

2013

THE CHAIR's

THE CEO's











GOLDMARK

**YOUTH** :

CONNECTIONS : WESTERN SPRINGBOARD

2013



# RON MIERS CEO'S REPORT

### "WE MAXIMISE SKILLS AND RESOURCES WHEN ORGANISATIONS OR PEOPLE WORK TOGETHER"

These words, from our strategic directions, have been given focus in our new consortium; the Working Communities Network. This partnership between JobCo, eFocus and WCIG has brought together the best from each organisation to a new model of service delivery of employment services across the Melbourne metropolitan area for people with disabilities and in particular for people who experience a mental illness.

In the current economic and policy environment with fast paced changes to the business and community services sector small and medium sized community based not-for-profit organisations must find ways to collaborate in order to service their communities. WCIG has always sought ways to work with our networks and this has increasingly become the way we need to operate. For example, many

of the excellent programs and projects designed and provided by WCIG's youth services team are a result of partnering with many other organisations to produce a better result for the participants. Education and training is delivered to participants from other services and in settings other than WCIG's offices. The Social Enterprise Group's various business streams have been developed with the support and active engagement of a number of like-minded people and their networks.

This annual report provides a brief overview of the various day-to-day activities that make up the work of WCIG in many places.

Our focus has not changed; it is on working with those who participate in our programs and celebrating as they take steps towards positive change in their lives. These steps are often hard won and it is rewarding for those of us who are a part of WCIG and



organisations like us to be a part of their journey.

I would like to thank our Board and staff who continue to put our values into practise to achieve our mission of creating futures through workforce participation for people experiencing disadvantage.

Ron Miers CEO



WELCOME TO THIS PRESENTATION OF
THE WESTGATE COMMUNITY INITIATIVES GROUP'S
27TH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTIVITY OF THE ASSOCIATION

## THE CHAIR'S REPORT

YOU WILL SEE FROM THESE PAGES THIS HAS BEEN ANOTHER CHALLENGING YEAR FOR WCIG AND ONE IN WHICH WE HAVE WORKED TO MEET THOSE CHALLENGES AND MAINTAIN OUR COMMITMENT TO WORKING WITH THE MOST VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY.



Steadfast direction in the face of significant challenges – Pictured: WCIG Board Chair, Natalie Lupton.

The great energy and enthusiasm of a number of people through this period was not able to bring the results we sought and the challenges we have faced resulted in a significant shortfall for the year. The effort was not able to be recovered with increased revenue.

The Board worked with the CEO to take the actions necessary to address the challenges and to set us on a positive course for the future. At the same time we provided education and training, placed a considerable number of people with disabilities into work, worked with young people who are not engaged with our

education system, or employment, or on a pathway into employment, to give them a focus and a pathway into the world of work and created employment opportunities for people who experience a mental illness.

I am pleased to provide, in this report our first presentation of WCIG's Strategic Directions 2013-2018. Maintaining an emphasis on the future development of WCIG, the Board worked with the leadership team to develop a new Vision, Mission and strategic plan to guide our work into the future. The vision 'Workforce participation for all' speaks of our commitment

to working at all levels with people who experience disadvantage to overcome barriers and to increase their prospects for economic participation in society.

I would like to thank my fellow board members Frank Jackson (Secretary), David Cragg (Treasurer), Natalie Thomas and Sel Sanli, and our CEO Ron Miers for their work and support during the year.

Natalie Lupton

STRATEGIC

DIRECTIONS

-2013-2018-----

#### INNOVATION AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE

We consistently deliver high quality, effective services to create futures for those affected by disadvantage

Ensure quality services by having systems and processes that are effective and continue to meet our needs
Embrace innovation and emerging services and business

Ensure a participant-centred, wrap-around approach to

#### STRATEGIC PARTNERING

We maximise skills and resources when organisations or people work together

Collaborate with other organisations that complement WCIG activities in order to minimise duplication and effectively use our areas of expertise

Create and maintain strategic relationships which are responsive and meet the needs of employers and industry to maximise opportunities for our participants

Maintain excellent working relationships in order to influence effective responses for those experiencing disadvantage in workforce participation



#### **PEOPLE**

We value our people and will continue to invest in a dedicated and highly trained workforce Ensure we attract the workforce to meet our needs

Resource, train and support staff appropriately to
achieve high quality results

Ensure our working environment is cohesive, positive, productive and supportive

#### ORGANISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

By working to secure futures for disadvantaged people we recognise that we need to build a sustainable organisation

Sustain a secure financial asset base

Provide strong governance

Be an environmentally responsible organisation



#### VISION

Workforce participation for all.



#### MISSION

Creating futures through workforce participation for people experiencing disadvantage.



#### VALUES

These are the things we value and aspire to in our work:

Relationships that embrace dignity, community and mutual respect

Optimism that is lived out in positive attitudes about people and expectations of success and growth Innovation including creativity, responsiveness, risk taking and flexibility

Diversity that acknowledges differences and appreciates the diverse needs and skills of each person

Advocacy that makes us socially pro-active for the disadvantaged

#### WCIG.ORG.AU

## MORKING COMMUNITIES NETWORK

## A CONSORTIUM PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN WCIG, JOBCO. AND E-FOCUS

In 2012-2013, WCIG joined forces with two other organisations, Jobco. and E-Focus, and submitted a consortia tender bid to secure the Disability Employment Services for regions in Melbourne and Geelong from 2013 - 2018.







