Disability Employment Services (DES) has changed once again with the new 2018 DES program that started on the 1st of July. This new program brings many changes, not to mention new providers within our area. As CEO of IDEAL Placements, I believe we provide an excellent service to all of our participants and employers. We are always seeking suggestions and input to improve our services, so please let me know your ideas. IDEAL has a survey on iPads in the reception of every IDEAL office and this is a great way to let me know your thoughts if you prefer not to call me.

IDEAL staff always go beyond the standard working hours of 9 to 5 just to support their participants and employers. Many other agencies would not offer this service. At IDEAL, we realise that work is not always office hours and this is why we all have mobile phones and permission to work out of hours if needed.

Sadly, IDEAL has been unsuccessful in one of our programs and have lost this contract. We have transferred some participants to new providers in town; and IDEAL staff supported all our participants in the transition to their new provider.

Transition to Work (TtW) program that is youth based and assisting 15 to 21 year olds with their pathway to training, employment or returning to school has been a great success. IDEAL are the only provider in the area for this and we are proud of the over 430 participants that have achieved outcomes.

The NDIS program has grown faster than anyone could have ever expected. IDEAL plans on being the provider of choice under the NDIS for all employment needs of all NDIS eligible participants. In the past most people with disability have not realised they can look for work, so if you know anyone with a NDIS package and you think they may like to work please let them know they can call or come in for more details on our programs. We are also expanding with a new larger office opening on the north side in the very near future. Watch this space for more details.

For people who have been with IDEAL for a long time or returning, you may recognise a friendly face at reception in the Mackay office. Richard is back as our first point of contact at the Mackay office and I’m sure you will all be happy to see him there, say hello and chat to him if you ever have any concerns about IDEAL, our service and staff.

Kathy Dine

Search “IDEAL Placements” on Facebook
Employment Services Manager Report

Hello IDEAL Family!

Did you know that IDEAL Placements has been providing excellent service to the jobseekers and employers of Mackay for over 22 years?

I recently celebrated my one year anniversary with this wonderful company and am proud to say that IDEAL is still passionately committed to assisting local people to find sustainable and meaningful employment. In addition, we assist the local business community to discover the benefits of employing well-trained, well supported and enthusiastic job seekers.

So, why is IDEAL the best provider of employment solutions in our local region?

1. We focus on ability – our job seekers are job matched to work that they can do very well;
2. We focus on attitude – our job seekers are motivated, and keen to obtain independent employment;
3. We focus on aptitude - our job seekers are able to access on the job training to ensure they can do the job they are employed to do;
4. We focus on assistance – we provide individualised support to ensure our job seekers are integrated effectively into the workplace.

In addition, our Transition to Work program successfully applies the IDEAL ethos to our local young job seekers as well, and we continue to source enthusiastic and energetic, entry-level job seekers for the employers of Mackay.

We don’t ever want to be caught resting on our laurels though – we evolve and adapt to current work environments and business needs, so that job seekers and employers can be confident that IDEAL will continue to provide personalised and tailored solutions to the local community for many years to come.—Nancee Myles

Want to study a Business course?

Let IDEAL Placements help you achieve your goals!

Learn the following skills:

- Teamwork
- Communication
- Computer skills
- Ability to apply for work
- Update Resume and Cover letters

Call Teena 0457840537 or email Teena@idealplacements.com.au

Whitsundays Regional Manager Report

As you might be aware, July 2018 arrived with quite a few changes to the Disability Employment Services. We will be delivering one program with a focus on helping people with long term disabilities find employment. We are currently working internally on a few of our processes to ensure that we can deliver the best service possible. Transition to Work is performing very well and we are having great success in assisting young people to gain employment. If you or someone you know needs a little extra assistance to gain employment call IDEAL Placements.—Sam Dine
To celebrate National Volunteers Week, CQ Uni Mackay’s Adult Migrant English Program volunteers were treated to a morning tea at City Campus. April Rogers from IDEAL Placements is one of those volunteers and is always happy to support the Adult Migrant English Program.

**TTW Good News Story**

Emerson was with Transition to Work for one month before she became an apprentice Hairdresser. Emerson went resume dropping and obtained two job trials at two different Salons, one of which was The Cutting Room. She did extremely well at both trials and was offered a position at both Salons. After much consideration, she ended up going ahead with The Cutting Room as a first year Hair dressing Apprentice. She now attends CQ University twice a week and has been with The Cutting Room for 6 months!

