

WISE trax

WISE Employment aims to assist Indigenous job seekers to find and maintain employment. By working with other people in the community we are able to provide a better service to job seekers, through shared learning and experience.

To help us provide a better service to Indigenous job seekers and to better engage with the Indigenous community, WISE Employment staff take part in a range of cross cultural training programs.

Centrelink Cross Cultural Training Workshop

On Thursday 18 November, WISE staff from Greater Western Sydney attended a Cross Cultural Training Workshop at Penrith Centrelink.

Aiming to give participants a better understanding of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture, the workshop covered the last 220 years of Aboriginal history.

"Understanding the culture and traditions of Indigenous job seekers is important. Knowing the appropriate language to use when dealing with the Elders and other community members enables us to better engage with our clients." says Adam Crofts, Windsor Business Manager



WISE staff attending Cross Cultural Training at Centrelink

Michael Anderson

Wiradjeri Man and Aboriginal Artist



WISE would like to thank Michael Anderson for his artistic contribution to WISE Trax. Textures and images have been used from his artwork entitled 'Naamarkons'.

Are you looking for work?

Do you know someone in your community who is? WISE helps Indigenous job seekers find work you'll want to stick at.

Why is WISE different?

- We start by listening - to understand your needs
- We offer a flexible service to meet your needs
- We help you look for work you'll enjoy, not just any job
- We focus on what you're good at
- We're used to helping people with all sorts of barriers
- We're a not-for-profit organisation.

Visit one of our offices or call us on 1800 685 105.

New South Wales - Fairfield, Katoomba, Liverpool, Marrickville, Mt Druitt, Parramatta, Penrith and Windsor.

Victoria - Broadmeadows, Cranbourne, Dandenong, Frankston, Melton, Newport, Northcote, Pakenham, Prahran, Richmond, St Albans, Sunbury and Werribee.

Tasmania - Devonport, Hobart and Launceston.

Northern Territory - Darwin.



Celebrating NAIDOC Week

WISE celebrated NAIDOC Week in 2010 across our sites in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and the Northern Territory. Our last edition of WISE Trax featured two young women who represented the theme 'Unsung Heroes - Closing the Gap by Leading Their Way' and have found employment with WISE's assistance - Natalee Nagy from Mt Druitt, NSW and Mellissa Smith from Melton, Victoria.

NAIDOC Week is a great opportunity for WISE staff to support their local Indigenous community and learn more about Indigenous culture.

Staff from our Penrith office attended a Civic Reception at Jamison Park, celebrating the 10th Anniversary of NAIDOC Week. WISE supported the event by running a stall to promote the activities we are involved in through our range of employment services and our support of Indigenous Heart Health.

WISE has been making tracks across the communities we work in, engaging with local Aboriginal people and supporting local projects and programs.



WISE sponsored children's entertainer



Frankston staff getting ready to celebrate NAIDOC Week

Our Frankston office supported a Family Day event at Monash University's Frankston Campus, organised by the Mornington Peninsula Indigenous Action Group. WISE sponsored a roaming entertainer, who performed magic tricks and balloon art.



WISE Employment assists Indigenous job seekers to find employment. Some of our job seekers from New South Wales and the Northern Territory share their stories here.

Kathleen Brown
Gundungurra Woman

The Land Regeneration Team

Kathleen Brown completed her Certificate III in Beauty in June this year and always thought she would work in Beauty Therapy. But instead, an opportunity came up for a three month placement with a local Aboriginal Cultural Centre in Penrith. Working as a Tourist Guide, Kathleen realised she loved being outdoors and being on the land. "When I was a Tourist Guide I would take people around and explain the land and the native plants and what they could be used for." At the end of the placement she realised that working outdoors was more fun than beauty therapy and something she wanted to pursue.

After a chance meeting with Don Mulholland, Indigenous Projects Manager for WISE Employment, she registered with WISE in October 2010. Her Case Manager helped her with an application for an internship with the Road Traffic Authority. She got an interview for the job, but declined because an opportunity came up to be part of the Regeneration Team at Gundungurra Tribal Council.

Kathleen loves being a part of the Land Regeneration Team and helping her local community "I really enjoy being outdoors and learning about the plants and how to look after everything. When I turned up on the first day I'd just had my nails done and had no idea what I was in for." Now there's no stopping her!

She's up early, whipper snipping and pruning, learning about land maintenance and gaining valuable skills. Kathleen is excited about the future. "At the end of six months here, I'll be able to be a supervisor and lead my own team," she says. "I've realised that I really want to get into Tourism and show people the beauty of the outdoors and aboriginal resources."



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Indigenous Jobs Market in NSW

Staff from WISE Employment's offices in Greater Western Sydney attended the annual Indigenous Jobs Market in Mt Druitt on Tuesday 7 September. The day was attended by former 'Origin greats' such as Wendell Sailor, Brett Kenny and Cliff Lyons.

Clients were taken to meet with employers, with one client being asked to attend an interview on the spot. The job seeker was successful in the interview and through his employment was able to secure a permanent one bedroom unit through Mission Housing. This annual event has been part of the Mt Druitt community for many years now and is seen as a great opportunity for Indigenous people to meet local employers. The event is supported by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations.



Greater Western Sydney Staff at the Indigenous Jobs Expo

Training Success for Darwin job seekers

Training is an important part of the job searching process. Disadvantaged job seekers who undertake training gain valuable skills that can increase their chances of getting employment.

WISE Darwin recently placed three of their job seekers, Sherilee, Sarah and Sandy into an Indigenous Employment Program (IEP) funded six week hospitality course with Karen Sheldon Training and Development.

Since attending the training, Sherilee has commenced a casual hospitality job and enrolled in a LL&N DEEWR training program to improve her literacy and numeracy skills.

Sarah has secured a Certificate III Childcare Assistant traineeship with ABC Learning Centre and Sandy has secured employment with Catercare in a mine in remote Northern Territory.

The hard work isn't over, but with the support of WISE Darwin staff, these clients are definitely moving forward in a positive way.



Sarah starting her new Traineeship