

MINUTES

GREATER DANDENONG YOUTH NETWORK

Education and Employment Pathways: Supporting Vulnerable Young People

Thursday 13 February 2020

9:30am – 11:30am

City of Greater Dandenong Council Chambers - Level 2

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong - Corner of Lonsdale and Walker Streets

ITEMS	NOTES
Welcome	All welcomed and Traditional Owners acknowledged.
Guest Speaker Where the jobs are <i>Andrea O'Bryan, Manager – Chisholm Skills and Jobs Centre</i>	<p>Andrea O'Bryan presented an overview of 'where the jobs are' to provide the economic context to employment opportunities in the south-east region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment is projected to grow by 8.3% in Victoria over 5 years, with significant numbers of new jobs to be created in healthcare and social assistance and construction. • Major Victorian infrastructure projects creating jobs: Metro Tunnel, Westgate Distributor, widening of the Tullamarine Freeway, Level Crossing Removal Project, North-East Link. Infrastructure jobs don't just mean jobs in construction – a range of other occupations support these projects (finance, HR, media, etc) • The long term decline in manufacturing employment is expected to abate by May 2023, with forecast growth of 0.9% (8500 jobs) • 25% of Melbourne's employment is located in the south-east region (Cardinia, Casey, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Kingston, Monash and Mornington Peninsula). This is Australia's biggest employment area outside of a capital city and includes 71,000 manufacturing jobs. <p>For more information on the changing nature of work, refer to research from the Foundation of Young Australians, highlighting the importance of transferable skills. See https://www.fya.org.au/our-research/</p> <p>The Chisholm Skills and Jobs Centre provides a range of services including job ready workshops, training advice and career counselling.</p> <p>Contact: 311 Lonsdale Street Dandenong (Mon-Fri, 9am – 5pm)</p>

	<p>Ph: 9212 4909 Facebook.com/chisholmskillsandjobs/</p>
<p>Guest Speaker</p> <p>Local employment initiatives <i>Andrew Simmons, CEO – South East Local Learning and Employment Network (SELLEN)</i></p>	<p>Andrew Simmons provided an overview of various initiatives SELLEN is currently delivering:</p> <p><u>Demystifying the Jobs Market</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A resource listing the 81 employment services currently operating in the south-east across Casey, Cardinia and Greater Dandenong. (Funded contracts only) • The resource will be updated periodically, and is available from the SELLEN website: https://sellen.org.au/demystifying-the-job-market-in-the-south-east-2/ <p><u>Work Local Greater Dandenong</u> https://www.worklocalgreaterdandenong.com.au/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partnership with City of Greater Dandenong; to provide a portal that collates publicly advertised jobs across a range of employment websites (not including Seek). • Currently lists 289 vacancies within the suburb of Dandenong. • See also, https://www.caseycardiniajobs.com.au/ for further opportunities in the south-east region <p><u>South East Careers Expo and Try A Trade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upcoming event on 21 April; features a range of exhibitors as well as a jobs board and industry spaces highlighting local opportunities • To book a stall, visit https://www.trybooking.com/BHBLY. • Also open to bring young people through the event on the day <p><u>This is IT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initiative launched last week, whereby laptops are repurposed and distributed to disadvantaged young people • 120 laptops were distributed as part of the launch to support young people in their studies. • SELLEN are seeking support from businesses who are upgrading their IT infrastructure – donations of unwanted laptops are needed, with estimates of 3500-4000 students in the south-east without a laptop. • If able to assist, contact Andrew on 9794 6921 <p>For further information about the work undertaken by SELLEN, visit their website at www.sellen.org.au</p>

Lightning Presentations

Brief service overviews

Young Parents Education Program (YPEP) – Mary-Tresize Brown, SELLEN

<https://sellen.org.au/ysep-hallam-senior-college-in-2020/>

- New program opened in 2020 at Hallam College, allowing young parents to study with their babies on campus. An additional program is running at the Foundation Learning Centre in Narre Warren.
- Each program is supported by a VCAL teacher and a parent support person.
- Young people complete 3 days/week in the classroom as well as 1 day/week VET studies.
- In the south-east in 2011 there were 700 young people (13-20 years) with a child; by 2016 this had grown to 1110.
- Clients as young as 13 years who are parenting have been able to complete their education through YPEP.

Caroline Chisholm Foundation scholarships – Robyn Campbell

<https://www.chisholm.edu.au/about-us/caroline-chisholm-education-foundation/scholarships>

- The foundation distributes over 400 scholarships per year, and is seeking to expand this.
- Approximately half of scholarships awarded are for foundation courses, include Cert I/II or EAL programs. These courses can cost \$600-2000 with a concession card.
- Scholarships available to people of all ages.
- Have seen cases of students who complete a foundation course and then return for additional scholarships to progress through to Cert III/IV/Diploma courses.

