

Mollie takes next step in expanding career



Ciara Bastow

MOLLIE-ANNE Gersbach has always been passionate about rural pharmacy and now she's taken the next step in her career and become a partner at Orana Mall Pharmacy (OMP).

At 28-years-of age, Ms Gersbach has fast risen the ranks, but admits ownership was always her ambition.

"It does feel like quite a career achievement," Ms Gersbach said.

"I always wanted to be part of the bigger picture, and this is such a varied and rewarding role, so it's exciting."

Born in Orange, Ms Gersbach moved to Dubbo at a young age and graduated from St John's College before returning to Orange to complete a Bachelor of Pharmacy at Charles Sturt University (CSU).

"I started working at OMP in 2012 as a Pharmacy Assistant, I was then trained to the dispensary and while



Mollie-Anne Gersbach in the Orana Mall Pharmacy. Picture by Monique Lovick Photography.

studying at university would work here weekends, and where the schedule would allow," she said. "Completing my intern year in Dubbo, and committing to OMP full time, just felt like the natural and logical next step."

There has been an increasing demand for community pharmacists with an extra

1700 full-time equivalent (FTE) pharmacists needed in regional and rural pharmacy in 2026 alone, according to the Pharmacy Guild of Australia.

"Now is probably the best time to get into pharmacy because we're on the road to expanding our scope of practice, which means we can of-

fer more to residents and really support the local health-care sector, particularly in country areas," Ms Gersbach said. "The pharmacy is your first point of contact - whether it's vaccinations, urinary tract infections, diabetes, sleep services - we can help ease the pressure on GPs and emergency departments. It's

incredibly rewarding."

Ms Gersbach has been working under the mentorship of longtime Managing Partner, Lisa Gibson, who said she saw ownership potential in Mollie early in her career.

"It's wonderful to have another pharmacist follow the same pathway to business

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Mollie-Anne Gersbach

that I did," Managing Partner of Orana Mall Pharmacy, Lisa Gibson, said.

"Mollie brings a youthful perspective to the business and a real love of rural pharmacy, which our staff and patients appreciate."

"On a personal note, I'm proud to see someone who was raised in the Dubbo community, returning here, to give back to the city she loves. This is a wonderful milestone for Mollie and we're very happy to officially welcome her as a partner within Life Pharmacy Group."

"Mollie should be very proud, this is a great achievement for any young, health-care professional."

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