



COMMUNITY & EDUCATION NEWS



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Focused on the needs of the community

– Chairman's Report 2015/16 –

It gives me great pleasure to present my first Chair's report. I would like to congratulate all those involved with the organisation including volunteers, staff, partners and supporting organisations who work tirelessly to deliver the programs and services across the communities we serve.

I am delighted to report that after a number of lean financial years, the organisation has turned a small profit and is in a stable financial position. A special thanks to Trish and her

management team, along with the Finance Committee, who have explored many options and executed agreed plans effectively to produce this result.

The board continues to focus on the future needs of the community, the markets in which Djerriwarrh competes and the availability of funding to support the services provided.

A special note of thanks to the past chair Peter O'Brien, who established many best practices for the Board. His ongoing leadership of the Governance Committee has ensured the board is constantly learning and

improving. Peter has also provided Trish and the management team with many hours of leadership identifying and evaluating organisational risks and subsequent remediation.

To Trish and her management team, staff and volunteers, THANK YOU! You are the people that make Djerriwarrh so great. After celebrating the 25-year anniversary last year I am excited about what the next 25 years may hold for Djerriwarrh and the communities it serves.

Finally, thanks to my fellow board members who volunteer and dedicate their time and expertise each

month to ensure that Djerriwarrh remains a progressive and caring organisation. I look forward to working with each of you again during the next 12 months.

I am also very thankful for the opportunity to work with the whole team at Djerriwarrh and look forward to seeing the growth and successes attained in the coming year ahead.

Ian Pearce



EXCLUSIVE GRANT RECEIVED FOR A NEW TOYOTA PRIUS FOR L2P PAGE 3



Have trouble knowing where to start with your computer? Scared to even turn it on?

Let us help you to start enjoying the endless possibilities of your Personal Computer/tablet.

Understand and use the common features including: Keyboard and mouse functions, Navigating the desktop, Typing letters and documents using Microsoft Word, Saving and deleting files, Basic internet navigation, Setting up an email account and sending emails to friends and family, How to operate your tablet/iPad and Apps training – Centrelink/MyGov & Etax.

For enrolment information please call: Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services (03) 8746 1000.

**NEW COURSES
Commencing
in 2017**

Location: 239 Station Road,
Melton VIC 3337

Board Directors



Chair **Ian Pearce**



Treasurer **Doris Cunningham**



Secretary **Peter Blunden**



Director **Don Nardella**



Director **Peter O'Brien**



Director **Christine Pilbeam**

Visit www.djerriwarrh.org.au for the latest **course information**

VISION

(Our vision for the community we serve)

Self-reliant people, strong communities.

MISSION

Djerriwarrh provides programs to advance individual and community growth.

Our Approach

Djerriwarrh is a leading not for profit community provider working closely with individuals, families and their communities to provide opportunity, direction and self-sufficiency.

We do this by:

1. Providing high quality learning opportunities.
2. Providing access to high quality youth support services.
3. Supporting individuals to re-engage with education,

- training, employment, family and the broader community.
4. Responding and adapting to community needs.
5. Working in partnership with other organisations.

Community benefits from our great partnerships



- CEOs Report 2015/16 -

2015-2016 saw Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services consolidate after a significant organisational restructure and reallocation of resources which contributed to Djerriwarrh achieving a surplus for the financial year.

Some highlights from 2015-2016:

