



media release



BoysTown

May 18, 2009

Graffiti gets good results

Eight young people are taking their first steps towards joining the workforce by painting a mural at the Redlands PCYC.

BoysTown Youth Worker Cyril Brown said the young men and women are part of the Get Set for Work program, which helps school leavers aged 15 to 17 years prepare for employment, training or further education.

“BoysTown recognises a range of different options are required to cater for the diverse needs of young people and our Get Set for Work program emphasises practical tasks and learner interaction,” Mr Brown said.

“Young people spend 10 weeks working with BoysTown and TAFE, receiving accredited vocational training and help with their literacy, numeracy and social interaction skills.

“This group is four weeks into the program and, with the help of local arts facilitator and aerosol artist Christian Griffiths, aka Sauce, is helping to brighten up the Redlands PCYC.

There have already been some fantastic outcomes for participants in the program which BoysTown facilitates in the Redlands along with Logan, Acacia Ridge, and Ipswich.

“Along with traineeships, apprenticeships, employment, further training and going back to school, young people often demonstrate many positive personal changes,” Mr Brown said.

“By relating to and engaging in what they are being taught, their behaviour and interpersonal skills can improve out of sight.”

“We have employment consultants ready to look for jobs for these young people when they are ready and to get them assistance with clothes, transport, licences or anything else that may be creating a barrier to them finding work.

“Graduates from our most recent Get Set for Work have gone onto employment with the Redlands City Council and work in the childcare industry.”

The Queensland Department of Employment and Industrial Relations provides funds for Get Set for Work as part of the *Skilling Queenslanders for Work* Initiative.

BoysTown provides help and reassurance to those experiencing life challenges, including: physical and emotional abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, low literacy, long-term unemployment and mental illness. Young people can also obtain work, gain valuable work experience and vocational training, learn life skills and receive counselling.

Media Contact:

Kristy Porter – 07 3867 1386 or 0434 077 439

Jessica Tatzenko – 07 38371248 or 0434 077 478