

# ACTIV PATHTWAYS

## NEWSLETTER

November 2009

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## News Update

### TICK OF APPROVAL

We are very pleased to announce that the Training Accreditation Council has given Activ Pathways the tick of approval and extended its registration for a further four years. Activ Pathways has successfully completed its first year of registration and a recent audit found we are meeting the quality standards required of a Registered Training Organisation. We now look forward to consolidating the success of the first year of operation and to continue delivering quality, nationally recognised training in the disability sector.

### SEMESTER 2, 2009

Activ Pathways has hit the ground running in second semester. Certificate I in Leadership Development programs are in progress at O'Connor, Malaga and Embleton. Certificate I in Horticulture is running for the second time at Property Care in October. Bentley is also looking forward to another group of employees participating in the Certificate I in Manufacturing before Christmas.

Not to be outdone there are currently three training programs being delivered at Bunbury and Geraldton. Despite being in our first year of operation regional areas are a priority for Activ Pathways. Read on to learn more about training country style.

## Getting Out There in Kalgoorlie

Students in Years 11 and 12 at Eastern Goldfields Education Support School attended Activ Business Services Kalgoorlie several times per week while working towards a Certificate I in Leadership Development.

One of the course outcomes is to develop an understanding of your own personal role in society. Students identified services available in Kalgoorlie, problems faced by a regional centre and why it is important to help others in the community. Work skills were learnt and applied in the work experience component hosted by Activ Kalgoorlie. Trainers Sarah Tansey and Christine Blackwood reported that the students enjoyed threading string on tags for the mining industry.



James, Peta and Amy working with trainer Sarah on a community project to benefit the Eastern Goldfields Community Centre

## Safety first for manufacturing training

Certificate I in Manufacturing (Pathways) has started again at Activ Bunbury, the second for the South West. Several employees from Activ Busselton travel to the course each week then return to share their knowledge and skills with others. Safety is a major learning outcome. Recent participants enjoyed a visit from FESA where they learnt about fire safety in the workplace.



The major assessment requirement for this course is to make a small item from timber. Activ Bunbury has chosen to make a toolbox from timber as the assessment product. As new machinery is incorporated into the Bunbury business enterprise the Certificate I in Manufacturing will be focused on the new skills required.

## Training begins at home in Albany

During July, five employees and three supervisors braved the Albany winter to participate in Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) program for Certificate I & II in Horticulture. RPL is a way of delivering a qualification using evidence from the workplace as the basis. Participants and supervisors identified that there were skills gaps in the areas of pruning, landscape construction, irrigation and turf establishment. George Mathews, an industry trainer and horticulturalist, provided training over a 6 day period to up-skill the Albany crew. The added benefit to the training was that an Activ Albany property was improved.



**Karen Goodfield, Jeff Scott & George Mathews landscaping on an Activ Albany property**

## It's in the bag in Geraldton

Michele Sandilands, the Employee Coordinator at Activ Geraldton, started the Certificate I in Leadership Development course in late July with seven students.

Michele says, "These students didn't know each other and were very distant with one another at the start, yet over the past seven weeks have really come together as a team. It is inspiring to see them all interacting with each other and our employees. We have already completed a project where all students had the chance to make a material bag or tool bag. The sense of achievement the students gained was truly satisfying. I can see that the students are becoming more self aware and confident. It will be great to watch them blossom even more in the coming weeks."

Mission Australia assisted by referring participants and providing transport and we look forward to working with them in the future.



**Brenton, Elvie, Melissa and Mellissa cutting out dog coats for Geraldton Dog Rescue**

## Jargon Buster

### What is VET?

VET is:

- A place where you take sick puppies.
- Practical hands on training.
- Vocational Education and Training.

Answer: c)

VET stands for Vocational Education and Training. This sector focuses on the skills and knowledge people need for work.

VET is one of the three major sectors of education and training in Australia, the other two being the school and higher education sectors. While TAFE is the most well known provider of VET, there are also industry, adult education, community based and private training providers. Activ Pathways is an example of a private provider.

### Next issue:

Find out where Activ Pathways will be training in 2010.



**Activ Rockingham participants taking a break from Certificate I in Leadership**