- Work for the Dole Coordinator Services delivered services for the first year of a five year contract. The Work for the Dole Coordinator Services team initiated and developed strong relationships with not for profit organisations across the Western Melbourne Region as well collaborative working relationships with staff from the six jobactives in the Region.
 - Through funding provided by School Focused Youth Service, Djerriwarrh in partnership with the Brimbank Melton Local Learning and Employment Network, facilitated the Youth Expo and launched the Youth Directories for Brimbank and Melton City Councils on 8 September 2015.
 - The three growing pre accredited delivery programs: Aboriginal Parenting Program; Bhutanese Community Engagement Program; and, the Introduction to Horticulture for the Burmese Community.
 - In 2016 the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) expanded from one to two classes in Melton.
 - Djerriwarrh was able to purchase a new car for L2P as a result of a successful submission to the 2015 The Club Caroline Springs Supplementary Grants Program in partnership with Melton City Council.
 - School Focused Youth Services was given a respite from the Victorian Government and Djerriwarrh received a new two year contract which commenced 1 January 2016.
- On 6 May 2016, Minister for Training and Skills, Stephen Herbert, announced that Djerriwarrh was successful in its submission for funding for Reconnect Engage and Learning Support which is targeted at young people aged 15 to 24 years in the local government areas of Brimbank and Melton.
 - Learning for Employment expanded their delivery of Skills for Education and Employment in Melton.
 - Djerriwarrh recruited new staff that have enhanced and strengthened the culture of the organisation.
- Djerriwarrh is fortunate to have great partner organisations that enable us to offer a broader range of services to its local communities. Programs that Djerriwarrh delivers in partnership with other not for profit organisations include: Skills for Education and Employment; School Focused Youth Services; Springboard; and Reconnect Engage and Learning Support.
- The organisation's success is a reflection of the loyal and committed staff we have. I wish to acknowledge and thank all staff for their contributions to Djerriwarrh. I wish to acknowledge the following senior staff for their support in my role as CEO, the Operations Manager, Anita Cutler and Managers, Patricia Sacco, Roma Pedersen, Maree Morgan and Coordinator Simon Harris.
- Thank you also to Djerriwarrh's Chair, Ian Pearce and the Board for their support and leadership of Djerriwarrh.

Trish Heffernan



Trainer Leslee Rees with her Education Support class

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Vocational Education and Training

162 students have completed their full certificates

- Maree Morgan -

In 2015-2016 there were 224 enrolments into programs in Melton, Sunshine and Sunbury. To date 162 students have completed their full certificates with a further 62 students in the process of completing in the

2016-2017 year. Courses include Course in Initial General Education for Adults, Certificate II in Community Services, Certificate III in Early Childhood Education and Care, Certificate III in Education Support, Certificate III in Aged Care,

Certificate IV in Disability and Certificate IV in Training and Assessment. Accredited training is delivered with Victorian and Commonwealth Government funding under the Higher Education Skills Group (HESG) and fee for service.

OUR CORE VALUES

- CARING**
We provide a safe and welcoming environment.
- INCLUSIVE**
We put people first and help them to feel valued.
- ADAPTABLE**
We aspire to respond to individual and community needs in a creative and flexible way.
- RESPECTFUL**
We treat all people fairly and equally and follow through on our commitments.
- ACCOUNTABLE**
We are responsible and answerable for our decisions and actions.

Djerriwarrh acknowledge financial support from

- Adult Community and Further Education
- Department of Employment (Australian Government)
- Brimbank Melton Local Learning and Employment Network
- Cancer Council
- Department of Education and Training (Australian Government)
- Department of Education and Training (Victorian Government)
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Melton City Council
- Vic Roads



Left to right: Catalina Tanner, Ray Parsons, Joy Lawn, Gary King, Phil Middlemast, Sophie Ramsey, Trish Heffernan, Marina Adam, Steve Thompson, Jan Webb, Danielle Burston, Kim Leech and Bob Turner.

Launch of the new L2P car

– Kim Leech –

The Melton/Moorabool L2P Learner Driver Mentor Program successfully brought together community volunteer mentors and disadvantaged local learner drivers to achieve 16 probationary driving licences over the 2015-2016 financial year. During this period, 72 local youth accessed L2P and were supported by 45 community volunteer driver mentors. Over 2100 hours of driving was provided to the L2P participants in our municipalities for the year. At the end of June 2016 the program had achieved 99 licences since L2P commenced in 2010. Djerriwarrh successfully applied to The Club Caroline Springs Supplementary Grants Program in partnership with Melton City Council for funds to purchase a new car for L2P.

L2P purchased the new car, a Toyota Prius, from Melton Toyota at cost with ongoing sponsored servicing. The launch of the new car coincided with National Volunteer Week celebrations on May 10th 2016 at Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services. The L2P program has been guaranteed TAC funding supported by VicRoads until June 2019. Our Melton/Moorabool program is proudly supported by Melton City Council, Moorabool Shire Council, Melton Toyota, Harrison Hyundai, Victoria Police, IMO car wash, Bacchus Marsh Workwear and Safety and Bacchus Marsh Rotary.

Community volunteer driver mentors who have contributed their time and skills in mentoring the learner drivers are listed below.

