

outcomes

Keeping you in touch



BoysTown



Giving the Tools for a Better Life

"There is joy in work. There is no happiness except in the realisation that we have accomplished something."
Henry Ford

Every young person dreams of a happy life. One of the most important ways to achieve this dream is through work. Undoubtedly, work builds self-esteem and independence. It also creates a sense of contributing to and connecting with the community.

The sad reality is that some young people are simply unable to work, due to significant personal and social barriers. Issues such as mental health concerns, drug and alcohol dependency, abuse, limited numeracy and literacy, domestic violence and homelessness can have a huge impact on a young person's life.

This is where, with your help, BoysTown comes in. Each year, BoysTown's Employment, Education and Training Services make a huge impact in the lives of thousands of disadvantaged young people and the wider Australian community.

BoysTown's programs combine on-the-job learning, life skills and youth worker support. The aim is to help these precious young people to achieve sustainable and meaningful employment and improved life skills. The BoysTown programs that help young people to become "job-ready" are many and varied:

- **Transitional employment programs** provide paid real work opportunities for thousands of disadvantaged young people. By providing up to six months paid employment, BoysTown helps develop the skills and self-confidence these young people need to enter the wider job market. Last financial year, BoysTown employed 415 young people, with 60 per cent moving on to either employment or further education.

- **Targeted interventions** are run by BoysTown to boost literacy and numeracy, life skills, personal development and job readiness in disadvantaged young people. Last financial year, BoysTown delivered close to 3,000 interventions through life skills workshops and undertook over 1,600 literacy and numeracy assessments.

- **As a Registered Training Organisation (RTO)** in Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia, BoysTown delivers Accredited Training Courses for disadvantaged young people. Last financial year, close to 1,000 young people successfully accessed these courses.

- **Federally funded Job Services Australia employment agencies** are operated by BoysTown in disadvantaged areas in Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia. BoysTown specialises in assisting young, disadvantaged job seekers to overcome barriers to employment. Last financial year, BoysTown worked with close to 8,000 young people, placing over 1,000 into employment.

In January 2010, BoysTown was awarded two Federal Government Youth Connections tenders in South East Queensland. These early intervention programs are designed for young people aged 14 to 18 years, who are at risk of social exclusion and disengaging from education.

Without your support none of this is possible...



"I had been unemployed for a long time, that is, until I had an appointment with BoysTown. My employment consultant helped me in many ways to address my barriers and issues to get me job ready.

I can't thank her enough. This is the first job agency that has helped me to get a job."

Jamie*, Job Services Client



"BoysTown put me on enterprises. I didn't have much of a work ethic before. BoysTown sort of changed that. It's given me a bit of experience as well as getting me into new habits, waking up early and so on.

In general there's a big improvement. I'm getting more mature. I know I can get a job off the skills I've got from BoysTown, and do good work in the job because of those skills."

Peter*, Commercial Enterprises Client

*names changed for privacy reasons

A FRESH START FOR YOUTH MEANS HOPE FOR OUR COMMUNITY

The positive effects of BoysTown's work stretch much further than just to the young people directly helped. Although Australia enjoys relatively low unemployment compared with other developed countries, youth unemployment remains high. With a skills shortage prevalent and predicted to rise in many key industries, Australia will increasingly need more skilled labour to support our ongoing economic prosperity.

BoysTown continues to proactively work with all levels of government and industry to align work-related services to suit the future needs of the economy and industry wherever possible.

This strategic approach is beneficial in terms of ensuring that young people have the skills and capability to enjoy a long-term career in growing industries, where job demand is high. At a wider level, the benefits of a strategically aligned approach mean BoysTown is also positively contributing to the wider Australian economy by providing skilled and job-ready workers where they are most needed.

Some of the organisations that BoysTown has worked with to achieve mutually successful outcomes include Australia Post, the RSPCA, The Abigroup, Snap Fresh (a food facility run by Qantas) and companies in the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) industry. BoysTown is currently investigating the possibility of providing work opportunities for disadvantaged young people as part of the Brisbane flood recovery programs run by the Brisbane City Council.

The benefits of strategic alignment to industry are in addition to the many other benefits of BoysTown work-related programs to the wider community. For example, many BoysTown programs continue to help reduce crime and anti-social behaviour in several communities across Australia.

All BoysTown supporters can rest assured that their much valued contributions are having a far reaching positive effect, not only for disadvantaged children, young people and families in need, but also for the wider Australian community as a whole.

John Perry
General Manager
Employment, Education
& Training





From left to right, May Ciarlo, Renae Heinrich, Janine Hurrell and Mylee Wanganeen

A Role Model Setting a Good Example

BoysTown's Mylee Wanganeen has been piling-up accolades recently.

The 20 year old BoysTown staff member has been awarded a Positive Playford Award and a Playford Scholarship for her efforts in the Playford Community, Adelaide.

Mylee finished Year 12, but when she tried to get a job there was nothing happening for her. She tried everything. It made it hard to keep a smile on her face, but somehow it couldn't be shaken off. When she came to BoysTown as a job seeker that smile won her a job.

