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“THE LITTLE FREE LIBRARY”- EST PROJECT

CAIRNS, QLD

A group of students in Atherton, who completed PaTH Employability Skills Training, have successfully set up a Little Free Library at The Cottage Café, Tolga, as part of an enterprise learning project. The goals of the project were to encourage reading and create community engagement.

The Little Free Library opened on 1st February and included a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Café Manager and Little Free Library Steward, Joshua Wallace, officially opened the library. Local Mayor, Mr Joe Paronella and Local State Member, Shane Knuth, assisted in the opening. Each participant composed and presented a short speech – which included a famous quote from a noted author. The Mayor praised the participants for their speeches and for taking an initiative which improves access to reading. Later, NJL PaTH participants had the opportunity to directly talk to the local Council, with afternoon tea provided. In the time leading up to week 3, the students created and distributed flyers to local charities and businesses– calling for donations of classic novels and favourite books.

Cairns NJL Trainer, Julia Marr, says; “We soon had an oversupply of books. The whole community got on board after seeing the media article”.

The participants learned a range of employment skills during the ELP, including: creating brochures and bookmarks, using business technology, writing a media release, interpreting plans to construct the cabinet, problem solving and finding strategies to meet the deadline.

Our Little Free Library was listed worldwide, they are a global phenomenon, numbering 60,000 around the world in 80 countries. The Tablelander Newspaper, featured an article about the project on Tuesday, January 30, 2018.



NEW NJL HOBART OFFICE

HOBART, TAS

The PaTH Employability Skills Training has been keeping NJL busy in Southern Tasmania so there was a need to expand our team and secure an office. Late in 2017, Emma, Troy and Heather from our management team took a trip down from Launceston to have a look at suitable office locations and to take the new Hobart team out for a team lunch.

This was a great opportunity for our new Hobart staff members meet some of the NJL management. NJL will be running PaTH Block 1 and 2 courses at various locations around Southern TAS. We have moved into our new office at Moonah and are now all systems go with running the EST courses.



MUAY THAI GETS UNEMPLOYED PARTICIPANTS MOTIVATED

ROCKHAMPTON, QLD

NJL have a group of young people attending for Jobreadiness training, however, it was also identified that this particular group, disengaged, very shy and needed development with social interaction skills especially around approaching potential employers. It was discussed with group if they would be interested in doing some physical activity to get them energized and build their confidence. Our Rocky City site had heard about a place called The Snake Pitt where they train in Muay Thai boxing. After discussions with the Snake Pit, NJL Mentor organized a group of 6 to train together 2 days a week for 4 weeks initially.

After two sessions it was evident that these young people were growing in confidence and starting to communicate more effectively and really open up about what they could see themselves doing in the future. Over the next few weeks the group had made even more progress, our TTW mentors were visiting with the group each week to continue to support them and discuss career pathways.

Now that the 4 weeks is complete the participants have made a commitment to continue to attend this training and the results really do speak for themselves, with 1 going back to education, 2 into training and 2 actively undertaking training and looking for employment. A big thanks to the Snake Pit and well done to our young people!



LOW ROPES COURSE

CAIRNS, QLD

NJL's PaTH -Employability Skills Training participants recently completed an exciting "Low Ropes Course" in Redlynch. The adventure- based program provided an opportunity for participants to work together and play an active part in their own learning; by setting goals and looking out for others in their team.

The opportunities for learning in this activity included teambuilding, communication, personal choices and problem-solving skills. In February, eleven participants braved the challenging course, which is highly supervised. Feedback from students and trainers was excellent. Our NJL Trainer reported that, "...doing the low ropes and going out to a place they have never been to just helps them break that barrier and overcome fears. It also helps them to get to know each other a lot more."

Driving rain and a thunderstorm did nothing to break their spirits, with each team looking out for each other to support, encourage and help each other to the ground. NJL Cairns is planning to provide more adventure-learning activities soon.



GOOD NEWS STORY – REANNA JAKUBOWSKI GAWLER, SA



When doing the PaTH Employability Skills program with NJL in Gawler, I gained three new resumes and three new cover letters. I also gained more confidence, with the support from the trainers. It was very hard in the past to get my Learners Licence. I always got very nervous and would always put myself down saying I would never get it. After doing the four-day Learners driver course, I felt ready. I could remember everything I had learnt. I told myself I can pass this, and I did I, got my L's.