Marina **ADAM**, Colin **BREGUET**, Travis **BRUNT**, Paul **CANVERT**, Kylie **CHARLESON**, Shirley **CORCORAN**, John **DE BORTOLI**, Colleen **DOWNIE**, Matt **EGAN**, Helen **FOWLER**, Kay **FROST**, George **GREAVES**, Razzaq **HACHIM**, Lalitha **JALATHGE**, Dianne **JONES**, Shilpa **KANAKATTI**, Khem **KHANAL**, Gary **KING**, Ken **KING**, Joy **LAWN**, Kim **LEECH**, Al **LOYCONER**, Robert **MCCANN**, Brent **MCGRATH**, Martin **MERRY**, Phillip **MIDDLEMAST**, Maree **MORGAN**, Elvis **PEREIRA**, Rosalie **PIERCE**, Adrian **PITT**, Terry **ROSEWARNE**, Janelle **SHEEN**, Wendy **SMITH**, Andrew **STEVENSON**, Steve **STAUNTON**, Brigid **SULLIVAN**, Jan **SZOSTAK**, Katalina **TANNER**, Robert **TURNER**, Shane **WARWICK**



Short course sensations

– Renae Knight –

Djerriwarrh is a proud provider of Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE). Since becoming an ACFE provider in Melton in 1994 and in Sunbury in 1999, Djerriwarrh has offered a wide variety of pre-accredited short courses to these communities with the aim of providing pathways to further education and employment.

During 2015-16, there were in excess of 670 enrolments which equated to more than 31,000 pre-accredited student contact hours funded by ACFE delivered in Melton, Sunshine and Sunbury.

The courses were many and varied and included computer courses, Office Administration, Café Skills, English, Career Development, Introduction to Community Services and Healthy Cooking. The Hospitality courses continue to grow in popularity and are delivered through Djerriwarrh's industrial kitchen in Melton. Djerriwarrh has also responded to the growing need for short pre-accredited English courses by extending our offerings. There were around 265 enrolments for other short courses. These included Responsible Service of Alcohol, Follow Hygiene Practices for Food Safety, Prepare and Serve Espresso Coffee and First Aid. There were also 36 enrolments for the compulsory Drink Drive program with 76 assessments completed.



Having attended the SEE program in Djerriwarrh, I have learned a lot of important and necessary things that help an immigrant like me to settle into daily life. English classes with qualified and enthusiastic teachers aid my English improving, especially my ability to communicate day by day. They help me to understand life in Australia, my second country and everything related to it. I am provided skills to start a new life successfully, including how to get an appropriate job. In addition, Djerriwarrh gives me a chance to make friends with people from different cultures and countries all over the world. I believe when finishing SEE program, I will be ready to become an active member of society and someday soon a citizen of this beautiful country.

Hoan



I am so happy to study in the SEE Program at Djerriwarrh. I can study English and learn about employment here, my teacher is Ama, she is lovely and friendly. She helps me and my class to improve English in an easy and funny way. I have learnt more about communicating with others, how to use the computer, writing reports and form filling. Djerriwarrh and Ama support our learning and goals. We also have lots of excursions and see interesting places in Australia that I never knew before. When I started studying in Djerriwarrh I made new friends from other countries. I can understand different cultures and we can share different stories together. I'm nearly finished my hours here and after that I want to study beauty but Djerriwarrh and Ama will always be in my heart.

Mai Nguyen

EDUCATION AND TRAINING The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program

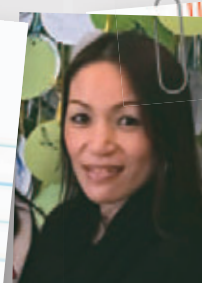
Student perspectives on SEE

Students write about their experience in the SEE program



I have learnt so much at Djerriwarrh. I can report on my own language progress and this is because I enjoy learning how to improve my communication skills. This gives me confidence to speak in public places. I can also read the news on the computer, writing a complaint letter and going to the library once a week to research and learn how to use books and other facilities. We have conversation class and this helps us to relax and enjoy each others company. Class excursions also help us to become aware of different places within Melbourne.

