

SACC NEWS

SA Career Consultants

April - June 2008

Welcome from Karen's Desk... ..

Only a few months ago, I was commenting on how the staff here at SACC have an amazing willingness to work to make a difference to their clients and that we celebrate when we find evidence of this. This quarter has been no less busy than the one before, and with even more staff on board, our ways of helping others increase daily. We want our clients to be part of our success, as we couldn't stay in business without you. Part of our mission is to make sure that our service genuinely reflects the quality we aim to deliver. We ask for your feedback in questionnaires on a regular basis, but if you have any particular things you'd like to discuss with me personally, you can call or e-mail me at a time that suits you.

Again, we've been working hard at SA Career Consultants this last quarter to help clients achieve results. We've had 61 job starts since the beginning of the year. We've also been running some successful workshops in Learning Optimism and Motivation and Goal setting, for which clients have given us great feedback. We have a very dynamic team of consultants who share ideas and support each other to gain the best possible results. So, for those still hoping to gain employment – Thank you for believing in us, and keep up the effort, because we're here to make sure we assist you in a very real way.

Karen Osborne, Manager, Disability Employment Services

Age & Physical Restrictions - No Barrier to Employment

Maryanne (age 57) was referred to SA Career Consultants in 2007 due to a shoulder injury and carpal tunnel syndrome that precluded her from any heavy lifting, repetitive arm and wrist movement and reduced her work capacity to part time. She was concerned that she would have trouble gaining employment due to her restrictions and her confidence and self-esteem were very low.

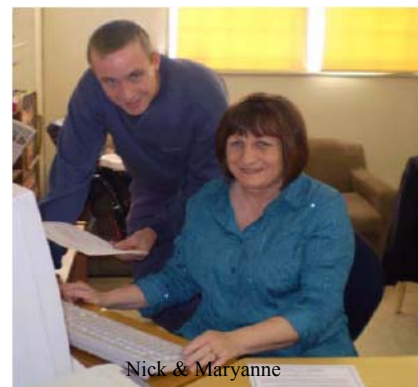
SACC helped Maryanne build the new skills required to assist her into employment. She successfully completed a MYOB and Business Administration Training course, which set Maryanne some achievable employment goals. We just needed to match her to the right employer – SACC contacted Winmec Engineering who were looking for someone to ease the Administration workload, who had

the skills that Maryanne exhibited.

After completing an un-paid work trial to test her new skills and confirm that she could manage the tasks, Maryanne was offered and accepted an award wage part time role. SACC are now assisting Maryanne to source and complete further MYOB training to gain more knowledge and skills.

Sarah and Nick from Winmec were so happy with the service they received, and with their new employee that they have since asked SACC to find a suitable person to do 10 hours per week cleaning duties.

Another success story for SACC and for one of our valued job-seekers.



Story written by Cate Brennan, Marketing

Client Feedback

We love to get feedback from our clients! Here are a few words from one of our clients, Virginia West, who worked with Deb Greaves to achieve a great employment outcome:



“I really enjoy working at Spotlight. I am getting more familiar with things and where they go. Staff & hours are good and I am very happy. The atmosphere and job are not pressured ”



Thank you to Virginia West who had these positive things to say about the job that we helped place her into. Thank you Virginia!

Productivity Places Program - A must share

The recent change of Government has brought many exciting options for Australians. The most exciting change is a new education and training package called ‘Productivity Places Program’ or PPP for short and is aimed in the first instance, at unemployed Australians.

Industries that have a skilled workforce shortage are being targeted, with the aim to skill people like you to fill these jobs. Some of the courses on offer in South Australia are: cleaning, retail, community services, security, stores and warehouse, aged care, agriculture, disability services, transport and logistics. Currently, the Government has issued study packages that cover Certificates 2 & 3. The long-term goal is to skill people in Certificates 4, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas and Apprenticeships.

Don’t be too concerned if your chosen area isn’t included; the Government is reviewing the industries on a regular basis. However it is important to remember that they are focusing on areas where there is a need for staff, so it is unlikely we will see courses in IT and Admin. If you are one of those people, don’t be alarmed, this may be a good opportunity to learn something new and combine your existing skills with new ones.

There is only one course per person and limited places, but virtually everyone is eligible to access these certificates. There are also other specialist providers who can help with your specific theory training if you need it.

If you are interested, speak to your SACC consultant. They can talk to the training providers and Centrelink on your behalf and help to get you enrolled and started.

Good luck and happy training.

Story written by Deb Greaves, Consultant

Staff Recognition Corner

We love when our clients are satisfied with their Consultants, and love to hear from them. Thanks to Rosemary Irlam for sending us the following feedback about Miriam Castles -

“I am very happy with this service. Miriam has made me feel very confident and positive. She has helped me to strive for achievement and the encouragement has been great. Keep up the good work”

Congratulations Miriam, you have made a difference in Rosemary’s life!



Having Your Say

We're always looking for ways to make a difference to our clients, and we hope you can see that from the stories in this newsletter.

Our jobs mean a lot to us, and part of our job is to make sure that our service makes a positive contribution to your life. We thrive on helping others, and it is a particular joy for us to see our clients gain confidence, skills, and maturity when they achieve their job goal.

