

### 2010 Pathways to Employment Grant Recipients

This year marks \$250,000 in grants to local employment-related projects since our official launch in February 2008. To date these grants have enabled more than 300 people across Darebin, Moreland and Yarra to get involved in programs to boost their chances of getting and keeping a job. In the previous two grant rounds, funded projects assisted more than 67 people to gain work. This is evidence of the quality of the organisations we are able to support through our Pathways to Employment grants.

#### Projects in Moreland

##### **The Seven Stars Training Project – Brunswick**

###### ***CERES Community Environment Park***

The Seven Stars café is a food enterprise at CERES Community Environment Park that assists migrant women who live in and around Brunswick, Coburg, Fawkner and Glenroy. Through the Seven Stars Training project, 10 women will receive Certificate II hospitality training to enable them to work at Seven Stars and to open up new opportunities in the Hospitality industry more broadly. As part of the program, the women will undertake a work placement at Seven Stars where they will learn from other women who have undergone similar training previously and share similar backgrounds. On completion of the project, the participants can apply for jobs at the Seven Stars café or they can use their experience to pursue work in the hospitality and catering industry.

##### **Piloting Youth Employment Opportunities in the Not-for-Profit Sector - North Coburg**

###### ***Sussex St Neighbourhood House***

In 2009 Sussex Street Neighbourhood House developed a youth participation strategy aimed at increasing the number of young people coming into the house to participate in activities. Sussex Street Neighbourhood House will use their grant to start implementation of this strategy by providing structured work experience placements for 2 young people. The placements will expose young people to the Not-For-Profit sector and give them experience in office administration, project coordination and committee work at the neighbourhood house. As part of the strategy, Sussex Street Neighbourhood House will establish a youth committee to develop and implement youth activities at the house and learnings from this pilot project will help to identify how best to support young people to access the opportunities available at the house on an ongoing basis.

##### **Step Three Project – Fawkner**

###### ***Anti-Racism Action Band A.R.A.B., Victorian Arabic Social Services***

Over the past three years the Inner North Community Foundation has supported A.R.A.B's efforts to increase the opportunities for young people to earn an income from their artistic talents. Step One (2008) taught young people how to set themselves up as professional performers, including communications with event organisers, stage management and logistical coordination of gigs. Step Two (2009) focused on increasing the number of young women taking up paid performance opportunities through A.R.A.B's gigging program. Now, Step Three will see A.R.A.B. create Victoria's first multi-faith, multi-disciplinary Youth Artist Registry that will promote youth artists to events organisers and businesses. The registry will enable young people to market themselves directly to the public. Their income potential will be in their hands as they can market themselves independently of A.R.A.B. At a broader level, the registry will contribute towards increasing the representation of young performers from multicultural backgrounds on Melbourne's event circuit.

*Thank you Portland House Foundation for supporting this project*



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### Projects in Darebin

#### **Indigenous Skills Development Project – Alphington & Northcote**

##### ***Koorie Night Market Inc***

Koorie Night Market Inc was established in 2008 in Northcote to provide an opportunity for Indigenous people to earn an income through selling their art and craft at the market festivals. The market has grown to support around 150 stallholders and more than 30 volunteers and is able to travel around Victoria to promote indigenous artists far and wide. The Indigenous Skills Development project will enable 10 Koorie people to undertake Small Business training at the Koorie Heritage Trust. Throughout the training, Koorie Night Market Inc will provide individualised support to each trainee to ensure they stay motivated to successfully complete the training and to assist them to develop their products for sale at Koorie Night Markets. In addition, the project will provide volunteer placements for up to 20 people so that they can boost their CVs and apply their training to the workplace.

#### **Youth Part-Time Pre-Employment Workshops - Reservoir**

##### ***Melbourne Citymission - East Reservoir Neighbourhood Renewal***

Neighbourhood Renewal is a State Government funded program that engages community members at the local level to develop and implement activities to improve their health and wellbeing. Through Neighbourhood Renewal, a key challenge that has been identified by local families is the need to provide targeted job readiness assistance to young people whose families have experienced generational unemployment and therefore cannot provide them with advice and contacts to give them their start in life. Melbourne Citymission will present two 8-week pre-employment workshops at Northlands Youth Centre to train 20 young people in customer service, Food Handling and retail operations. The program is tailored to suit the jobs on offer at Northlands Shopping Centre and will include a work experience component at the shopping centre so that young people can expand their workplace contacts and boost their CVs.

