

BJL Projects Undertaken 1987-2008

Active Citizenship Programme

Duncraig Senior High School Project

BJL worked with students to identify their goals and future direction as well as engaging in personal development activities. BJI facilitated student discussions on “where am I now” and “where do I want to be in the future” to raise awareness and empower students to take responsibility for their own choices.

The objectives of the program were to promote active citizenship; empower students to take control of their learning; develop students enterprise skills; increase the involvement of the community in the education of students; increase opportunities for young people in education and training; assist students to establish future goals and engage in personal development and encourage connection with existing community resources and services

This BJI programme was delivered in partnership with Duncraig Senior High School in 2003.

Apprenticeship and Traineeship (APT) Pilot Programme

BJL identified an influx of clients requesting in depth career guidance and support to navigate the apprenticeship or traineeship system to secure a placement. Many of the clients required intensive individualised career coaching over a longer period than Employment Directions Network (EDN) was resourced to accommodate. At the same time, there was and still remains to be an evident skills shortage in trade related areas and some service industries, in addition to issues surrounding the retention of actual apprentices and trainees through to completion.

As a result of the above factors the Apprenticeship and Traineeship Pilot Program (APT) came into fruition. BJI solely funded the pilot stage which ran over a five month period. The aim of the project was two fold; firstly to promote the career pathway of apprenticeships and traineeships as a viable post school option (via interactive workshops in schools) and also to assist individuals contemplating employment based training programs. The program enabled individuals to make informed decisions regarding their career path and if applicable support their apprenticeship/ traineeship journey prior to sign up. There were clear performance and personal outcomes that resulted from individual’s participation within the program. Such outcomes illustrated the value and rationale for providing such a specialised one to one career guidance and coaching program in the area of apprenticeships and traineeships.

This BJI programme was delivered through the EDN North Metro in 2005 to 2006.



Battle of the Bands

BJL's Battle of the Bands was a community driven youth enterprise event, creating a bridge for youth bands to enable them to get out of the garage and give them an opportunity to perform live. The competition also recognised the importance of the Australian music industry, one of Australia's largest exports and in being so, a real career option for young people.

An average of ten bands competed, brokering talent with their diverse music; alternative, reggae, hip hop, heavy /soft / commercial rock. Spies were invited from the music industry to further their opportunities.

BJL's Battle of the Bands offered youth agencies an opportunity to share their wares with young people attending and in the past have included Employment Directions Network - School Leaver Program, Joondalup Youth Support Services; City of Joondalup; Morley Police and Citizens; YMCA and Surf Life Saving.

Battle of the Bands was delivered in partnership with The City of Stirling Youth Advisory Council; Balga Action Group; Balga PCYC and The WA Police Force in 2002 and 2003.

Benang Mooditj Moort (Nyoongar for Tomorrows Great People)

Girrawheen Senior High School

Benang: ~ Tomorrow (but not necessarily the day after today)

Moorditj: ~ Great – awesome - the best

Moort: ~ People – family – community

The project aims were to empower Indigenous students at Girrawheen Senior High School to take more confident steps towards success in further education, training, employment, personal and social development. This program incorporated other Indigenous community members and organisations to provide a holistic supported service to students and their families.

A series of workshops were delivered in 2004 to students on; communication and assertiveness; team building; being proud of my Indigenous heritage; personal presentation, what my image says about me; life skills; motivation to be successful and active community citizen; living and being successful in the changing world of work; developing support networks that will help me succeed (staying positive); post school options; peer mentoring; if I ask for help, will anybody listen; shifting blame.

Stage two of the program involved students performing a cultural dance and story telling – (dreamtime to now) using historical and Hip-hop music. A Teacher/Student Guide to Cultural Awareness and Bullying Manual were also created for student and teacher's use.

The Bjl Indigenous Project Officer facilitated an Indigenous elder to visit the school to raise awareness and improve relationships amongst students, teachers and the Principal. The Elder also visited other students elder relatives (Grandparents etc.) in support of the program with the aim to increase parent/caregiver and student participation.

BJL worked in partnership with Girrawheen Senior High School; Local Aboriginal Elders; Parents/Caregivers; Aboriginal Liaison Officers from Warwick Police Station; Centrelink; Yahnging Aboriginal Corporation and the Strong Families Co-ordinator (Dept of Community Development & Family and Children's Services).

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The Breakthrough Program

In 1993 The Gordon Reid Foundation funded “The Breakthrough Program”, a 12 week program for 24 disadvantaged youth. In the first week the participants took part in camping activities in the south-west, which focused on building self-esteem, communication and team building together with pre-employment and training learning activities.

Thereafter, half of the group attended a 10 week furniture trades skills learning placement whilst the remaining participants attended a retail skills learning placement at Balga TAFE. After the learning placements, participants took part in a one week work experience program within the furniture and retail environments. This was then followed up with one to one job placement support.

Career and Employability Outreach Service

BJL through the Employment Directions Network identified the need for Career and Employability outreach services in the Yanchep and Two Rocks area. EDN services were delivered one day per week from the Yanchep Community Centre and Sun City Access Centre in Two Rocks.