Because we value your experience of our service, we are always happy to hear your feedback. If you have something you would like to say to us about our service, you are always welcome to call Karen on 8227 0900.

Alternatively, there is a feedback form for you to complete and return to this office if you wish. Call SACC's reception on 8227 0900 and we can post a form out to you.

Staff Update

Michelle Boundy, who used to be a VRS Consultant, has taken up the position of Client Liaison Officer and VRS Coordinator. Michelle is now based in the Adelaide office. Welcome Michelle, to your new role and your new office.



Michelle Boundy

Healthy Minds Mean Healthy Bodies

Mental illness affects one in five Australians at some stage each year. Some of the most common and disabling mental health problems include depression, anxiety disorders and psychotic disorders. Positive mental health is just as important as positive physical health. Examples of positive mental health include: feeling in control, being able to form and maintain positive relationships, knowing how to take care of yourself, and feeling good about yourself.

If you would like more information about positive mental health here are several links that may be of benefit to you!

Mental Health Council of Australia:

www.mhca.org.au

Beyond Blue:

www.beyondblue.org.au

Mental Health in Australia:

www.mentalhealth.gov.au

BluePages:

www.bluepages.anu.edu.au

Mental Health First Aid

www.mhfa.com.au

Black Dog Institute

www.blackdoginstitute.org.au

As with any illness, prevention is better than cure. So please access these sites to find out how you can gain positive mental health today.

Quote of the Day

Nothing contributes so much to tranquilise the mind as a steady purpose-- a point on which the soul may fix its intellectual eye.

Mary Shelley

JobAccess = Success

If you have a disability and are looking for work but are unsure of what is out there for you in the way of support, then www.jobaccess.gov.au is a great place to start. It is a government website that is for jobseekers, employers, service providers (e.g. SACC) and co-workers.

As a jobseeker the site offers information on study, training and apprenticeships, getting work, starting work, thriving at work, returning to work, and an online job search facility. There is also advice on a range of services and supports for you from the government, Centrelink and a list of publications for jobseekers with a disability. If you cannot find the information you are after on the site there is a contact phone number for jobaccess advisers and all information is confidential.

So if you are looking for help with issues connected to your disability and looking for work, or if you are currently employed or even if you want to know more about what Centrelink can offer you this is an excellent site to visit.

For a closer look, go to:
www.jobaccess.gov.au

Did you know.....

workers with a disability are not an increased occupational health and safety risk (OHS). Research findings suggest that workers with disabilities have a lower number of OHS incidents and have lower workers' compensation costs compared to other employees...

SACC Jobseekers WANT to work!

Studies show that people with disabilities are more reliable; they want to work, take fewer sick days and have a genuine desire to find and keep a job!!

Stuart Mackenzie has Down syndrome which makes it harder for him to process information to learn new things, but he is polite, honest and a hard worker. Stuart joined SACC for help to research work possibilities and to be eligible for support and training.

Brad Freeman and his team at Elite Plumbing Services - Melrose Park, contacted SACC to find the right person for their stores vacancy. They had been unsuccessful in finding someone who would take pride in the role and not lose enthusiasm. SACC put Stuart forward. Brad and his team were confident in SACC's service and very impressed with Stuart's attitude and willingness to do his best. Stuart completed a 2 week unpaid trial in February with a SACC Job Support Officer to help him learn the job of tidying up the store room, putting away plumbing components and taking deliveries. At the end of the trial, and with some information and support from SACC, Stuart was offered, and accepted a part time paid position of 5 hours per day, 3 days per week.

Brad reports that Stuart really IS the best person for the job and that Stuart's work ethic is second to none. Brad also confirmed that contacting SACC was ideal as they now have a worker who wants to be there, enjoys his work and is doing it well.



Are you looking for reliable staff? Are you an inclusive employer like Elite Plumbing Services?
Call us on 8227 0900.

Story written by Cate Brennan, Marketing

Welcome to...

We are still growing and there have been new additions to the SACC Team over the last few months! We would now like to officially greet some fresh faces.



Anna is our new Quality Administrator, while Reece, Chelsea, Olivia, Jude, Elizabeth, and Heather are all Consultants. Lyn is our new receptionist and Chris and Kelly are our new Job Support Officers.

Welcome Aboard!



Workshops at SACC

Motivation & Goal Setting Workshop

Topics covered include:

- *Importance of setting personal goals*
- *How to set realistic goals*
- *Strategies to achieve them*
- *Planning to succeed*
- *How to overcome barriers*
- *Staying motivated*

Learning Optimism Workshop

Topics covered include:

- *Difference between optimism and pessimism*
- *Benefits of being optimistic*
- *Using positive self-talk*
- *Learning to be optimistic*
- *Importance of hope*
- *Creating new pathways*

Computer Training at SACC

If you need to update your skills in...

- | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------|
| ■ Basic Computing | ■ Email | ■ Excel |
| ■ File Management | ■ Internet | ■ MYOB |
| ■ Powerpoint | ■ Word Processing | ■ Database |

Want to attend either a workshop or a training course? ...talk to your SACC Consultant to secure a place!