BoysTown Job Services Adelaide's Manager Dale Wylie said Mylee is simply fantastic.

"She'd had a lot of knockbacks but she kept turning up each day with a smile on her face, and when it was time to employ a receptionist she was the obvious choice," he said.

That was a year ago and now Mylee is training to become an employment consultant. In the meantime she's become an inspiration to many other Aboriginal young people looking for a job.

"Mylee has become a role model for the Indigenous young people that BoysTown works with in the area," Dale said.

"She has become a point of contact for those kids who see any authority as a threat and she encourages and mentors young kids to help them see that their goals are achievable."

She has proven to be a quick learner and works comfortably in the Job Services environment,

quickly learning the skills to proceed to an Employment Consultant role in the future.

Making the right decisions has helped Mylee achieve great things in a small time through her own desire to improve her way of life and be a positive influence on others. She has already displayed the attributes to be a future leader in her community.

Mylee was a recent winner at City of Playford Mayor's Scholarship Award and won a \$3,000 scholarship for further study to undertake Cert IV in Community Services. She was also announced as the Positive Playford Award winner in November 2010.

The Positive Playford Award is for an individual who is setting a good example for others, has a positive impact on the Playford community and shows pride in their community and themselves.

"It's very tough for many Aboriginal kids," Mylee said. "Like them I was lost and didn't know what to do. But I come through the door at BoysTown with a smile on my face and tell them to look at me - it makes all the difference.

"I wanted to be somewhere I could help young Indigenous people and BoysTown has given me that opportunity."

BoysTown is proud of Mylee; her success is a great outcome not only for her and her family but also the wider community, as she helps bring hope to local unemployed. By supporting BoysTown, you are helping more young people like Mylee with a fresh start.

Thank you for your support.



"Thanks BoysTown!"

Letter written recently from the parent of a young person helped by the Get Set For Work (GSFW)* program to BoysTown Redlands trainers and youth workers.

9/12/10

My thanks to all the great crew at BoysTown. Special thanks to Amanda, Steve & Cyril. You came good on your word to give Lucy* a 'life-changing experience' in your GSFW* programme. I noticed subtle changes along the way - less anxiety, more patience, more tolerance, better ability to cope with family, and all situations, increased confidence in applying for jobs, increased persistence in seeing through bad situations, ability to cope with trauma, even! So many things she could not or would not have done 3 months ago. But nothing so huge as seeing my daughter stand before 50 people and give a speech she had written. Thankyou all so much for enabling these virtues to finally come through, for creating a more stable, confident, intelligent and compassionate person of her. She will use all of your valuable lessons through her life, and although you will continue to inspire and motivate, you do need to hear some well-deserved praise from grateful parents now and again.

What a tough but wonderful job you have.
You make the world a better place, and now, so will Lucy. With love to you and your families, from ours.
Lianna*

* Names changed for privacy reasons

+ GSFW is an initiative of the Queensland Government



Dr Bourke, Honorary Citizen and Honorary Guardian of BoysTown pictured with Tracy Adams, BoysTown CEO.

Lasting Legacy CHANGES LIVES

Dr Anthony Bourke has had a long association with BoysTown, in particular, supporting our employment programs. Here he explains his commitment to our work.

“Throughout my life journey, I have been privileged to live and work in many countries and understand fully the need to educate and give hope to young people. This has also made me appreciate the love and care I received from both my parents,” he says.

“What impresses me about BoysTown is the range of multi-dimensional services they provide and how, through a nurturing environment, they help turn lives around.

“Naturally, I am very proud to be associated with such an inspiring charity and it’s why I make regular donations. More recently, I updated my Will and made provision to leave a more substantial bequest to BoysTown in support of their wonderful work.

“This is my own humble way of continuing to help make a difference to the lives of many young people like those they helped in 2010, and I would encourage others to consider the ultimate gift, of leaving a bequest in their Will to BoysTown”.



Who we helped in 2010 through your wonderful on-going support

Last year, BoysTown:

- Received 436,977 calls and online contacts to Kids Helpline and responded to 251,102
- Received 14,281 calls to Parentline and responded to 9,704
- Had 7,615 young people register with BoysTown Job Services
- Life skills workshops attracted 2,938 participants
- Provided literacy and numeracy assessment to 1,642 young people
- Had 1,698 young people participate in our Training, Education and Support services
- Placed 1,070 young people in employment
- Saw 986 young people attend our Certificate I and II training courses
- Provided transitional employment in our social enterprises to 415 young people
- Accommodated 63 women and 148 children in our family violence refuge
- Provided short-term accommodation and support to 26 homeless families, including 38 adults and 53 children
- Assisted 46 women and their 59 children in our young parents programs.

To receive a copy of BoysTown’s bequest brochure *“Sharing our Vision... touching the lives of young Australians through your Will”*, please contact Marlane Brunner, our Community Relations Manager, on **free call 1800 552 033** or email Marlane at mbrunner@boystown.com.au.

