



media release



BoysTown

6 November 2009

BoysTown increases youth job options in Adelaide

BoysTown is set to help 500 young people find work via its new Job Services premises opened in Elizabeth today.

Federal Member for Wakefield Nick Champion MP officially opened the new premises, which offer training, counselling and job search facilities for young people looking for work.

BoysTown Chief Executive Officer Tracy Adams said adding Job Services to BoysTown's programs means BoysTown increases its ability to help young people from the Salisbury/Playford region obtain suitable employment.

"The expansion is such that we needed to find new accommodation, moving from our much smaller site at Elizabeth TAFE to the larger Langford Drive location," Ms Adams said.

"BoysTown has worked in the Salisbury/Playford region since 2006, providing work preparation, pre-employment training and re-engagement programs for young people aged to 25 years.

"Last financial year we helped 70 young people in their search of employment.

"Since Job Services started in July this year, close to 300 young people have been supported by the service, with at least an additional 200 young people set to join us by June 2010."

Ms Adams said including Job Services in the BoysTown portfolio also means a greater emphasis will go on meeting employer needs, particularly where there are skill shortages.

"We have consulted over 60 entities regarding local community needs and how we can best respond to these," she said.

"Issues in the region include the impact of intergenerational unemployment on young people's aspirations and self perceptions, along with their educational disengagement.

"It is crucial that we establish strong links and clear pathways between education, training and local employment opportunities if we are to address these issues and create sustainable change."

BoysTown's Adelaide Regional Manager Tony Heinrich said Job Services offered by BoysTown differ from many other employment services because they offer a three tiered approach to helping young people get work.

"We offer counselling support and paid work opportunities in our own social enterprises," Mr Heinrich said.

"In a nutshell, we offer preparation for employment, training for employment and actual employment, and most importantly hope for many young people who thought their options limited."

"Our expanded services will mean many more young people will find their own inner strengths and develop increased self-confidence, enabling them to create exciting opportunities for not only themselves but those around them."

BoysTown Job Services operates from 24 Langford Drive, Elizabeth. Call 08 8287 8000 for more information.

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