Handbrake Turn – Jonathan Sugamar, Concern Australia

<https://www.concernaustralia.org.au/hand-brake-turn/>

- Handbrake Turn provides young people with a ‘taster’ of the automotive industry through hands on training
- Classes are in a 7 week block, in Dandenong; approx. 6 courses per year
- Students work in a full workshop, working on real vehicles under the supervision of a qualified mechanic
- Young people are also supported with work readiness skills eg: resume writing

Good Cycles – Belinda Woodruff and Donovan

<https://www.goodcycles.org.au/impact>

- Good Cycles offers a 6-week pre-employment program (40 hours, completed 1 day/week over 6 weeks)
- The course centres around fixing a bicycle, with a focus on being ‘hands on’ and developing work readiness
- Young people keep their bike at the end of the program, developing independence and mobility
- The group size is small with only 6-8 young people per program
- Good Cycles offer employment on a transitional basis, supporting young people to gain real paid work experience at the end of the 6 week program. Five young people are currently travelling from Dandenong to Docklands for employment following the Good Cycles program.

	<p>Groomed To Go – Louise https://groomedtogo.org/</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groomed to Go is a volunteer run initiative, now operating from the Chisholm Skills and Jobs Centre site, at 311 Lonsdale Street Dandenong • They provide a 1:1 styling consultation and a suitable outfit for a job interview, court appearance or any other formal appointment where clients need to break through the judgement of their appearance. • Work with men, women and transgender clients of all ages. • Once the client has received their interview outfit, the team also provide interview coaching. This supports the jobseeker to build confidence and experience an interview as they will present on the day, in their new job search outfit. • A small fee applies and is charged to job agencies (who have budget to support clients).
<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Monique O’Keeffe, Community Funding team – City of Greater Dandenong</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 new grant programs just launched: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Community Partnerships grants (now open; closes 10 March) - Community Support grants (bi-annual program; next round opens 10 March, closes 20 April) - Community Response grants (ongoing) • Community Funding officers are available for information sessions and individual appointments with prospective applicants. • For further details, see https://greaterdandenong.com/document/7235/community-grants-programs <p>Vanessa Gigliotti, Greater Dandenong Libraries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking stallholders for the upcoming Dandy Con Comic Festival, to be held on Saturday 2 May (10am-4pm) • To participate, complete an Expression of Interest Form on the Dandy Con website: https://greaterdandenong.com/dandycon/ <p>Temur Rezaie, Centre for Multicultural Youth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CMY are now recruiting for a range of leadership programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Advisory Group - Shout Out, young speakers program - Explore, a research project driven by young people - Envision, seeking peer leaders to support newly arrived young people • For more information, contact trezaie@cmy.net.au

Bridget Hansen, Victoria Legal Aid

- Community education sessions – available to present in schools and at community organisations, for both staff and young people
- For more information contact Bridget.Hansen@vla.vic.gov.au

Leah Riches, MOIRA

- Better Futures supports young people aged 16-21 years who are leaving care.
- For more information, see <https://moira.org.au/your-journey/better-futures/>
- Your Journey provides a range of crisis accommodation and transitional accommodation options. This is a funded service which, combined with support, helps young people to begin to address issues that may have contributed to their situation, such as homelessness, unemployment, addiction and social behavioural issues.
- For more information, see <https://moira.org.au/your-journey/lifestyle-and-housing/>

Mahamed Ahmed, City of Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services

- Youth Sports Zone: free activities for young people at Dandenong Park (including basketball and ultimate frisbee), Thursday afternoons for 6 weeks. Partnership with ReLink and CMY.
- For more information see <https://youth.greaterdandenong.com/event/5573/youth-sports-zone/30296>

Catherine Maine, City of Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services

- Young Leaders 2020: applications now open. 15 week leadership program, commencing in April. Provides an opportunity for young people to develop leadership skills and undertake a community project.
- For more information see <https://youth.greaterdandenong.com/event/3690/2020-young-leaders-program-applications-now-open/30261>

Danielle Amiet, headspace

- Now recruiting for the headspace Youth Advisory Groups at both Dandenong and Narre Warren.
- Applications can be submitted online at <https://headspace.org.au/headspace-centres/dandenong/>

Jess McKenna, City of Greater Dandenong Youth and Family Services

- Unite Alliance is for young people aged 14-25 years who identify with the LGBTIQ+ community, or are an ally. The group meets weekly to learn about healthy relationships, mental health and wellbeing and take part in fun activities.
- For more information contact Jess on 9793 2155 or Jessica.McKenna@cgd.vic.gov.au

Reminder to network members: for promotion of programs/services in the monthly eNewsletter please send a short blurb to kylie.wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au

Next Meeting

Date: Wednesday 15 April 2020

Time: 9.30am – 11.30am

Theme: To be confirmed

Venue: Dandenong Council Chambers – Level 2 225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong

For further information or to RSVP please contact Kylie Wilmot, Youth Development and Community Engagement Officer on 9793 2155 or email kylie.wilmot@cgd.vic.gov.au

ATTENDANCE LIST

Present	Name	Agency/Organisation	Email Address
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