

**Kara's career in health care made possible thanks to Give Them Wings scholarship
Jamie First**

Netballer Kara Hazelman is used to sprains and twisted ankles, but now she's seeing them in a new light.

The 20-year-old from Kyabram is in the third year of a Bachelor of Health Science and Master of Physiotherapy course at La Trobe University in Bendigo, and hopes to hone her skills to help the local community.

"I've always been interested in the body and how it functions, so it's a good challenge," she said.

Aiming to work in rehabilitation, Kara said her dreams were made possible with the aid of the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) and Rural Health Workforce Australia.

Winner of one of the Give Them Wings scholarships, she was awarded \$2500 to assist with university costs.

"It's taken the pressure off and allowed me to focus on my studies.

"It's been really good for textbooks, rent, uniforms and just general living expenses."

RFDS primary health care general manager Gary Layton said the grants provide much-needed support to tackle the shortage of health professionals in country areas.

"A contribution like this can make a big difference to a young person leaving a small town," he said.

Give Them Wings, now in its third year, is open to aspiring young health students from Victorian regional and rural communities.

Applications for this year close on Friday.

Details can be found at www.rhwa.org.au/GiveThemWings.