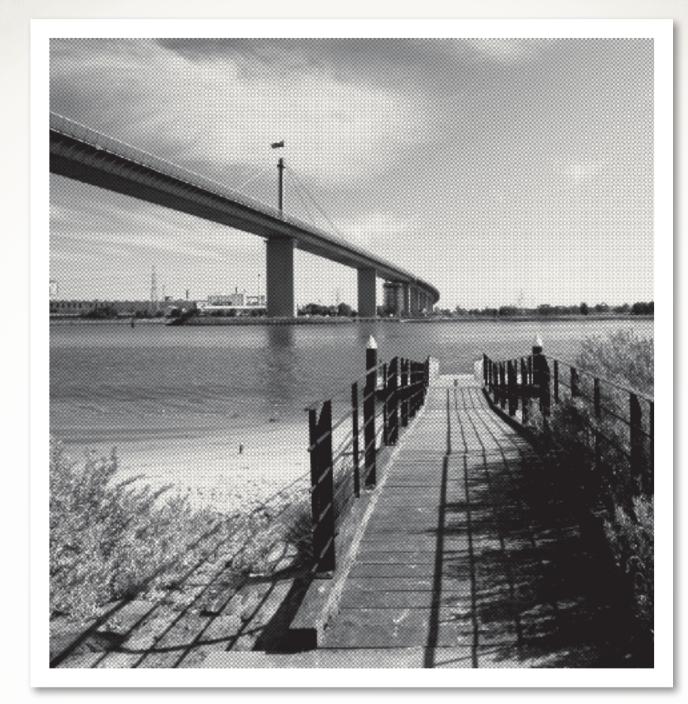
A three-pillared partnership paves the way toward further innovation and service excellence across Melbourne and Geelong. Pictured (left to right) George (E-Focus), Ron (WCIG) and Sean (JobCo).

WCN's submission was supported by the high levels of performance demanded by the competitive bid process. These high standards were reflected in a number of the three providers' existing locations achieving excellent performance outcomes with 4 and 5 star ratings, as per the DEEWR rating system. As a result of these outstanding ratings, a number of the sites under the consortium umbrella were automatically awarded continued service provision. The Managers from the consortia worked

intensively across all teams from November to March 2012/13 to ensure the DEEWR requirements were met and all was ready to officially open the doors at all 24 full-time locations and 7 outreach locations for the official start date on 4 March 2013.

WCN also developed and implemented a unique *Individual Managed Pathway* program, which focuses on building a strong relationship with each participant in their first 6 weeks of service engagement. A major component

of this dynamic program includes the development of an employment plan that both WCIG/WCN and the participant are jointly committed to. This dual commitment builds an even stronger partnership between participants and their Employment Consultants, further supports the ultimate aim of connecting or reconnecting the participant to sustainable employment, and is also more effective in forging links within the wider community.



This overall degree of partnership between organisations and between participants and their consultant brings a great sense of harmony for all involved, in coming together as one team in the delivery of the the services. The CEOs of WCN work together in partnership as the Consortium Management Committee (CMC).

These first few months have seen WCN work with nearly 2000 new clients, and begin or continue to support participants

to overcome various barriers in finding and sustaining employment, establishing links to the community and seeking opportunities to enhance their lives. WCN is looking forward to continuing to establish the reputation of the Working Communities Network as a leading provider of employment services.

#### WCIG | WCN

#### DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CONTINUE TO

## ADAPT AND SERVE

WCIG Disability Employment Services, now a member of the Working Communities Network (WCN), has rounded off 2013 engaged in an ever-evolving service delivery model which continues to yield the best results possible for its participants.

WCIG/WCN's commitment to a consistently adaptive approach works toward providing participants living with psychiatric, physical or sensory disability with the assistance to strive for a sense of self-determination. This selfdetermination is aimed toward seeking, obtaining, and sustaining paid employment and striving for financial independence and links to the wider community by their involvement in the workforce. The fresh face of the WCIG/WCN consortium is continually seeking new ways to best serve the participants in the service.

WCIG/WCN believes that supporting and empowering participants to make choices about their own lives, and providing the tools and services that enhance their employment opportunities is a key strategy which will require effective team work across the sector, and with other services within the community.

### DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT SERVICES KEY HIGHLIGHTS

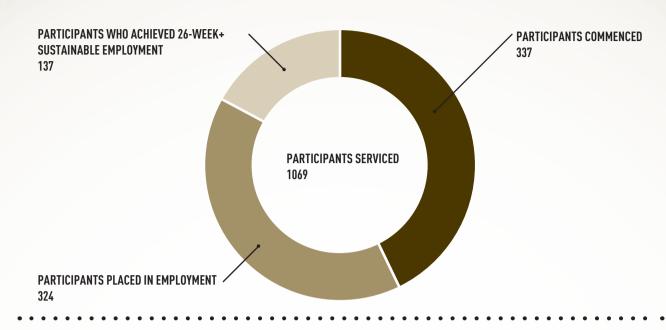
In 2012/13 WCIG/WCN was successful in its tender submission to deliver the Disability Employment Services (DES) program in the Westgate region until 2018. The new DES contract commenced on 4 March 2013 and saw the implementation of a consistently refined service delivery model and the introduction of Individual Managed Pathway plans to employment.

The WCIG/WCN DES team
worked tirelessly to ensure
that the transition to the new
DES system was seamless for
the participants, with over
500 participants commencing
into the new model in March
and 500 existing participants
introduced to the new model.

