



NEWSLETTER

March 2016 Edition



Who We Are

IDEAL Placements is a Not for Profit organisation focused on the provision of quality employment services that improve the lives of job seekers with a disability, injury, illness or health condition.

What We Do

IDEAL Placements will help to prepare you for work. This may be through training and job readiness skills, resume writing, interview techniques or even just motivation. We will assist you to find a job that suits your skills and abilities.

To find out if you're eligible for our services you can visit our website www.idealplacements.com.au

Welcome to 2016 and although it now seems a distant memory, I hope that you and your families had a lovely festive season.

I love the beginning on the new year as it is a time to set new goals and focus on developing paths to achieve these goals. Employment in our region has been particularly hard over the last 6 months and I encourage each of you to continue working towards your employment goals as persistence and maintaining motivation are the key.

Our teams in all of our offices are currently planning marketing days, the first of which was held on the 17th of February 2016 where all of our staff will be concentrating on marketing jobseekers in the Cannonvale and Proserpine areas. We will also be holding further marketing days this month in Mackay, Bowen and Sarina. I look forward to reporting our successes in our next newsletter. So far for 2016 we have placed 20 people into employment across our 5 sites. Congratulation to those participants who have recently gained employment.

Welcome to the new participants who have only recently registered with our service, we hope that your time with us is beneficial for your future employment.

Please remember to contact me if you are having any issues with our service or if you would like to discuss the great work we are doing.



Rhiannon Minniecon
Operations Manager

MACKAY

5 Peel Street, Mackay
QLD 4740
Ph.: 4957 8177

SARINA

Shop 3, 33 Central St
Sarina, QLD 4737
Ph: 4943 0594

CANNONVALE

18/230 Shute Harbour
Road, Cannonvale
Ph: 4948 2123

PROSERPINE

Unit 2 59 Main Street
Proserpine, QLD 4800
Ph: 4945 2591

BOWEN

Shop 3, 36 Powell St
Bowen, QLD
Ph: 4786 6729

IDEAL Placements, For All Your Employment Needs

UPCOMING EVENTS



MLC Advice Mackay Easter Carnival

On March 27, 2016
At Mackay City Centre
Join in the free family
fun, there will be a

Monster Easter Egg Hunt, kids
activities, market stalls and
amusement rides, with the addition of
over 50 classic cars on display.

Toast Masters

2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month
7:30pm—9.30pm

Uniting Church Administration
Building, Macalister Street Mackay
Toastmasters helps more than a
quarter million men and women of
every ethnicity, education level and
profession build their competence in
communication so they can gain the
confidence to lead others.

Mackay KinKare



*Grandparents
Raising Grandchildren*
Meetings held 4th
Wednesday of the

month 10:00am – 12:00 noon
Shakespeare Child & Family Centre
43 Shakespeare Street
Feel free to call Deb 0423 749 552 or
Kellie 0434 035 124

Mackay Regional Pain Support Community

When: 3rd Saturday of each Month ~
9.30am to 11.30am

Where: Good Shepherd Lodge, Function
Room 15 McIntyre Street, South Mackay
(enter through the Main admin building and
turn right)

Cost: Gold Coin donation & please bring a
plate to share

Melbourne International



Comedy Festival Roadshow

30 April 2016 at the MECC at 7.30am
Tickets can be bought from
<http://www.mackayecc.com.au/>
Join a line-up of the finest local and
international comedy talents for an
evening of entertainment like no other.

Headspace YARNSAFE Group

Tuesday evenings from (5pm to 7.30pm)
A social group for Indigenous young people
to create a hip hop video and song writing
thus raising awareness of mental health
issues in their community through song
and dance.

Young people from 12-25 years at Sarina
(Mudth-Niyleta Aboriginal & Torres Strait
Islander Corporation)

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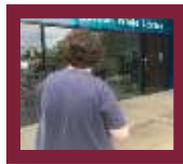
Your Life Your Choice

Whitsunday's Page

YOUR LIFE YOUR CHOICE

IDEAL Placements has had a busy start to the year with new participants joining our YLYC program. After the free two hour planning session, goals and aspirations are discussed and an action plan is developed to ensure the goal becomes reality.

