

NJL Commits to Child Safety

During August National Joblink formalised their commitment to becoming a Child Safe Organisation. NJL has a culture of child safety and wellbeing based on the 10 National Principles of Child Safe Organisations. The principles are embedded in every aspect of our organisation to uphold our responsibilities to children. NJL want to ensure that every person who joins our service feels welcome, respected, and safe but especially children who have an extra layer of vulnerability.

NJL's newly formed Child Safe Committee will carry out an annual survey of stakeholders which includes participants, staff, community service providers, community members and families to gain feedback into our Strategy and Policy review. We also collaborate with children and young people around any organisational decisions that may affect them. We have defined

practices in our policies around the importance of culturally safe environments and practices for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people.



NJL's Learner Driver Training

NJL is thrilled to announce the launch of their brand-new initiative in Cairns - the NJL Driving School. The 'NJL Driving Program' was developed in response to the need to address a major barrier to youth employment – access to transport. Cairns features highly in regional unemployment statistics. Many young people are willing to work, however lack the ability to get to and from the workplace. Furthermore, many are disadvantaged by not having access to a car or mentor to support them in building the mandatory 100 hours of supervised driving experience necessary to gain a license. NJL's aim is to help disadvantaged youth develop safe driving habits by providing access to:

- Driver training conducted in a relaxed learning environment
- Lessons with Accredited Driving Instructors & Experienced Mentors
- An NJL vehicle to undertake the driving test

Our Driving Instructor has had over 10 years of Youth/ Mentoring experience, specialising in building the skills and confidence that youth need to become good, safe drivers. "We focus on safety, building confidence and road smarts so when it comes time for them to go for their licence, they will be road ready, not just 'test' ready. We believe we can teach our students not only how to drive, but to drive with confidence and safety foremost in mind", stated James – NJL's very first accredited Driving Instructor.



Counselling Sessions Available

In collaboration with our Employee Assistance Program, Career Life Money, National Joblink has extended services to participants in the ParentsNext and Transition to Work programs. There is now a dedicated online portal that participants can access (with the help of staff) to book their own counselling sessions. Career Life Money have a range of psychologists for participants to choose from and the appointments can be held face to face, or by video or telephone, with little to no waiting time. National Joblink are excited to have launched this extra layer of service as we know it will help some of our most vulnerable participants that cannot otherwise access services locally or are on a public waiting list.



Sept 2020 In this edition:

- NJL Commits to Child Safety
- NJL's Learner Driver Training
- Counselling sessions available
- Mango Season
- NJL wins Regional Queensland Training Award
- Good News Stories
- Meet the Team

Mango Season gets a helping hand

The NJL Darwin office has been working hard with the local community supporting local businesses like NT Farmer's association for our upcoming Mango Season. Locally the mango season requires 2000 workers to support the 91 million tonnes of mangoes that are picked through the 6-week period. Historically the farms were supported by international backpackers however, with the current world climate Darwin currently has 10 farms that are in desperate need of workers. Harvest Trail Information Service is a Government service that connects workers with employers in harvest areas across Australia. We had the pleasure of closely connecting and marketing Harvest Trail to all our local job and employment providers. We received feedback after injecting ourselves to spread the word, that Harvest Trail have since been overwhelmed with local applications and interest. We are continuing to support Harvest Trail to get as many local Aussies out on the farms to ensure mangoes are stocked in all grocers come Summertime!



NT FARMERS ASSOCIATION- MANGO SEASON
Mango season hires 2000 workers with 10 local growers

Pay is \$24.36 p/h plus 9.5% super (overtime available once 304 hours reached)

6-8 weeks season-potential for ongoing work

Accommodation at most farms for a fee (approx \$25 per night)

Food is not provided however arrangements to grocery shop is available

Laundry facilities provided

10 hour work days with breaks based on legislation requirements

Transportation is negotiated with farm

Required: 2-4ltr water bottle, wide brim hat, enclosed shoes, sunscreen, long sleeve shirt

Declare earnings to Centrelink which will be applied at a calculated rate over the 6 weeks and subsidised

Register at www.thejobshop.com.au or <https://cited.com.au/territory-jobs-hub>

NJL Cairns wins Regional Queensland Training Award



NJL were announced the winners of the Regional Award of Community Training Initiative of the year for Far North Queensland.

Dreaming Big 2019 saw nine local Indigenous youth start and complete a Traineeship in Business, Film and Media. Major projects achieved by the Dream Team included:

- Writing, directing, filming, and editing the *Dreaming Big* documentary telling the stories of local indigenous heroes.
- Staging a public event: a NAIDOC Bush Tucker Dinner Theatre to premiere the documentary, including producing and managing a social media marketing campaign, arranging an indigenous talent and fashion parade showcasing local indigenous designers, creating and testing the menu, designing and completing the theming of the venue, assisting with lighting and sound design, working in food service, technical theatre, events management and clients services on the night.
- Composing and creating a VET jingle embedded in a three-hour playlist for BLA Careers Expo and working on site.
- Producing individual My Journey video stories.
- Assisting at the Queensland Training Awards 2019.