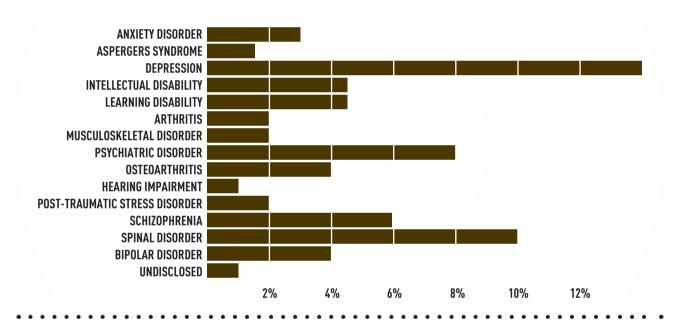
March 2013 also saw WCIG/ WCN expand its services to the Geelong region where it successfully began assisting people with mental illness into employment. This provides participants both from Geelong and the Westgate areas with a corridor of employment across the region.

WCIG/WCN DES also strengthened existing partnerships with employers and community agencies in the Westgate region, and established partnerships with both employers and community organisations in the Geelong and Corio

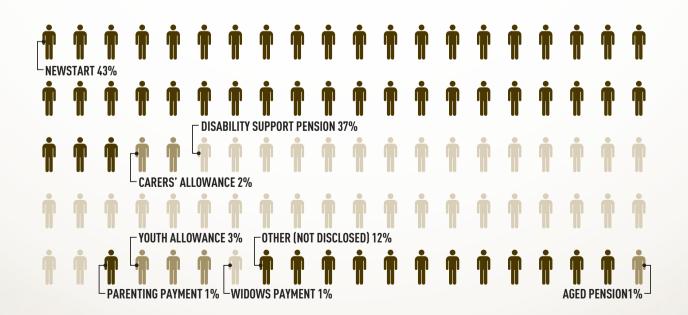
#### **PARTICIPANTS**



#### **DISABILITY EXPERIENCED BY OUR PARTICIPANTS**



#### **PAYMENT TYPES**





## LOVELUVO

#### THE GOOD YOU DO COMES BACK TO YOU

Ever since its official launch in 2011, LoveLuvo continues to deliver a retail experience and products that are ecologically responsible, provide ethical alternatives and are locally made and sourced. LoveLuvo, as a social firm, also provides valuable opportunities for sustainable employment for individuals living with mental illness, as well as practical training and placements for individuals who are undertaking accredited training in Retail at WCIG Goldmark College.

The LoveLuvo store is open seven days a week and sells a wide range of high quality products for the home and body. A visit to LoveLuvo will delight the senses with fragrant soy candles and luxurious body lotions.

#### **TOP STORY**

Alice\* is a mature lady aged in her 60s who left school in 1967. She worked for 2 years before getting married and stopping work. Alice went back to work in 1973 in her husband's panel repair shop as a bookkeeper, filling in old-fashioned ledgers and handwriting log entries, long before the introduction of computers into everyday business operations!

After Alice's marriage ended, she worked in a variety of administrative jobs, but was never employed in one place long-term. Alice was diagnosed with Schizophrenia in 1993, and had not been able to work since.

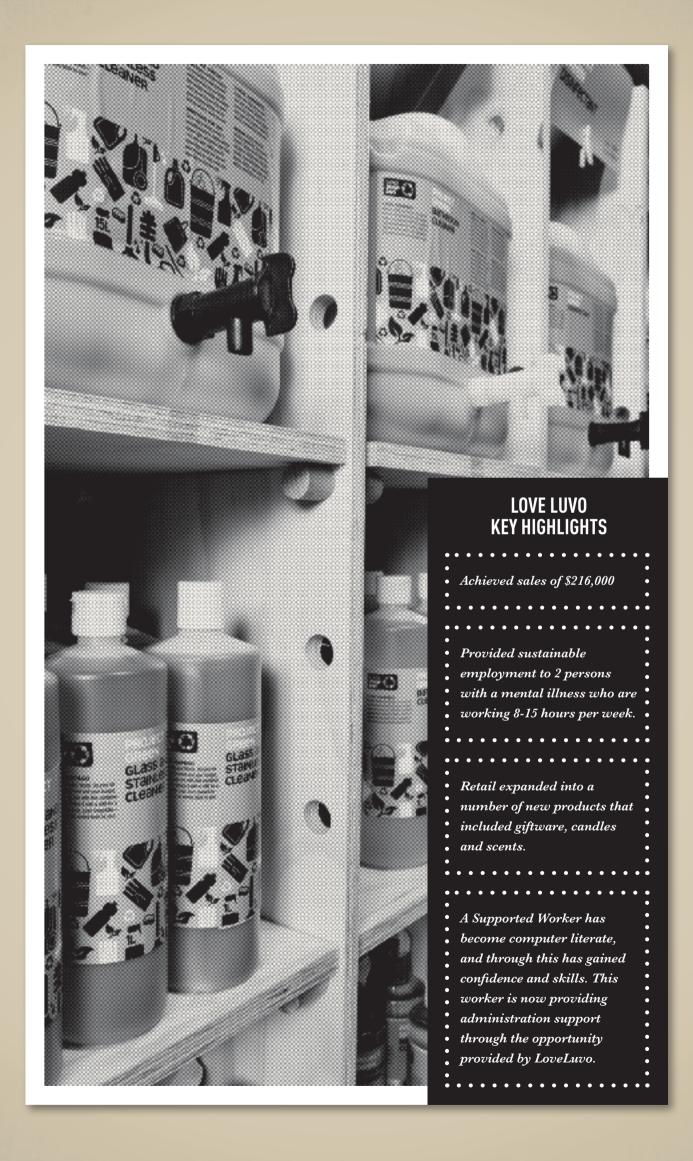
Alice came in to work for WCIG's Cleanable social firm in 2012. She commenced as a commercial cleaner at the beginning of 2013 before being transitioned into admin role she felt more suited to at another of WCIG's social firms, LoveLuvo in May. Alice, however, faced some barriers in re-entering an administration role, as not only had she never so much as switched on a computer before, Alice openly stated that she was absolutely 'terrified' of computers, and was 'really scared' of the prospect of using one. However, with the right coaching and support, Alice has flourished since then, mastering the electronic processes involved in generating purchase orders, online banking etc.