*Thank you Gaetano Greco for contributing towards this project*

#### **Sprout Community Market Employment Pathways Project – Thornbury**

##### ***Sprout Community Garden – a program of Mind Australia***

This project was piloted in 2009 and will use funding from the Inner North Community Foundation to build on the achievements of participants in 2009 and to support an additional 6 Sprout participants to become more active in Sprout's fresh produce markets. Project participants will be trained in product development, pricing, promotions and customer service so that they can get involved in stalls at Sprout's Community Market and get involved in the behind the scenes operations of the markets. Sprout Community Garden is a recovery focused program of Mind Australia for people living with mental illness that promotes well-being and healthy eating. The Market sells veggies to the public on the first Thursday of every month during summer and has a weekly "Open-Gate" where locals can come and buy fresh produce throughout the year.

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## Projects in Yarra

### **Leg up Pilot Program - Richmond**

#### ***Australian Vietnamese Women's Association***

The Leg Up Pilot Program is an intensive employment support program for Vietnamese people who have been in contact with the justice system and need a *leg up* to get back into work. Up to 15 Vietnamese Australians aged 18 – 35 years, will be trained in resume writing, interviewing and the essentials of the job application process so that they can be more competitive in the recruitment process. At the same time, project participants will explore workplace practices, procedures and protocols to ensure they are prepared for the realities of the work environment so that they have every chance of sustaining their employment. The program will take a holistic approach by working in partnership with community organisations who can provide material and emotional support to ensure people are well supported before and during employment.

### **African Families Job and Training IT program - Carlton**

#### ***Carlton Community Support Agency***

This project will create a new African Families Jobs and Training Information Technology facility to provide IT training to up to 50 people of African origin who need support to acclimatise to the increasing use of IT in daily life. Project participants will be trained in online job searching, how to access emails and employer expectations around email and internet usage. In addition the project participants will be trained in how to find information from various government departments online (Australian Tax Office, Centrelink, etc) and Australian regulations around ABNs, company registration and financial management. The project is an extension of the existing Carlton Employment Opportunities (CEO) program and the establishment of the IT facility will ensure that residents of the Carlton & Nth Carlton Housing Estates receive ongoing vocational support.

### **Rotary NEXT STEP Program - Richmond**

#### ***Rotary Club of Richmond***

The Next Step project was piloted in 2009 to provide a “one-stop” shop for young people who are starting out on their journey to work. The Inner North Community Foundation is funding the project again this year to enable the momentum to continue and to further strengthen the partnership the Rotary Club of Richmond and Big Brothers Big Sisters. Twenty young people who live in public housing across Richmond, Collingwood and Fitzroy will be assisted to (i) identify their employment profile through Chandler MacLeod's employment software, (ii) receive training in how to get a job (iii) have the chance to be matched to a mentor through Big Brothers Big Sisters and (iv) receive assistance to undertake a work experience placement through Rotary's extensive business contacts.

### **Second Chance Cycles – Bicycle Mechanics Training and Work Skills Program – Collingwood**

#### ***Victorian Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (VACRO)***

The Second Chance Cycles Workshop in Collingwood opened its doors in mid 2009 to provide bicycle mechanics training to ex-offenders and disadvantaged local residents. The program now runs for a full day per week and, with funding from the Inner North Community Foundation, will be extended to include a job-readiness program to ensure people understand employer expectations around timeliness, customer orientation, communication and reliability. The program will benefit 12 people who have come into trouble with the law and need assistance to navigate their way back into work. They will undergo accredited bike mechanics training and a structured work placement at Second Chance Cycles and at local bike shops to boost their employment options and assist in their recovery.

*Thank you Portland House Foundation for supporting this project*