom in how I organise and manage my own work, and Child Safety gives me that opportunity while still being interesting and challenging and something new every day. Transitioning them to adults that can look after themselves and can help themselves is I think, the most important part of what we do, even if it's not necessarily the most glamorous bit of what we do.

I think leading by example for some of these teenagers is the way to go. If you're a role model for self-care, then you can present that to the teenagers as well.

- I enjoy living in this community, and I like the pace of our lifestyle here. Many, many coffee shops. We've really supported a lot of people to make positive changes. We do the best for them to be able to be successful in their life.

- It's always good to come to work because of the people that are at work.