Since her first few keystrokes, Alice quickly realised that she was not so frightened of working with technology, and has come on in leaps and bounds with her learning computer-based tasks. Alice is now very enthusiastic, asks many of questions and consistently wants to learn more.

Alice has expressed how much she loves her job. She never misses a shift and is the back-up worker for the Saturday retail shifts.

Alice is currently enrolled in and will soon commence an Information, Technology and Digital Media course with WCIG Goldmark College, and Alice was most excited recently when she purchased a brand new television with the money she earned from her job.

\*Not client's real name.



2013



## CLEANABLE

## COMMERCIAL CLEANING PUTS THE SHINE ON SOCIAL FIRM SUCCESS

This year, Cleanable has continued to provide a competitive and professional cleaning service to commercial clients.

Also to the credit of all team members, Cleanable has also maintained it's ISO9001 quality accreditation, and also maintained its delivery of high standard, quality commercial cleaning solutions to an everincreasing number of office and business spaces in Melbourne's metropolitan and inner-western regions. Cleanable leads the way in utilising sustainable and environmentally friendly products and cleaning chemicals to deliver the best results for every space. As has always been the central ethos, Cleanable has also sustained itself as a means for individuals living with mental illness to obtain and remain in sustainable, paid employment.

#### **SPARKLING RESULTS**

Robert\* was born in the early 1950s in Yugoslavia to Hungarian parents and came to Australia as a refugee, aged 6. Robert struggled through school due to language and cultural difficulties. He left school in the late 1960s and worked in a myriad of jobs until the early 1990s when he was diagnosed with Schizophrenia. Robert had subsequently not worked since around 1993, however occupied himself with his art.

Robert commenced with WCIG's Social Enterprise Group in March 2013, and transitioned in commercial cleaning in May. Robert is most enthusiastic about his job, and in ready partnership with his supervisor, Ann.

With an art exhibition in October, Robert has had much to be proud of, and has stated that since commencing work, he feels very, very well, both mentally and physically

\*Not client's real name.

#### THE FINE POLISH

Achieved sales of almost
\$1.2 million and a customer
base that includes Mercy
Health, Djerriwarrh,
Western Health, Regional
Rail, Melbourne Health and
Yarra Community Housing.

Provided sustainable
employment to 18 persons
living with mental illness.

• ISO9001 accreditation.

A Supported Worker was
able to transition out of
Community Care living into
independent living, through
the employment opportunity
supplied by Cleanable.

Another Supported Worker
purchased their first car in
20 years as a result of the
employment opportunity
and support offered by

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## OUTSIDE BRANCH

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE SERVICES: CHOICE CLIPPINGS

Outside Branch Property Maintenance is proud to have demonstrated growth in 2013 from its inception in 2012.

Outside Branch, as with all social firm offerings under WCIG's Social Enterprise Group, is based upon the social firms model, and a minimum of 25% of our workforce is made up of people living with a disability – particularly those who are living with mental illness.

Outside Branch provides
quality and cost effective
Asset Maintenance services to
organisations that are committed
to social procurement, and
domestic services to members of
the community whilst providing
employment and skill-building
opportunities for those who
face significant barriers to
entering and remaining in
mainstream employment. Outside
Branch readily tailors property
maintenance solutions to suit the
space and the needs of the client.

Outside Branch has continued to successfully service a number of contracts for local councils and regular maintenance for local residents in the Melbourne metropolitan and western regions in 2013.

The main services offered by Outside Branch are:

•Lawn mowing

•Garden bed construction

Clothesline repairs

Rubbish removal

Planting

Watering system installations

Gutter cleaning

Weed control

•Garden shed construction

 High-pressure path and driveway cleaning

Pruning

Mulching and drainage

big or too small!

•General handyman needs

And importantly: No job is too

ed to er

#### THE MULCH

Achieved sales of almost

Continued to build
upon its relationship/
partnership with Hume
City Council.

Provided sustainable
employment to 9 persons
living with a mental
health issue who are
working 8-15 hours per

A Supported Worker
was able to transition
out of Community Care
living into independent
living, with the aid of the
employment opportunity
supplied by Outside
Branch.

## GOLDMARK COLLEGE PEMAINS COMMITTED TO OPENING DOORS TO FURTHER EDUCATION

2013 HAS WITNESSED WCIG GOLDMARK COLLEGE EARN SUBSTANTIAL RECOGNITION FOR THE WORK IT DOES IN VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET), AND ALSO SEE A SIGNIFICANT BOOST IN THE EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS IT HAS FOSTERED OVER THE PAST YEAR.

Of great significance, WCIG Goldmark College received two Innovation and Capacity Grants in 2013. One of these was targeted to bring together a strategic partnership group that supports learners' access pathways from community engagement and VET courses all the way to University. The second, known as the 'Learners First' project, gives every student the opportunity to have their own individual online learning portal. These projects greatly assist learners to receive flexible and seamless education and training pathways – and importantly, to break the cycle of barriers to education. Integral to the values of Goldmark College is bringing innovative ways for its students to gain sustainable employment using education as the vehicle to build the skills they need. In April 2013, the MP for the Western Metropolitan Region, Andrew Elsbury, presented WCIG Goldmark College with a Certificate of Recognition for its commitment to vocational education and training in the Maribyrnong and Hume regions.

