

Smells like community spirit

Community organisations in Melbourne's inner north share in \$215k

14 community organisations in Melbourne's inner northern suburbs received funding in August as part of the 2011 Inner North Community Foundation's Pathways to Employment grant round.

This year's recipients shared in more than \$215,000, which will be used to run projects providing 700 marginalized local people with skills and training to help break down barriers to work.

Moreland grant recipients

CERES in East Brunswick will establish a new shared community cooking space offering cooking, catering and training opportunities for the community.

The Anti Racism Action Band (A.R.A.B) continues their Step Up! Program building skills and leadership capacity for young artists in Fawkner.

The Inner Northern Local Learning and Employment Network Young Women's Leadership Program for marginalized young women emphasises building access to local network opportunities.

Yarra grant recipients

The Australian Vietnamese Women's Association in Richmond will work with youth who have been in contact with the criminal justice system.

Richmond Rotary Next Step Trust's Next Step Program will continue a mentor program for disengaged young people.

The Fitzroy Learning Network will focus on helping culturally and linguistically diverse people undertake English classes.

Darebin grant recipients

Fitted for Work in Northcote will help long term unemployed women prepare for job interviews.

Incito Maintenance will recruit a part-time Tradie Mentor Coordinator to work with Construction Service Workers from marginalized and disadvantaged backgrounds.

LaTrobe Lifeskills' Seed to Feed Transition to Employment Program will help participants with intellectual disabilities learn permaculture skills.

Sprout Community Gardens will continue its work with 90 participants offering them mental health recovery and wellbeing through the Sprout Community Market.

RMIT College of Design and Social Context, Northern Partnerships Unit in Bundoora will assist students for whom English is not a first language with the transition from study to employment with an innovative mentoring element.

Several Projects cover more than one municipality

The Asylum Seeker Resource Centre will connect job-ready new migrants with local employers using existing industry partners to help raise awareness of asylum seeker issues.

Whitelion will assist young people, particularly those of Indigenous background, who have had involvement or are at risk of involvement with the Youth Justice System.

And the YWCA's Women at Work program will run an employment readiness program using group and arts based therapy for women who have been unemployed long term.

Some organisations have received funding for the first time whereas several have enjoyed an ongoing relationship with the Inner North Community Foundation since 2008.

With support for the Inner North Community Foundation's Pathways to Employment fund from state and local government, members of parliament such as Adam Bandt Federal MP for Melbourne, the local community, and major donors INGT and the Portland House Foundation, the Inner North Community Foundation will develop into an even bigger asset supporting community wellbeing in Melbourne's inner northern suburbs.

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