



LOCAL GROUP AWARDED NEW EMPLOYMENT SERVICES CONTRACT

Tuesday 7 April 2009

Glenroy based not-for-profit Youth Projects is one of only eight agencies in this area to win a new contract providing services to young job seekers.

Youth Projects will assist job seekers in the Hume, Moonee Valley and Moreland areas when the new "one-stop shop" system comes into effect as of 1 July 2009.

Melanie Raymond, Chairperson of Youth Projects said, "we remain puzzled by the government's decision not to award contracts to at least four long standing not-for-profit groups in our area."

"But we are pleased at the success of Youth Projects because specialist local knowledge is still available to local job seekers."

The contract awarded to Youth Projects, in partnership with Job Futures, will provide services aimed specifically at young people.

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

Ms Raymond said the Job Services Australia contract will allow young people to access personalised service that addresses their individual needs.

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

"The tender process was extremely competitive. Our success reflects our long track record helping young job seekers in the north of Melbourne.

"The current employment services contract creates a situation where people have to deal with several different providers to address their needs.

"But under the new framework, job seekers can now access personalised services from the one provider."

Job seekers will receive an individual Employment Pathway Plan, which can include literacy and numeracy programs, work experience, help with resumes, trade equipment and training.

ENDS

Contact:

Nerida Webster

Marketing, Advocacy & Research Coordinator

0413 541 757

neridaw@youthprojects.net