In November 2012 WCIG Goldmark several funding changes to College was welcomed to join a consortium called Learning for Employment (LfE) which comprises a group of highly respected Learn Local providers. The consortium applied for the delivery of the federally funded Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program, formerly the Language, Literacy and Numeracy Program (LLNP). In May 2013, WCIG Goldmark College was extremely proud to hear that the consortium was successful in their application and became a chosen provider for delivery of the SEE program in 2013. This meant that more opportunities would be available for community members to work specifically on language, literacy and numeracy skills for the workplace, and also to maximise their chances of obtaining sustainable employment.

The challenges of the year have been around keeping WCIG Goldmark College's training relevant and affordable for community members and industry in direct response to the needs employers, having experienced

traineeships and classroom based delivery that has affected how WCIG Goldmark College delivers its programs. Whilst that is a challenge, it also highlights the remarkable work that the team at WCIG Goldmark College performs on a daily basis to ensure the needs of community members and industry employers are met irrespective of the changes.

2013

WCIG Goldmark College's proudest partnerships for 2013 have been working directly with local multicultural organisations such as the Australian Vietnamese Women's Association and Smart Link. Both of these organisations work directly with their communities and WCIG Goldmark College to ensure their participants have access to the learning they need to increase their English speaking skills, to gain voluntary community roles and also employment. Working with asylum seekers has also grown significantly in 2013 at WCIG Goldmark College, and is of the local community.



study in Division II Nursing at Victoria University.

A spirited and determined participant overcame barriers including learning difficulties and joined WCIG Goldmark College through our provision of the Australian Apprenticeship Access program, and completed his Certificate IV in Business  ${\it Administration}.$ 

A graduate of Certificate III in Business Administration was enthusiastically offered a part time reception role soon after the completion of her qualification, where she remains today.



WCIG's Youth Connections has some great results to report for 2013. In effectively aiming to assist young people at risk of becoming, or who are already disengaged from education, family and/or the community, our qualified Youth Workers have continued to show a great ability to create partnerships to support young people at every stage of their transition. These partnerships have proven their effectiveness in addressing the barriers that keep them from completing their studies or undertaking further training.



This year, WCIG's Youth Connections team has assisted 280 young people across Wyndham/Hobsons Bay and 135 in the Maribyrnong/ Moonee Valley area, including 26 Indigenous young people and 43 on a Humanitarian refugee Visa.

Outcomes were also achieved for 217 young people in Wyndham/Hobsons Bay and 118 in Maribyrnong/Moonee Valley, including engaging 232 young people in education, training or employment.

A few of the many key highlights and initiatives of 2013 have included workshops, such as the Many Possibilities Workshops for young African girls, Creative Cupcakes at Phoenix Youth Hub, You Go Girl, to promote a positive body image, and Get Steady, Job Ready for information job searching techniques and skills. Homework groups at Buckley Park, Essendon Keilor College and Werribee

Secondary College and Breakfast Clubs at CREATE and Laverton Secondary College. Programs like the Get Your Learners On program to assist young people to obtain their Learners Permit, and support groups for young mums/mums to be to enable these young women to recognise and realise their full potential as mothers or expectant mothers. WCIG also sponsored hugely successful Weerama Festival in partnership with Wyndham City Council. Many more programs and initiatives were undertaken

#### WCIG YOUTH CONNECTIONS -SOME OF THE GOOD NEWS!

Jane\* was asked to leave the family home because she refused to obey the strict guidelines of her family's religion. Jane was made to leave her home, and was also not allowed to have any contact with any person still involved in the religious group.

Being cut-off from a support system complete the last few months of was difficult. Jane was completing VCE.

year 12 and worked casually with inconsistent hours - and she was struggling for balance.

Jane aspired toward university to become a teacher or agricultural scientist. Because of financial constraints, Jane was considering dropping out of secondary school Jane and her Youth Worker devised a timetable and budget to help her

Jane was successfully nominated for a WCIG Board Scholarship, which relieved financial pressure. She then successfully completed VCE, received a letter from Julia Gillard for her efforts and was accepted into La Trobe University to become an agricultural scientist.

\*not client's real name.

### YOUTH PARTNERSHIPS ····· DEMONSTRATES GREAT RESULTS

WynBay LLEN in partnership with WCIG was successful in acquiring the 'In School Support Project' - one of the three projects for delivery under the Victorian Government's Western Metropolitan Region Youth Partnerships. WCIG's Youth Partnerships delivery showed great results and assisted 80 students across four primary/secondary schools.

In this project, WCIG's role was to provide a case management approach in four participating primary and secondary schools across the Hobsons Bay and Wyndham local government areas, with service provision to 80 young people in Year 5 and Year 8. This pilot program was designed to be utilised as a basis for future development of the project after the initial trial. The overall aim of the project was to explore enhancing support for and meeting the needs of children and young people in school who are at risk of disengaging from education, family and/or the community.

The case management consisted of a thorough, holistic assessment of the young person; the development of an individualised pathways plan; intensive weekly support targeting barriers to engagement, including administering surveys and questionnaires, and running



regular liaison with teaching staff and advocacy when required; service partnerships with other support agencies and also parental engagement.

A snapshot of some of the presenting issues and identified themes included dissatisfaction with home life, serious illnesses at home, engagement at school and school performance, bullying and truancy. The pilot program generated some great results for the young people involved that addressed many of these issues. The students expressed positive feedback about the program group sessions and focus groups; and its format and impact. They

also demonstrated improved communication skills, improved emotional and self-awareness. increased confidence and positive school outcomes.

