

Media Release

Vicki Ward MP

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence
Minister for Employment



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HELPING PEOPLE TO GET GREAT LOCAL JOBS ACROSS VICTORIA

The Allan Labor Government is helping people to get great jobs – near where they live – through a local Mentors program that is assisting people who have found it difficult to get work.

Minister for Employment Vicki Ward today announced that Jobs Victoria’s Mentors program is now working with more than 4,000 individuals across the state, as part of a \$35 million investment in targeted employment services.

The Jobs Victoria Mentors program is available in five areas – including Brimbank, Hume, Shepparton, Latrobe Valley and Dandenong – and is helping people who need it most while addressing local workforce shortages.

Jobs Victoria has partnered with eleven local organisations across the state to deliver a program that ensures participants get the support they need, followed by a job that’s right for them.

The program works with individuals one-on-one and covers resume writing, job applications and interview preparation. It then connects individuals with local employers who need staff and supports them for the first six months after they start.

While employment services are primarily the responsibility of the Commonwealth, this program fills a gap left by Workforce Australia and is providing support in the areas that need it most. Nearly three quarters of people currently in the program have been unemployed for more than 12 months.

Rachel in Brimbank had previous experience in customer service and administration but was out of work for more than a year after a mental health illness.

On working closely with OCTEC mentor Ben on resume updates and interview techniques, Rachel has secured a job in administration and engagement with a university. Ben continues to provide Rachel with mentorship and support to make sure she is progressing well and managing her mental health.

To find out more about the Jobs Victoria Mentors program visit jobs.vic.gov.au

Quotes attributable to Minister for Employment Vicki Ward

“We’re investing in the Jobs Victoria Mentors program so we can help more Victorians to overcome barriers and find jobs that are meaningful to them.”

“The high take up rate of this program reflects how important these services are and is evidence of the dedicated staff who are supporting these job seekers across the state.”