GOOD NEWS STORIES

Willow – Berserker, QLD

Willow first commenced with NJL in the Transition to Work (TTW) program in January 2017. She was low in confidence and initially she did not see any career pathway for herself and had low expectations for her future. NJL identified the first step towards success for Willow was to stabilise her accommodation and through a referral to the local YHARS program, this was achieved. NJL then assisted Willow with counselling and worked to engage her through job readiness group activities and individual appointments. Willow's confidence continued to grow. With a new haircut and new work clothes, she gained an interview which led to employment at a local Medical Centre in Administration. Two years later Willow returned to the TTW program at NJL. Through a skills assessment, it was identified that Willow would be suited to community service work. Willow enrolled into a Cert III in Community Services, which she completed this year. Willow was immediately offered casual work, and this was soon followed with an offer of full-time employment. The NJL Team are so excited for Willow who will not only have longevity in this industry but is now in a career that she has a passion for.



Grace – Launceston, TAS



Grace has been a participant in NJL's ParentsNext Program since 2018. NJL helped Grace to see her significant barriers as challenges, rather than a defining factor. To assist in building her confidence, NJL involved Grace in some family activities with other parents. Eventually Grace explained to NJL that she wanted to work towards being an Air Traffic Controller and NJL encouraged her to follow her dream. One of the job requirements is to have a pilot's licence which is expensive to obtain. This meant that Grace had to save, but with the introduction of the COVID 19 payments it was possible to overcome the biggest hurdle to achieving her dream job! With much determination and with the support of NJL, Grace is now flying through the skies of Northern Tasmania and towards her dream! Grace describes NJL as a welcoming place that has provided hope and motivation on her journey.



Ori – Cairns, QLD

During a recent NJL Employability Skills Training (EST) Program at our Cairns office, NJL Trainer Julia contacted the CEO of the Newcastle Jets Soccer Club, Lawrie McKinna. Laurie gave a talk to one of our participants Ori, about his experiences. Lawrie has over 35 years' experience as a pro, whose life changed, he said, when he broke his leg at 35, which led him into coaching. Ori mentioned the same thing had recently happened to him. He also has big dreams to become a professional player, but that all changed when he broke his leg. When Ori heard Lawrie's story, he appeared to sit taller and they both connected. Ori was given advice on how to build his soccer network, further training and even steps to take to become a coach. This has inspired Ori to plan a trip to Brisbane for coach training. Now that COVID 19 restrictions have eased, Ori has re-commenced his paid coaching duties at the local Academy. The additional rest has also meant his leg has healed well enough for Ori to resume playing soccer.



MEET THE TEAM

Gail McClure – Engagement Mentor – Rockhampton, QLD

Hi, I am Gail from the Rockhampton Office. I have been employed with NJL from July 2018. Currently I am in the role of ParentsNext Mentor for our Outreach Clients who are located in the Yeppoon, Emerald and Woorabinda areas.

Before moving back to my local town Yeppoon, I was employed as a VET Manager in Emerald for five years.

Moving back to my hometown has been fantastic as I love the beach and catching up with old friends and going 4WDing to Five Rocks and surrounds. From the first day of not knowing what to expect I have enjoyed working with my participants so much and learning something new from every one of them. As a dedicated person I like to find out what each of my clients want from the program and try and make their goals become reality. I enjoy the positive and relaxed work environment at NJL Rockhampton and all my partners in crime.



Chris Gipp – Pre-employment Mentor, Darwin, NT

Hi, my name is Chris, and I have worked for NJL since February 2020. Previous to this role as an Employability Skills Training (EST) Mentor, I have worked as a Program Manager (Community Patrol Wadeye/ Port Keats NT) and as a Council Services Manager (Manyallaluk NT) and prior to that I served in the Australian Army for 15 years as both an Armoured Corp Commander and as a Senior Military and Regimental Instructor, I currently live in Darwin with my wife Erica, and my interests are mainly focused around my Origami, and trying not to kill the plants in the yard. I am originally from Victoria (don't hold that against me) but I have now lived in the Territory for over a decade.

Gabrielle Robertson – Youth Employment Mentor – Hobart, TAS

Hi, my name is Gabby and I joined the NJL Moonah crew in February 2019. As a Youth Employment Mentor in both ParentsNext and Employability Skills Training (EST) however I predominately work in ParentsNext.

I have a strong hospitality background having owned cafes here and in Melbourne, Victoria.

I have also worked in Recruiting, Horticulture and Banking at a branch level.

What I love about working for NJL is feeling like I can make a difference be it ever so small I am humbled inspired and challenged by our participants and supported by my co-workers as I am sure we all are. I am a mother of 3 of the most wonderful people you will ever meet (bias free statement) and the benevolent servant to Butter and Archie, a Labrador and Retriever respectively. I love to garden and to stay fit and I live in a strawbale house that my partner and I built.

