

“Reaching for the Sky” Koori Engagement project

Mission

The *Reaching for the Sky* program seeks to build the skills of local indigenous people to facilitate education, employment and a more active role in the Sunraysia community.

Background

The project arose from a recognised need to provide educational and employment outcomes to Koori people in the Sunraysia Region of Victoria and New South Wales. The program uses a unique and innovative approach that combines communication skills building, team-building activities, mentoring by indigenous Elders and Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs). In the course of the programme, indigenous participants will be assisted with choosing a course of vocational education and training that is appropriate to their aspirations and in accordance with local “skills in demand”. This will be carried out through consultation with the Course Coordinator who has been employed specifically to guide the indigenous participants through their course of study. Through taking part in the *Reaching for the Sky* program participants will gain a heightened awareness of and respect for their Indigenous culture while building enhanced trust, teamwork and leadership skills. The program will facilitate the re-engagement of Koori youth with the wider Australian society.

Objectives

A higher rate of successful completions of VET courses of study will result from the mentoring and guidance by Indigenous Elders and Sunraysia Institute of TAFE staff and through the use of Managed Individual Pathways (MIPs).

Additional information:

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