

# JO-ANN, GOANNA HUT



JO-ANN, SISTER SINCE 2016

“They are amazing women who have helped me to know I’m a strong business woman who can achieve anything I’m striving to be and to break down my own self doubt.

Being a Koori woman, Global Sisters is the most easy adventure I’ve been involved with. They are always willing to go the extra mile to help. I love Global Sisters for giving every woman the tools to build businesses.”



2.5 years engaged

Jo is a qualified chef and proud Wiradjuri woman. She is one of the few Indigenous female chefs in Australia, and she set up Goanna Hut to share her culture through bush ingredient inspired food. Jo is the sole breadwinner for the family, working part-time whilst running her business. She is the primary carer of her children, one of whom has special needs. She balances work with caring for a family member with mental illness - and still sees herself as a typical woman juggling it all.

Carer responsibilities for children and sick family members impact significantly on Australian women’s ability to access sustainable employment and be financially independent. In 2012, there were 2.7 million carers in Australia (12% of the total population), with a higher proportion of females than males were carers (70% of primary carers are women). Being a carer can impact on labour force participation, particularly for female primary carers- only 15% were employed on a fulltime basis and around a quarter employed part-time (ABS).

However, Jo’s determination, brilliant people skills and sheer hard work have led her to Goanna Hut growing to be an increasing percentage of her total income.

Follow Jo-Ann’s business journey at:

 @goannahut



## How Global Sisters is making a difference

As a catering business, Goanna Hut is seasonally very busy, particularly around NADOIC week, but it is not an annually consistent source of income. Global Sisters have been supporting Jo to develop passive, recurring income streams through a retail brand and connecting her with corporate catering customers.

Goanna Hut as a catering business was already operational when she met Global Sisters however the product lines were only at idea stage. Global Sisters successfully supported Jo to receive an AMP Tomorrow Makers grant to brand, package and launch her range of bush teas. As a result of Jo’s participation at the Sister Pitch in November 2018, Jo had her business ‘wish’ met and will have her bush teas co-branded and stocked by global brand T2 (launching in July 2019). Goanna Hut is poised to grow rapidly and Jo has just hired her first employee.