

Facility: Junee Correctional Centre
Media: Southern Cross, Junee NSW
Published Date: 30 January 2014

Scholarship changes lives

“OUTSTANDING.”

That is how GEO Group general manager Andy Walker described nominations for the Youth in Focus scholarship.

Now in its third year, the scholarships aim to provide Junee residents with help to pursue their dreams whether it's academic, creative or sporting.

Following interviews, Mr Walker said there were tough decisions to be made to find the winners.

There's a long way to go for Jasmine Corbett before she becomes a fully qualified doctor, but she's well on the way with a credit average in her first year of university.

Rural and regional health is the focus for Miss Corbett who said the hard work was worth it.

“It's what I wanted to be doing since I was 11 years old and to be finally studying it is the best feeling I've had to date,” Miss Corbett said.

“This scholarship will mean there's one less thing to worry about.”

Medical resources, textbooks, rent and food are all on the shopping list.

The second academic excellence scholarship recipient was Harriet Fletcher, who will begin studying international relations, politics and globalisation at the Australian National University this year.

Felicity Davis is currently studying a double degree in music and teaching at the University of New England.

When in Junee, Miss Davis takes the time to teach piano to primary and secondary students.

Miss Davis is well on her way to being able to share with students the joys of music and won the New England Music Prize last year in addition to exceptional academic results.

“Thanks to GEO Group, I'm very honoured to be chosen,” she said.

The funds will be used to pay for textbooks and accommodation.

On Australia Day, the scholarship was the second honour for Tamsyn Scott, 13, who was presented with the junior sports award.

“Thanks to GEO for this scholarship, it will make cricket a little easier to play, she said.

Tamsyn will use the funds to offset the costs of travelling around NSW to play representative cricket.



DREAM CHASERS: GEO Group Youth in Focus scholarships winners Tamsyn Scott, 13, Felicity Davis and Jasmine Corbett. Picture: Declan Rurenga