Thanh My To



I have been in the SEE Program for about 679 hours at Djerriwarrh. Before I came to this organization I didn't know how to look for a job on the computer or how to write a report or a complaint letter. Now I feel more confident to make an appointment by phone and search a variety of jobs on the internet by using the computer. When I need help I know where to go and what to use such as understanding other government programs that I learnt from studying in the SEE Program. I think this program is very effective. It has helped me to become more confident to pursue my goals.

Lieu Le



Springboard participant
Jamie Burgess.


Young people spring into education

– Tegan Pain –

The Springboard program is a Department of Health & Human Services funded program which Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services delivers in a consortium with WCIG and IMVC in the Western suburbs

of Melbourne. Springboard is a program for young people from the ages of 16 to 21 years who are currently in Out of Home Care (Residential Care) or have experienced time in Residential Care. The program is designed

to assist some of our most disadvantaged young people move into areas of education and employment. Springboard creates pathways for the young people to move into further studies or employment.



I remember, one day last September in 2015 I jumped on the Djerriwarrh Bus. My first day with new faces and new friends and a special new teacher as well.

I have a lot experience at Djerriwarrh. I have improved my English skills immensely. I learnt how to communicate with people. I shared my experiences with other cultures. I enjoyed when I went out with my class and other classes as well. Every Thursday my class has computers in the first period of the day.

Now the Bus nearby my Bus stop. I want to thank you for your smile, sharing with others your teaching, your time and everything since last September.

I know that is hard to say goodbye. But, I have to. Thank you for coming on a journey with us. I thought for myself I will learn and learn more and more.

Hai Pham



I learn English to help me communicate with people within my community and society. I can now talk to people comfortably.

Education and language will help me find a job. Djerriwarrh allows everyone of all cultures to work together and try to improve their language learning skills. The SEE program has given me the opportunity to succeed by giving me more confidence in my abilities as a second language learner.

Hamid


My name is Thein Tungsabawi. I have been in the program for eight months at Djerriwarrh Community and Education services. I am very happy because at Djerriwarrh the teachers help student develop high communication Skills.

I have improved my English skills Such as reading and writing .I have to write about my week and also write reports. This helps me improve And I am happy.

I want to learn more English because this program is only 800 hours and it is very short for me. Learning English is very important for people.

Some people don't want to learn English but this will disadvantage them later on in the future.

Thein Tungsabawi



LfE continues to be a quality provider

– Kirsti Campbell-Gillingham –

Learning for Employment (LfE) consortium assisted 1,823 eligible jobseekers in the Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) 2015-2016.

Djerriwarrh is the lead agent for the LfE Consortium which comprises 7 organisations, spans 3 Service Delivery Areas (Westgate, Geelong and Calder), and delivers the SEE program across 24 sites.

SEE is a hugely successful and effective program. Many students who have strengthened their language, literacy and numeracy skills in the SEE program, have gone on to participate in further education, employment and voluntary work.

LfE continues to be a quality provider and has met benchmark targets in all 4 KPIs which address Participation, Attainment, Accurate Assessment and Quality Training. We do this by continuous moderation, evaluation, and participation in professional development. We have dedicated and highly skilled educators and administrative staff

who ensure students are receiving valuable and contextualised training.

Over the last financial year LfE was offered a contract extension for an additional year in all our service delivery areas. The contract has been extended to June 30 2017. LfE also developed additional teaching and assessing resources, created new marketing collateral and implemented a new Stakeholder Engagement plan to meet the needs of the jobactive referring agencies.

LfE continued to be represented at the Victorian SEE Provider Network, the Jobs Australia SEE Provider Network and was one of two providers selected to host the Department of Education and Training National Office staff for a site visit and discussion of the SEE program.

LfE consortium members include: Comm Unity Plus, Djerriwarrh, Laverton Community Integrated Services, WCIG, Williamstown Community and Education Centre, Wyndham Community & Education Centre and Yarraville Community Centre.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning

Djerriwarrh's VCAL class a success

– Adele Ouslinis –

The VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) is a hands-on option for years 10, 11 and 12 students, offering practical work-related experience and

learning. The VCAL program curriculum includes Literacy, Numeracy, Personal Development Skills, Work Related Skills and Industry Specific Skills. In 2015 Djerriwarrh's VCAL students completed Certificate II in

Community Services and in 2016 they are completing Certificate II in Hospitality. As well as the teaching staff, Djerriwarrh has access to a youth worker for welfare and support.