The students expressed that they felt more confident in their abilities and more optimistic about being able to finish school. Some students also said that they felt as though things were 'back on track' and that as a result, they knew what they had to do to get where they wanted to be. All of these positive results subsequently led into a view to implement the Youth Partnerships program far more broadly.

## SPRINGBOARD

### INTENSIVE EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE LEAVING OUT-OF-HOME CARE

WCIG is proud to present Springboard as the latest addition to our suite of youth programs being provided with the aid of our dedicated Youth Workers and program staff. Western Springboard is a new state-wide intensive support program to assist young people disengaged from education, training or employment who are, or have been, in residential out-of-home care, including as lead tenant.

The Western Springboard program provides a service to young people who are, or have been, in residential out-of-home care, between 16 and 21 years of age, who are disengaged from education, training or employment. Western Springboard is strongly connected to existing transition and post care services, being a specialist service for these particularly vulnerable young people within the leaving care population.

WCIG fulfilled the role of lead agent of a consortium in 2012/2013, alongside Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services Inc. and Inner Melbourne VET Cluster Inc. which was brought together to deliver the Western Springboard program. The results emerging from the provision of this program are extremely encouraging, and the positive feedback from the initiative has been a great indicator of its effectiveness in

assisting the young people leaving care.

WCIG's dedicated Western
Springboard workers assisted
43 young people across six
regions, including Hobsons Bay,
Wyndham, Brimbank, Melton,
Maribyrnzong, Moonee Valley
and Melbourne City, and also
improved the lives of 31 young
people through their engagement
in education, training or
employment and/or addressing
personal barriers.

Western Springboard intensively assists these young people who have left, or are transitioning from, residential care, to gain secure, long-term employment by re-engaging them with appropriate education, training or supported employment opportunities. Springboard staff are equipped with specialist knowledge of, and skills in, the areas of education, alternative education, vocational training and employment programs/

providers, job services, Transition to employment service providers for young people with a disability, employers and other industry groups.

Western Springboard's services include:

- •A flexible, outreach and case work approach that assists young people to successfully engage, or re-engage, in education, training and/or employment so as to prepare them for long-term sustainable employment.
- An innovative and collaborative partnership with the department, residential and lead tenant outof-home care providers, post care support information and referral services and other services to maximise young people's capacity to engage with the program, and
- A culturally competent service that is responsive to the needs of Indigenous young people and those from diverse cultural backgrounds.

# PREVOCATIONAL TRAINING TAILORS THE BEST APPROACH FOR EVOLVING STUDENT NEEDS

Learn Local pre-vocational training courses have been a highlight at WCIG Goldmark College this year for both the participants and trainers. By the end of the year we will have offered over 500 places to community members to assist them to build their skills for further education and employment.



In a student survey, over 88% of participants stated that their participation had increased their literacy and language skills and 92% believe they are now significantly better equipped to apply for work. A strong focus for this year's delivery has been to include digital literacy, by giving people the opportunity to work with new technologies and applications such as social media tools. This has been very well received by the participants, and has also worked to bridge the gap between them and their families.

The objectives of these courses are determined by the needs of the participants and the individual goals and objectives they wish to achieve. Whilst these courses aim to improve language, literacy and

numeracy for further education and employment, they also improve social interaction, selfesteem and allow for a degree of community connection that they may not have experienced otherwise. Many of the participants have progressed onto further education, but for some it has simply given them the opportunity to think about their next steps and set future goals and objectives. Learn Local courses are relatively short, being between 6-10 weeks in duration, and are delivered in a supportive and encouraging learning environment. For many the positive learning experience is enough to encourage further education and employment pathways.

### THE AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICESHIP ACCESS PROGRAM (ACCESS)

The Access program is a government funded initiative that works directly with job seekers and employers, and is designed to assist participants develop important and directly applicable skills for the workplace, which ideally lead into paid employment.

This year, WCIG worked with over 115 participants and 20 employers in the industry areas of Retail,
Business, Children's Services,
Hairdressing, Warehousing and Aged Care. 2013 saw a continuation of WCIG working with employers to provide inhouse work experience.

wCIG sincerely thanks the employers who also provided mentoring roles and access to current industry practices.
Access to real workplaces and the opportunity to secure real jobs resulted in outcomes for participants that included traineeships, apprenticeships, further education and full and part-time employment.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS** -

**EMPLOYERS** ADEC AHS Hospitality All Purpose People Alsco Linen Service Alton Personnel Always Fresh Anz Bank APS Group Asian Bizarre Imports Australian Food Group Australian Home Care Services B2 Cafe Bakers Delight Ballarat City Council BBI's/Donut King Bell's Real Estate Big Mouth Maloney Big W - Watergardens Blonde on Blonde Bloomfields Bluestone Recruitment Boral Plasterboard Brimbank City Coucil Brimbank Leisure Centre **Broadmeadows Disability Services** Bunnings Bursons Automotive Pty Ltd Cabinet Masters Cabways Pty Ltd Cafe Centro Bar Bistro Cafe Di La Calivry Silver Circle Campbells Cash and Carry Care For Kids Foundation Cassandra Upholstery Central Pipe Fabrication Central Premix Concrete

Chalmers Industries Pty Ltd Chandler Recruitment Charter Security Chelgrave Contracting Chelsea Hair And Nails Cherrie's Cafe Cis At Mercy Health City Residential Clancy's Auto Salvage Coburg Transfer Station Coffee N All Coles Supermarkets Colour Earth Design Consolidated Cleaning Services Convent Bakery Conway Fish Trading Cope Logistics

