

Media Release



The Hon Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Training & Skills
Minister for Corrections

Friday, 24 March, 2017

A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR DISADVANTAGED YOUNG PEOPLE

More young people at risk of homelessness will get the support they need to improve their lives thanks to the Andrews Labor Government.

Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney visited the Youth Foyer in Warrnambool to announce \$3 million to expand the delivery of the Certificate I in Developing Independence to Warrnambool, where it will be run by South West TAFE and Lilydale where it will be delivered by Box Hill Institute.

The money will also be used to continue delivery at three other Youth Foyers at Holmesglen Institute in Glen Waverley, Bendigo Kangan in Broadmeadows and GOTAFE in Shepparton.

From this year, the Brotherhood of St Laurence will manage and provide stronger oversight of the Certificate I in Developing Independence across the state, so students can get more out of the training.

The certificate is an accredited VET course which teaches important life skills like budgeting and goal setting to 16-24 year olds living in Youth Foyers, many of whom have been living in out-of-home care.

The Youth Foyers break the cycle of homelessness by providing young people aged 16 to 24 years with safe and secure accommodation on campus for two years while they study towards a career.

They also allow the young people access to education and training while also helping them to develop independent living skills.

In Warrnambool, Brophy Family and Youth Services work overtime to break the cycle of poverty and unemployment by providing affordable housing, and improve education and employment pathways.

Over the years, Brophy has developed a comprehensive range of services for young people, individuals and families helping shape the lives of countless south west locals through its outreach programs.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Training and Skills Gayle Tierney

"We're making sure everyone can access a great education, no matter their circumstances, location or background."

"Youth Foyers help break the cycle of poverty and unemployment by giving vulnerable young people the skills they need to make the most of their lives."

Quotes attributable to Minister for Housing, Disability and Ageing Martin Foley

"Youth Foyers are a fantastic way to support young people who want to continue their education or begin employment."

"This support will mean that more young people can get the support they need to really excel."