VCAL students left to right: Blake Mitchell, Joshua McGrath, Hayden Champion-Silver, Colin Robertson, Samuel Marks-Green & Brooke Armstrong.

We were all involved in many activities

Students – Crystal Keeping and Isabella Baldacchino –

“This year within VCAL at Djerriwarrh we had many opportunities to strive and achieve our goals. We were all involved in many activities such as a Scavenger Hunt in Melton and the City of Melbourne as part of our numeracy studies. We have also attended fun excursions such as Melbourne Gaol, Graffiti Lanes and Melbourne Art galleries which were inspiring. We have also learnt a lot about educational goals and pathways in further education where we have all attended work experience and learnt how to write resumes and apply for jobs. Overall VCAL has been a fun learning hands on experience.”

Jamii Burgess referred herself to the program and shortly after enrolled in a Certificate III in Children's Services with Djerriwarrh Community & Education Services. She has recently secured a computer package from Springboard which will assist

her to complete her studies and any homework. Jamii has a bright future ahead of her and Springboard will provide the necessary assistance to ensure she has a head start in her career.



Michelle's career change

– Kathi Parer –

Education Support graduate Michelle Brown and a student from Melton West primary School.

Michelle had a background in retail, two young children and was looking for a career change when she came to Djerriwarrh. She was living in Melton and working in Williamstown and she wanted something closer to home that would allow her to spend more time with her

children. 'My older children are 26 and 23 and I worked full time when they were growing up. I didn't want to do that with my younger children.'
'I did a computer course at Djerriwarrh first because I wasn't good at computers. I didn't know what to do next

'Kim Loves Life' selected as innovative teaching project

– Natalie Nawrocki –

Natalie Nawrocki's 'Kim Loves Life' EAL reader was selected as a 'Learn Local Project - Showcasing Innovation in Teaching Practice'. Funded by Adult Community and Further Education (ACFE), this initiative set out to select 8 innovative teaching projects Victoria wide, showcasing projects via YouTube.

The reader 'Kim Loves Life' aims to raise awareness, educate and inform newly arrived and immigrant women in Victoria about the availability of cancer screening information and services in their local area. The story itself was inspired by true experiences of Djerriwarrh Operations Manager, Anita Cutler.

The Learn Local Showcase recognises the commitment and belief that Natalie, Catherine Daniels, Hayrettin Uyar, Amatullah Motakis and Graeme Jensen. Along with other projects, the 'Kim Loves Life' video will be showcased on the YouTube channel 'Learn Local - Showcasing Innovation in Teaching Practice' later this year, inspiring teaching practice and supporting professional development. Learn Local will be showcasing the innovative projects in a community event late 2016.

In 2015 Djerriwarrh secured a second grant, growing the project to include the 'Kim Loves Life' Teacher Activities Resource, developed and

collated by SEE teachers, Natalie, Catherine Daniels, Hayrettin Uyar, Amatullah Motakis and Graeme Jensen. Along with other projects, the 'Kim Loves Life' video will be showcased on the YouTube channel 'Learn Local - Showcasing Innovation in Teaching Practice' later this year, inspiring teaching practice and supporting professional development. Learn Local will be showcasing the innovative projects in a community event late 2016.



Natalie Nawrocki with her EAL reader 'Kim Loves Life'



Caryl McFadden



Maree Morgan



Roma Pedersen and Sisay Dinku

EDUCATION & TRAINING SKILLS FOR EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT (SEE) PROGRAM

Improving language, literacy and numeracy

– Patricia Sacco –

- The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) program is funded by the Department of Education and Training. Djerriwarrh assists eligible jobseekers in the SEE program to improve their language, literacy and numeracy skills for education and employment in either part time or full time training.
- As lead agent and member of the Learning for Employment consortium, Djerriwarrh

- commenced 335 students in Sunshine and Melton in the program (2015-2016).
- Djerriwarrh SEE provided both Initial and Basic streams of training to newly commenced and existing students.
- In the first year of the new employment services jobactive, Djerriwarrh grew strong relationships with existing and new jobactive providers across Melton and Brimbank, supporting job seekers' pathway to training and employment.

- A team of 14 dedicated and experienced teachers delivered dynamic skills based training, supporting students' pathway to further training and employment.
- A Pre-Training Assessment (PTA) team of 7 experienced assessors administered PTAs weekly to determine and recommend student training in the program.



