



GLENROY GROUP TO ACCESS \$41MILLION JOB FUND

Friday 13 March 2009

Glenroy-based Youth Projects has been selected to join a panel of agencies who can access a new \$41million funding pool to assist job seekers.

The agency will join the panel of the *Innovation Fund* set up by the federal government to assist disadvantaged job seekers with specialist training and placement services.

From 1 July 2009 Youth Projects can bid for funding to help people in areas like Glenroy and Broadmeadows who are facing difficulty in gaining work due to barriers such as low literacy, mental health problems or homelessness.

The Hadfield and Glenroy have rates of school drop-out that are above the national average and the highest rates of youth unemployment in the Moreland Council area.

The not-for-profit organisation Youth Projects has been operating in Glenroy for 25 years and is one of just 198 successful panel members nationally who will have access to the fund.

The Youth Projects Chairperson Melanie Raymond said access to the Innovation Fund allows agencies to develop and lead solutions to unemployment in our community rather than follow a "one size fits all" approach.

"The recession will hit young people and unskilled job seekers the hardest and we need to do all we can support those people in our community.

"Our access to this funding reflects our long track record in dealing with people facing hardship and helping them become job ready.

"We will be working hard to identify new approaches that can break through common barriers like social isolation and unstable housing to give people the best chance of getting through the tough times ahead."

Youth Projects employs 85 people within the City of Moreland and currently provides up to 30,000 contacts with disadvantaged people each year.

ENDS

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