2016 is proving to be a big year for Patrick! In January, he gained his library card, and in February he commenced weekly visits to the Gordon White Library. A big thank you to AJ who has made this possible for Patrick! IDEAL Placements has worked closely with Patrick and his family to ensure Patrick's goals and aspirations are being achieved.



Lester joined our Your Life Your Choice Program in 2014. Lester wanted to reconnect with his cultural background and commenced attending the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Men's Group with support worker AJ. This group runs every Wednesday by the ATSI Community Health Service. Please contact Pat on 49510847, if you are interested in joining the ATSI Men's Group.

YLYC is a funding approach that enables people with a disability and their families to have greater 'Choice and Control' over the supports they receive in the community to assist with day to day living. YLYC is a key part preparing Queenslanders for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). YLYC is self-directed funding allocated by Disability Services. As IDEAL Placements is a host provider, we can assist with the management of your self-directed funding.

All our participants are successfully working towards their goals and dreams with the support and assistance of IDEAL Placements. If you have a goal, dream or aspiration and need support to achieve it, contact Tracy Woods – IDEAL Placements NDIS Coordinator on 49578177 or 0488 343 560 to discuss eligibility and criteria for the program.

CONGRATULATIONS ON GETTING THAT JOB!

Claudia W, Melinda W, Matthew M, Paulette B, Anita S, Claire W, Skye S



DISCOUNT

CONCESSIONS HOLDER DISCOUNTS

1. The Taxi Subsidy Scheme subsidises taxi travel—half of the total fare, up to a maximum of \$25 per trip—for people with severe disabilities. Taxi Subsidy Scheme membership lasts for a maximum of 5 years. To extend your membership, you must reapply before the expiry date. If you have a temporary disability, membership could be from 6 to 12 months
<http://www.qld.gov.au/disability/out-and-about/taxi-subsidy/index.html>

2. Students undertaking these courses will obtain a Nationally recognised Statement of Attainment or, if completing a full qualification, a Nationally recognised Certificate. Selected courses offer concession such as Business, Hospitality and retail.
<http://www.novaskill.com.au/training/course-calendars/mackay/>

3. Being a Concession card holder you are entitled to attending bulk billing doctors such as: Slade Point Surgery, Community Health & Medical, One Stop Medical and Canelands Medical Centre.

COMMUNITY LEARNING PROJECT

Supporting more people into employment

IDEAL Placements secured funding from the Queensland Government to coordinate additional programs that complement our Disability Employment Services. In the last twelve months we have helped an extra 50 people improve their job search skills and many have found employment.

Business and Communities Coming Together Program supported 35 participants to a formal qualification in Aged Care, Hospitality or Business Administration. Participants worked very hard attending many additional employment preparation and communication classes. Friendships were formed but the best news is that 22 of these participants were employed at the end of the program.



Starting or growing a business?

Not sure where to start? These handy checklists provide a list of essential questions to help guide you through the process of starting up and expanding your business.

Download the checklists now to ensure you don't miss important steps along the way. The checklists can be found at www.business.gov.au/business-topics/templates-and-downloads/checklists/Pages/default.aspx



BOOST TRAINING

The components of this course are designed to BOOST your pre-employment skills.

Some of the main focuses will be:

- Interview Skills and Personal Presentation
- Research and Applications
- Work Ethics
- Customer Service
- Office Skills
- Building Confidence



If you are interested in any of the items listed above please inform your Job Coordinator and they will give you the next available date it will be held.

Alternatively if you think that you need training or assistance with something that is not listed above let your Job Coordinator know so we can see if this is something we can incorporate into this training.

Call 49578177 or drop into our office to find out more information or to register for the training.