Student Anab Dit (L) with teacher Ilkay Yilmaz (R)



Student: Achol Adut

but I didn't want to go back into retail.' A friend suggested to Michelle, that she might be interested in being a Teacher's Aide. Michelle's younger children were 13 and 7 and she had often helped out at their school. She had always enjoyed doing things like hearing reading.

Michelle enrolled in Djerriwarrh's Certificate III in Education Support and has not looked back.

She did her placement at Melton West Primary School and started working there before she finished her course. 'The trainer Leslee was terrific. She was patient

and always went through everything until everyone understood. I was also very lucky with my mentor at my placement. She was very experienced and showed me the right way to do things.' Once she started working, Michelle was able to fit completing the course

in around her work hours. With current work experience and the certificate, she is well set up in a growing profession. 'I love the work. It is so rewarding. I would never have thought I would work in a school but here I am. Even the computer course has been useful as

I need to use computers in my new job. At the school I get to do professional development with the teachers, so I am always learning. Every child is different and every day there is some new challenge but I enjoy it.'

COMMUNITY HOUSE PARTICIPANTS COME FROM DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS AND CULTURES



Tegan Pain, Anita Meredith and Lee Martin



Kelly Meehan

The 'Biggest Morning Tea'

– Renae Knight –

Funded by the Victorian State Government, Djerriwarrh's Community House continued to provide a welcoming space for individuals and groups to connect with one another. The House was home to many programs during 2015-2016 including: Alcoholics Anonymous, the Dinka Language School, Sudanese Young Men's Group, Chin Community Playgroup supported by MacKillop Family Services, Indigenous Men's Group, Women's Friendship Café, Country Women's Association Owls Night Branch, CoHealth – Healthy Eating Active Learning Program, The Compassionate Friends, CoHealth Gardening Group, Merrimu Gardening Group and the Anglican Church of South Sudan. Regular meetings were also held in the Community House by Satellite Housing,

Melton Thoroughbred Co-operative and The Colonials Housing Co-operative.

Djerriwarrh strives each and every day to attain its vision of 'Self-reliant people, strong communities' by supporting community groups and providing opportunities for individuals to connect with each other.

The Community Garden continues to be a space for people to come and tend to the garden both in structured groups and at their leisure. The garden is an incredible asset to Djerriwarrh and the Melton community and, together with the Community House, plays host to events and gatherings throughout the year. One of the most significant events held during 2015-16 was The Biggest Morning Tea. This event was

held during Volunteer Week in May 2016 and attracted in excess of 90 attendees. The morning tea was a wonderful opportunity to open up the Community House to all of our community groups, community programs, students, staff, partners and stakeholders. Catered for by our hospitality trainer Jen and the hospitality students, the morning tea was a huge success and raised more than \$600 towards the Cancer Council. Perhaps the greatest success factor was the number of people who attended and the opportunity that the morning provided for people from all different backgrounds and walks of life to come together, share stories, share food and participate in lots of activities. Djerriwarrh is proud to host events like these as they are, not only for a good cause, but also strengthen our community.

Chin playgroup

– Kathi Parer –

The Chin community playgroup meets once a week at Djerriwarrh's Community House. Over the life of the program there have been about 25 families involved and many of them have 3 or 4 children.

The group has regular speakers on a diverse range of topics.

The goal is to build their capacity, skills and knowledge and help them settle into Australian life.

As well as English classes there have been sessions on writing resumes setting up bank accounts, getting drivers' licences and learning to sew. They have had presentations from school and kinder teachers and been informed about the City of Melton's early childhood services. They have had sessions on safe bike riding as many of the children ride to school, and there have even been sessions on packing school

lunch boxes.

The playgroup has been facilitated by MacKillop Family Services with the aid of a Chin speaking community worker since 2013. At the end of June 2016, MacKillop Family Services were pleased to step back from running the group. The long term goal had always been for the group to become self sustaining and it is now self reliant and successfully run by the families themselves. Their need for interpreting had reduced because their English has improved but they continue to use the Djerriwarrh Community House. They are still engaging with local organisations to support their settlement in Australia. Djerriwarrh is proud to be able to support the Chin Community Playgroup and is delighted to see the playgroup grow and develop into such a successful self reliant community group.