The trainers at NJL for the Learner Drivers Program did a very good job at teaching me all the rules and assisting me by going over it a few times. Getting my Learner's Licence was one step forward towards all my goals. Now I have brought myself a car and have done 35 hours of driving. I am looking forward to starting lesson with a driving instructor soon and have even been for a job interview.

GOOD NEWS STORY – DION RILEY DEVONPORT, TAS



When Dion commenced with NJL he was working on a casual basis and seeking additional employment. Dion obtained a position in the agriculture industry and it was indicated to him that the work would be consistent and ongoing. With the view of ongoing employment, he ceased his original casual position. As time progressed Dion's hours in his new role reduced to the point he found himself having to look for work again. Being unemployed he started to feel the impacts of bills piling up, having his phone disconnected and then he also lost his driver's licence.

As time passed and after handing out many resumes with no result, Dion began feeling the stress that seeking employment can bring and began to disengage from TtW services. As Dion was due to exit TtW after 52 weeks of service, NJL helped Dion by cold-cavassing employers and provided Wage Subsidy and Incentives information to employers who were interested. That night Dion received a call from TFD offering him a position commencing the next day as a Joiner. Now Dion is a few months into his job, is paying off his debts, has his driver's licence back and planning his future.

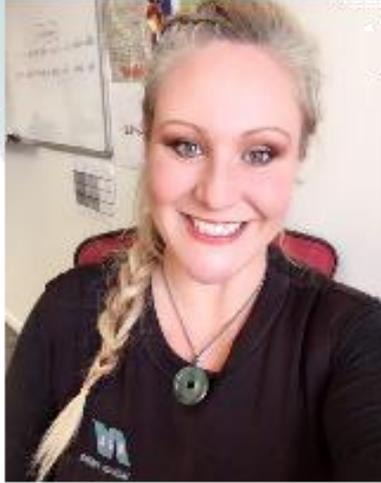
PING PONG CHALLENGE- EST ROCKHAMPTON, QLD

The aim of this activity held recently in Rockhampton in an EST Block 2, was for the group of 19 young people to use their communication skills and to work together as they lifted the ball off the podium and moved it to another podium location with the use of the resources provided. This created a lot of fun and frustration.

There was lots of learning around this activity as the participants had to be constantly solving problems, they had to communicate plus they needed to be very much aware that they were all responsible for lifting this ball and relocating it. This aim was met, the group did work together as a team and they all learnt how valuable communication in the workplace is.



MEET OUR TEAM!



Stacey Carter

Rockhampton – QLD

I am passionate about people and their development and have been lucky enough to be a part of the NJL Rockhampton team for the last 10 months as an EST trainer.

I have a background in Job Active as the Group Facilitator, running hourly sessions on employability skills to Jobseekers and prior to that was the Sales Manager for Vita (a Telstra branded store).

There I developed my team to achieve results through coaching and creative training around customer engagement and solution-based sales skills. I am looking forward to contributing to NJL's continued success and growth in the future and love the versatility of the contracts NJL provides. I hope to be a part of the NJL team for a long time.



Julia Marr

Cairns – QLD

Hi, my name is Julia and I am a Youth Trainer (EST) for National Joblink. I have worked with NJL for over 12 months now and I am really enjoying the results of the programs and appreciating the benefits of the EST for youth in Cairns region.

I have facilitated Block 1 and 2 Training, plus run a successful Barista course, during my term working with NJL.

As a trainer and assessor for over 10 years, my knowledge has come from a passion for learning. I have completed many qualifications, including Assistant in Nursing, Screen and Television, Writing and Sound, Technical Production and hospitality. I also ran a café with my husband for 3 years. I like the EST programs because they help build confidence to a group who need to be guided and the Enterprise Learning Projects really help to bring all known skills together, to produce amazing results for the participants.

I look forward to the next adventure and believe we should all continue a lifetime of learning. The key to success is progress.



Heather King

Launceston – TAS

Hi, my name is Heather, I'm located in National Office in Launceston. I've been with NJL as Assistant Operations Manager for a little over six months. My role covers HR Management, overseeing EST and managing a small team of TTW Youth Mentors. If you drop into the Launceston office, you may just meet my friendly dog who loves coming to work and getting cuddles and pats from our participants.

I have previously working in Job Active, HR, Customer Service and Child Care. When I'm not at NJL I'm being a Mum to an energetic toddler and out discovering other parts of Tasmania. I love working within the NJL family and enjoy coming to work each day.