Cubin Design Curzon Street Childcare Daguerre's Café Bar Gallery Deer Park Motors Del Conway's Home Helpers Design Inferno Glass DiCaprio's Restaurant Discount Tyres Don Kyatt Spare Parts Donut King Doua Burair Doutta Galla Community Health Dual Ware E Pharmacy

Costello's Hotel

Easyfix Building Solutions Effective Supermarket Services Elenis Hair Salon Elite Dry Cleaners Elite Security Elles Furniture Eml Melh

Emma McLean Kindergarten and Enterprises Services Pty Ltd

Essendon Kids Essential Nursing Agency Essential Personnel Everlasting Ironworks Faracht Australia FBA Imports

Fencing Engage By Michael Ferguson Plarre Fifteen Resturant

Finch Industries First Impressions Events FM Recycle

Food FX Footscray Market Fosters Australia Fracht Australia Freddy's Fruit and Veg Fulton Hogan G&E Pitliangas Garry Hopper Motor Group Gilbarco Veeder Root Gindera Cleaning Services

Global traffic group Gray's Tyre Service Guardian Property Management Hampstead Dental Hays Recruitment **Higgins Trading Company** Hilltop Security Hilton Hotel

Hingli Holdings Pty Ltd Home Care Plus Home Sustainability Assessments

Huy Fashion Pty Ltd I-Connect IGA Werribee Infight Services Inter Industrial Service Intergrated Solutions Jav I.T. Group JCP Carpentry Design JDJ Windows Jefferson Ford Jesuit Social Services Jigsaw Childcare Centre Joalian Pty Ltd

John Sands Australia Ltd Kensho Pty Ltd Kensington Community High School

Kevin Denis Killarney Properties King Personnel Kingsville Community Centre K-mart Lakeside Receptions

Lazy Moe's Lemac Lionheart Security Little Champs Child Care Centre Little Poppets Childcare Centre

Littore Wines LPG Conversions Maddisons Magri Trainsport

Manor Court Werribee Aged Care Masada International Trade Pty Ltd Maxwell Engineering Pty Ltd

McArthur Management Services McKillop College

Mcpeake painting and building Services Melton Glass and Shower Screens

Melton Pre School and Child Care Centre

Melton Shire Council Melton Special School Meridina Pest Control Merrimu Services Mesh and Bar

Metrofile Pty Ltd Mint Group Mio Posto Cafe Monjon Moon Cleaning Moreton Hire

MTM Aluminium Window Vic Pty Ltd

Muffin Break MYM Timber Network Clothing Newmarket Tavern

Newport Building and Garden Supplies

Newspower Brimbank Central Northern Autistic School Northern Gardens Aged Care

Nursing One World On Call Personnel Oshclub Oxford Cold Storage

Oz Staff Ozwide Electrical P&C Brushes Pedders Suspension Pelican Child Care

Peter Rowland Catering Phoenix Street Child Care Pinnacles Hospitality And Tourism Plantic Technologies Limited Plants Galore Wholesale Nursery Plasterers R Us

Plastic Bend Fabrication PLM Property Services Port Phillip Prison Poultry N More Pty Ltd Prime Medical

Rampage (BP Laverton) Randstad Recruitment Ready Workforce Rebound Sheet Metal Engineering

Re-Creation Health Club Red Tongue Cafe Reflections Group Pty Ltd Retravision Hoppers Crossing Rosanna Village Childcare Royal Free Masons

Rsm Admin Services Pty Ltd

RTS Transport Safeway Salesforce

Sanctuary Lakes Golf Club Schiavello Bros Pty Ltd Securecorps Cleaning

Sf Transport SGA Sign Designs Signcraft

Silvy's Cleaning Services Simply Nursing Sirens Restaurant & Bistro Sistems Golf

SKM Recycling

South Kingsville Community Centre

Southern Cross Insurance Brokers Spotlight Stores

St Basil's Home For Aged Care St John Of God St Vincents Childcare Staff Australia Stallion Station Pty Ltd

Star Enterprises Vic Star Trak Express State Side Conveyancing Stegbar Pty Ltd

Stepping Stone Kindergarten Stones Bakery

Storm Car Wash (Wizard Car Wash) Subway Footscray

Sundance Racking Pty Ltd **Sunshine Door Coatings** Sunshine Dry Cleaners SV Painting

Swift Pty Ltd T.H. Marshall Taxation Tasman Retail Taylors Lakes Hotel Telstra Tessy's Hair Classic

The Element Shop The Global Group The Mop Squad The Shoe Gallery (Vic) Pty Ltd The Tradesperson's Secretary The Yarraville Club Inc. Thornbear Cleaning Services Tiletek Industries

TKG Sheetmetal T.L.S. Transport Australia TNT Express Total Staffing Solutions Toyota

Trentham Tucker

Uniting Aged Care

Universal Pallets Werribee Terrace Aged Care

Wesfarmers Kleenheat Gas Ptv Ltd West Main Pty Ltd

WPC Group Wyndham Lodge

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Zoom Recruitment & Consulting Pty Ltd

Australian Vietnamese Womens Association Australia Light Foundation Centacare

Djerriwarrh Education and Employment Services

Headspace - Sunshine Hobson's Bay City Council Job Futures Ltd

Local Learning & Employment Networks: Wynbay, Maribynong/Moonee Valley, Brimbank/Melton Maidstone Community Centre

Maribyrnong City Council Maribyrnong Community Centre Meadow Heights Learning Shop Matchworks - St Albans Melbourne Citymission