IDEAL Placements are always looking to improve if you would like to give a compliment, or complaint we would love to hear your suggestions to improve our services. You can email admin@idealplacements.com.au, or our Participant Representative David Conway, d.c.conway3@gmail.com with your feedback.



You can do it! — landing the job you want is possible. The key is to show you have both the relevant skills and ability to do the job, and will contribute positively to the work environment. Here's some top tips to help you land that interview for the job of your dreams!

Social Media Profile

Social media profile Do you have a Facebook or Twitter account? You may be surprised to learn that many employers will look at your social media activity before they even decide whether to contact you or not. Having inappropriate content might cause an employer to disregard you as a potential staff member.

Voice Message

Voicemail message Do you have a comical message on your voicemail? Your friends might think it's funny, but what would a prospective employer think? Remember that first impressions are very important. If you do happen to miss a call your voicemail message is potentially the first contact they have with you.

Email Address

Having a humorous or crude email address might have seemed like a good idea at the time you created it, but what impression will it give an employer? It's a good idea to create an email account (if you don't already have one) with a plain and simple address such as your.name@provider.com.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Update:

2016 is an exciting year of NDIS – the implementation of the program by National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). Queensland is another step closer; the prices have been set for the QLD NDIS sites – Townsville, Charters Towers and Palm Island. These sites commenced NDIS on 1 January 2016. The NDIA (National Disability Insurance Agency) will be basing the prices on the New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania NDIS sites. A full list of prices is available on the NDIS website -www.ndis.gov.au/news/queensland-pricing-announcement.

The NDIS supports people with a permanent and significant disability which causes a big impact on their everyday life. We will work with you to identify support you need to live your life. Supports may help you achieve goals in many aspects of your life, including more independence, getting involved in your community, education, employment and health and well-being.

If you require any information regarding your eligibility for this program or your funding package, please don't hesitate to contact Tracy Woods – NDIS Coordinator - on 49578177 or 0488 343 560.

Youth Employment Program



From October 2015 to February 2016, IDEAL Placements was funded under the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative, to support 20 young people find employment.

This program was heavily supported by employers and consisted of attending intensive full day workshops twice a week for 6 weeks, questioning employers from various industries on what it was like to work for them and what they looked for when interviewing for positions. Industry visits and personalised interview preparation assisted in 12 young people finding jobs.

The good news – We get to do it all again for another 10 young people. If you are interested and are between 15 and 24 please call Sue on 0437 898 303 to see if you are eligible as other conditions do apply.

SARINA NEWS



The Sarina Office is the proud new owner of two extra computers for participants to use.

One is a normal desktop which will be for studying, Jobsearch etc.

The second is a brand new iPad that will make Centrelink Reporting quick and easy with it's touch screen and quick access via the Centrelink App.

If you need help, drop in during normal business hours and ask Alf to demonstrate.



We are looking for a Client Representative

What do you need to be the client representative?

- Willingness to help others
- Spare time (not too much)
- Approachable nature

Basically the Client Rep is responsible for holding small group meetings a couple of times a year to see what the needs of our participants are and how we can assist with these needs. You will also have your contact number available for participants to talk to you if they feel they can not talk to us here at IDEAL. This is a volunteer position (free coffee and cake when meetings are held)

Call 49482123 and talk to Sam if this sounds like something you can help with.

Program Managers Report



Welcome to 2016! We are very excited for the new year. We have had a large number of new jobs this year already, congratulations to all the participants that have gained employment.

Don't forget to keep in contact with your job coordinator about any changes or needs that you may have.

This year we are hoping to start up some new programs to assist with both employment and social aspects, watch this space for information.

Thanks,

Sam Dine

Christmas Hampers

Congratulations to the families that received a Christmas hampers. We obtain donations from staff for these hampers and nominate families in need to receive them. We hope that everyone had a great Christmas and a amazing start to the year.



Business of the Month



Thanks for your support!

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