Work for the Dole Coordinators Service – Western Melbourne region

– Roma Pedersen –

The Work for the Dole (WfD) program places job seekers in activities where they can gain skills and experience that can help them find a job while giving back to the community. Activities can be hosted by not for profit organisations and government agencies. The program gives organisations an extra set of hands to help to undertake activities that would not normally be achieved.

The Djerriwarrh WfD Coordinators work with host organisations to identify suitable activities and provide ongoing guidance and support for the duration of the WfD placement. During the 2015/16 period Djerriwarrh's WfD Coordinators had 173 activities with 1881 places available for referral.

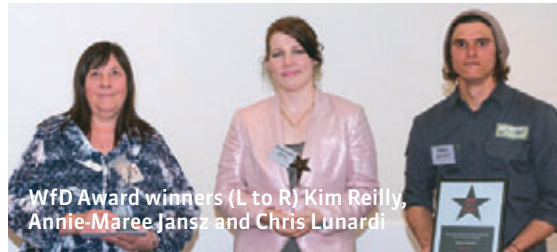


Celebrating the success of Work for the Dole

To celebrate our first year as the Work for the Dole Coordinators for the Western Melbourne region Djerriwarrh wanted to acknowledge our hosts and showcase some of their outstanding activities. To do this, we held a Red Carpet Awards event at the Grand Star Reception Centre in Altona, on Thursday 8th September 2016.



Work for the Dole staff (L to R) Melanie McGrath, Sara Aygur Spencer, Shahmala Subramanian, Roma Pedersen and Anita Meredith.



WfD Award winners (L to R) Kim Reilly, Annie-Maree Jansz and Chris Lunardi.

Attended by representatives from the Department of Employment, the six jobactive providers for the Western Melbourne Region and many WfD host representatives, the event was co-hosted by Roma Pedersen, WfD Coordinator Services Manager for Djerriwarrh and Councillor Sophie Ramsey from the City of Melton.

There were five award categories and of the many wonderful nominations received, the following hosts were recognised for their exceptional efforts in the Work for the Dole program:

Most Outstanding Individual Placement Activity

First Place: Seabrook Primary School

Second Place: Community Care World Mission Ltd

Third Place: Altona Senior Citizens' Centre

Most Outstanding Group Placement Activity

First Place: Mt Rothwell Landcare Volunteers Inc

Second Place: Maddingley Park Committee of Management

Third Place: Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre

Most Outstanding Work-Like Experience Activity

First Place: Community Care World Mission Ltd

Second Place: Altona Senior Citizens' Centre

Third Place: The Shine Project Ltd

Most Outstanding Community Benefit Activity

First Place: The Shine Project Ltd

Second Place: Community Care World Mission

Third Place: Altona Senior Citizens' Centre



Host Organisation of the Year

First Place: Louis Joel Arts & Community Centre – This organisation provided a thorough induction process, appropriate supervision and communication and was compliant in all the necessary areas such as health and safety. They also went above and beyond by referring other organisations to the Djerriwarrh Coordinators. Additionally, they provided administration assistance to the Altona Senior Citizens' Centre, enabling them to run their Hospitality Activity and produce their cookbook.

Second Place: Community Care World Mission Ltd

Third Place: Mt Rothwell Landcare Volunteers Inc

Thank You

Thank you to all the organisations that supported Djerriwarrh students on work experience or work placement.

Consortium Members and Partners

Brimbank Melton Local Learning and Employment Network, Comm Unity Plus, Distinctive Options, Good Shepherd Australia and New Zealand, IMVC, Laverton Community Integrated Services, Melton City Council, Melton South Community Centre, Melton Specialist School, Merrimu Services, Shire of Moorabool, WCIG, Western Health, Williamstown Community & Education Centre, Wyndham Community & Education Centre and Yarraville Community Centre.

Staff

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Volunteers

Classroom Volunteers

Asero NGUMA, Kate GRANG and Shahed AHMED

Admin Volunteer

Yi Yun GONG

Neighbourhood House Volunteers

Khem KHANAL, Vanessa WRIGHT, Evelyn MEIJER, Lorraine COELHO, Carmen MARKS, Susan MARSHALL, Michael MARSHALL, Sabrina URBAN and Carol WALTERS.

Our friendly staff are here to help

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