Orygen Research Centre Orygen Youth Health Outlooks Melton Sechi Hair Shire of Melton

Social Firms Australia Social Ventures Australia The Smith Family Victoria University

Visy Link Centre Wesley Mission Western Local Community Partnership

Victoria University- Tafe Division

Western Melbourne Division of General Practice Western Melbourne Headspace Western Region Health Centre Yarraville Community Centre

Werribee Tigers Football Club Community Colleges Australia Werribee Tigers Football Club Inner Melbourne Vet Cluster

Djerriwarrh Education and Community Services MMV LLEN Wynbay LLEN

Wyndham Central College Wyndam Park Primary School Altona North Primary School Maribyrnong City Council Wyndham City Council

Baden Powel P-9

SUPPORTERS OF OUR WORK

Altona Meadows Community Centre

AMES Employment Amile Adovocacy Services Inc Anglicare - Counselling Service Apprenticeships Plus Apprenticeships Victoria

Ascot Vale Special School Ashley Institute Asylum Seekers Resource Centre

Australian Apprenticeships Centre -Werribee Banksia Gardens Community Centre

Bayside Secondary College Braybrook College Brotherhood of St. Lawrence Buckley Park Secondary College CAE

Center for Adolescent Health - Young People Health Service Centre for Multicultural Youth Centrelink Area North Central Victoria

Centrelink Broadmeadows Centrelink Melton Centrelink Newmarket Centrelink Sunshine Centrelink Watergardens

Centrelink Werribee Child First Consider This Training

DASWest - Youth Outreach Team Debney Park Secondary College

Disability Works Australia Djerriwarrh Employment & Education Services

**Duke Street Community Centre** Employment Focus - Glenroy Employment Plus - Footscray

Essendon Keilor College Footscray City Secondary College Footscray Community Arts Centre Footscray Police

Galvin Park Secondary College Gatehouse - Youth Resource Centre Gilmore Girls College

Good Shepperd - St Albans Gordon Institute of TAFE GROW - Better Together

Harvester College Heathdale Christian College Heaths Road Library - Homework

Hobsons Bay City Council Hobsons Bay Police

Hobsons Bay Youth Services Hog's Breath Café Watergardens Hoppers Crossing Secondary College Horizons

IEGT Inner West Area Mental Health Service

Iramoo Community Centre ISIS Primary Care **JobProspects** 

Kangan Institute Keilor Youth Accommodation

Josephs Corner

Kurrunjung Secondary College Latitude Youth Housing Layerton Community Centre Laverton Secondary College Legal Aid Sunshine

Living Jungle MacKillop College Mackillop Family Service -Family & Community Services Main Road East Child Care Centre Mambourin Enterprises Manor Lakes P-12 Specialist College

Manpower Trolleys Pty Ltd Maribyrnong City Council Maribyrnong Secondary College Maribyrnong Youth Services Matchworks - Footscray Matchworks - Werribee

McDonald's Delahev McKillop College - Werribee MEGT

Melbourne City Mission Melton Secondary College Mercy Hospital Metro West Housing Mid West Area Mental Health

Migrant Resource Centres Millenium Hi-tech Miniart College Moonee Valley Youth Services

Mulberry House Mulberry House - MI Fellowship New Hope Foundation Niddrie Secondary College

Norwood Association Olex

Open Family - Youth Resource Centre **Operation Newstart** Orygen Youth Health

Outlets Co-Operative Community People Living with HIV/AIDS Victoria Phoenix Child Care Centre PilotLight

Point Cook Senior Secondary College Postive Living Centre

Quantin Binnah Community Centre Relationships Australia RMIT AFI Research Library Rocket - Youth Residential Rehabilition Program St Albans Royal Childrens Hospital

Royal Melb Hospital Adult Psychiatric

Saltwater Clinic

Salvation Army Housing Support Shoe Guy Camberwell

South Kingsville Community Centre South West Area Mental Health Services South West Community Centre

Spirit West Services Spirit West Services, Fresh program

St Albans Connect St Albans Migrant Resource Centre

St Albans Rotary Club St Josephs flexible learning St Kilda Youth Service

Staughton College Strathmore Secondary College Subaru Interactive @ Docklands Sunshine Hospital Adult Acute Care

SwissCom The Grange P-12 College The Malka Group

The Smith Family The Tigers Club Thomas Carr College Tisa Fine Foods

Tracy the Placement People Transpacific

Travencore School Try Youth and Community Services UnitingCare-Werribee Support &

VECCI

Victoria Police Youth Resource Office Victoria University

Victorian Foundation for Survivors of Torture

Vision Australia

Waratah Werribee Banner-Fairfax Community

Werribee Community & Education Centre Werribee Community Centre

Werribee Secondary College Werribee Support and Housing Wesley Employment Services Footscray West Footscray Community Centre

Western Health Western Region Health Centre

Western Suburbs Legal Service Westside Hotel

Williamstown Community & Education Centre

Williamstown High School Wise Employment Working Edge

Wyndham City Council Wyndham Learning Community Wyndham Park Secondary College

YACVic Yarra Housing Yarraville Community Centre

Youth Foundations Youth Justice North Melbourne Youth Law @ Wyndham Legal Service Youth Now

Youth Resource Center - Wyndham

CONTRACTORS

Australian Government Department of Education Science and Training Australian Government Department of Education, Employment and Workplace

Australian Government Department of Family & Community Services & Indigenous Affairs

Australian Government Department of Family & Community Services & Indigenous Affairs

Victorian Government Department of Education and Early Childhood Development

Victorian Government Department of Human Services

HeineJones Studio The Dragonfly Collective

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