**DES Good News Story**

Darren joined IDEAL Placements, unsure of what career path he could now under take as an injury to his arm meant that he could no longer work in the Building industry. After talking to his Job Co, Leanne, he decided he should use his skills to gain employment in trade sales.

In order to make this transition, he undertook a Certificate III in Business at IDEAL Placements with Aurora Training and did work experience at a local hardware store.

Darren has since successfully completed his Business course, gained employment at Blacks Beach Tavern and is a confident worker, happy and fully engaged in his busy life.
NDIS and Employment

Why choose IDEAL Placements if you want help to gain employment?
IDEAL Placements is an employment specialist, we always focus on the positive approach of, what the participants can do rather than what they can’t do!

At IDEAL Placements, we provide a range of employment services for programs such as the Disability Employment Services (DES), Transition to Work (TtW), Ticket to Work, Becoming a Worker (BAW), Skilling Queenslanders for Work and now the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

We work closely with our customers to find their strengths and skills and placing them with appropriate workplaces with employers who are supportive is our speciality.

NDIS and Customised Employment Support

IDEAL Placements believes all people have the right to work. Customised Employment is an individualised approach to vocational and employment supports and service:

One Person at a Time!

The goal of Customised Employment is to tailor meaningful employment/self-employment opportunities to fit the skills, interested, strengths, and support needs of the individual whilst meeting business and the market requirements.

Support staff gathers information about a customer’s individual interests, strengths, the types of support that are most effective, the skills the individual has, and the types of environments and activities where this person is at their best. This information is gathered in a series of interviews, observations and activities that occur in natural environments and that are typical to the individual.

So, if you feel are would like to gain employment, voluntary work or work experience or you have a NDIS goal that relates to employment – IDEAL Placements is the service for you!

Becoming A Worker Program

(BAW)

Group Activity

IDEAL Placements has successfully run the Becoming a Worker program for 10 years and achieved successful outcomes by finding paid employment for the participants. Our recent successes include Michael – Retail Assistant at Carroll’s News in Mackay, and Tahlia – Childcare Assistant at Walkerston Day Care Centre. Nathan has gained work experience at Cootharinga Mackay and several other participants are preparing for interviews and looking forward to gaining more skills.
School Leaver Employment Support (SLES)

SLES is an early intervention approach for Year 12 school leavers with significant disability to support their transition from school to employment. These supports are designed to build the participants capacity to meet the access criteria and transition to a DES. SLES supports are only available to participants who have been assessed as ineligible, or are unlikely to meet, access requirements to DES.

NDIS Plan identifies support needs to build independence. SLES builds a pathway to economic participation through, for example:

- Unpaid work experience to overcome barriers and build confidence
- Developing a working lifestyle – life skills to support transition to work

This NDIS funding to support school leavers to transition into employment will be available at the end of the year.

Supporting the participants in seeking and retaining a job and feeling comfortable in their new role is part of the everyday practice for IDEAL Placements and the success of the participants shines through when they reach their goals.

*Michael “the butterflies on my first day were really excited but I did what we learnt in class and took some really deep breaths and felt better”*

*Tahlia “I’m loving working with babies and learning new jobs”*

*Some comments from the participants*

**NDIS Good News Story:**

John Clark – My NDIS Journey – The fish that didn’t get away!

IDEAL Placements has only recently started working with John and have already seen a vast improvement. John has been encouraged to become an active member within the community and has enjoyed attending Mackay ATSI Men’s Group but is, however, still getting use to a new environment that is unfamiliar to him. His Support Worker has worked closely with John to encourage John to start participating in activities he enjoys such as fishing and bowling with other participants of the same age group.
We appreciate your dedication and hard work throughout the years and we are so proud to have you in the IDEAL Team.

Happy 10 Year Anniversary to Richard Kris

We appreciate your dedication and hard work throughout the years and we are so proud to have you in the IDEAL Team.
You’re Invited

To our 2018 AGM
When: 7pm, Wednesday 28th September 2018
Where: Oceans International 1 Bridge Road

Supper will be provided after our meeting and presentations

Please RSVP before
14 September 2018
by contacting reception on;
Phone: 4957 8177
E: admin@idealplacements.com.au

Client Representative
Would you like to join our Committee as a client representative?
Your skills and lived experience will contribute to the vision and mission of IDEAL Placements.

If you are interested in finding out more about the roles and responsibilities ofthis position, please call Shelly on 4957 8177 for more information.