Services included one to one career guidance; assistance with education and training pathways; facilitated referral services; Profit from Experience Program; Enterprise Program (small business information) and workshop delivery in resume preparation, interview techniques , employability skills and a specialist workshop - how to apply for work using the internet - incorporating online career and employment resources.

BJL delivered this service in partnership with the City of Wanneroo; Yanchep Community Centre and the Sun City Sun City Access Centre in 2004.

Case Management Services

BJL delivered generalist and indigenous contracted Case Management services in the north metropolitan region from 1994 to 1997.

Case Management services supported participants with intensive assistance to;

- identify measures designed to eliminate or reduce any disadvantage the participant may have had in entering the labour market
- linked participants in activities such as; job search; vocational training courses; other training that would help in searching for work; paid work experience; development of self-employment; participation in, group enterprises or co-operative enterprises; participation in a labour market programs; participation in rehabilitation programs; unpaid voluntary work.

This service was administered through the Employment Services Regulatory Authority (ESRA), and funded by the Department of Employment, Education Training and Youth Affairs (DEETYA).



Community Youth Link Program

In 1993/94 Bjl obtained a grant from Lotteries Commission, to place four youths into an intensive employment and training program. Three participants undertook a horticultural program for one year, and the other participant in a bakery employment and training program. All participants were placed with local employers for the duration of their placement.

First Click Program and Extended IT workshops

Following from Bjl's previous outreach work in Yanchep and Two Rocks the need was identified for basic computer training to members of the community. In 2006 Bjl applied for First Click funding through the WA Department of Education and Training to provide computer training to over 70 participants over a 6 month period.

The majority of participants were seniors and had limited or no computer skills prior to accessing Bjl First Click training at the Yanchep Community Centre. Many participants were apprehensive about using a computer, and had previously requested assistance in communicating with family members based interstate/overseas (particularly grandchildren) but did not receive the right support to learn these skills. As a result, Introduction to Computers and Introduction to Internet and Email was extremely successful and assisted participants in increasing confidence and realising their own potential to learn and master new skills from turning on a computer to researching information on family trees via the internet.

Banking, bill paying and shopping on-line while being the most popular topics, participants were concerned about their personal security and were reluctant to display their personal information on the internet. Their fears were alleviated with information and realistic examples on how to keep their personal information protected whilst being able to bank, pay bills or shop online. Participants would often question how to send photos of themselves and other family members to others overseas via email. Basic digital camera use, downloading and attaching photos to emails was introduced with great success.

A number of senior participants were also involved in a voluntary capacity in their communities and were able to apply these new skills to their voluntary work.

The program could not have operated had it not been for the volunteers that offered members of the community additional training outside of sponsored hours. Bjl delivered this program in partnership with the City of Wanneroo and Yanchep Community Centre and Yanchep Volunteer Hub.

Ground Works Program

BJL in conjunction with the Northern Suburbs Migrant Resource Centre, designed, developed and delivered the Groundworks pilot program. The targeted participants were overseas trained and qualified professionals employed in their profession in their country of origin.

The aim of the project was assisting recently arrived migrants and refugees in the health and associated professions, to understand the Australian workplace culture and assist them in actively looking for work which included job search training. The Groundworks project encompassed a one week work orientation course followed by a 1 to 3 week work experience placement with a host employer in Perth.

During the course, guest speakers from various agencies were invited to provide information and assistance to the participants. Agencies included Centrelink, Worksafe, DEEWR, ASeTTS, Overseas Qualification Unit, Workers Assistance Program and the Department of Education and Training.

Following the very successful pilot workshop the second Groundworks workshop was designed for overseas trained health professionals ranging from a professor of Cairo University, Psychologist from Russia, doctors from the Middle East, scientist from Iraq to a midwife from Thailand.

Indigenous Driving School

BJL formed a partnership with a local Indigenous Community Group and with them applied for funds from the Department of Aboriginal Affairs to run an Indigenous Driving School in 1994.

A major obstacle in employment was not having a licence and transport to travel to work, as public transport at the time, was very sparse between various sections of Perth

This program provided indigenous youth with the opportunity to participate in a “Driver Training Program”. BJL provided a driving school to give lessons with the participants actively working with the Indigenous Employment Officer of BJL to link into education, training or employment. Aproximately 60 Indigenous people accessed the program, gained their licences and were linked into work or training as a result.

Job Placement Education and Training Programme (JPET)

BJL delivered the JPET programme in the North Metropolitan region from its inception in 1997 from our Girrawheen office and in the Central Perth region from our Victoria Park office from 2006 until June 2009 when the program ceased. JPET participants were assisted to develop strategies to overcome barriers to participation and engagement in education, training and employment.

The JPET programme provided a service to young people aged 15-21 who were homeless or at risk of homelessness. JPET also assisted those who were experiencing personal and social difficulties that may have included a range of issues including; a dysfunctional family background; mental health issues; language, reading and writing difficulties or drug and alcohol issues.

BJL JPET Project Officers worked very closely with participants to help them overcome any barriers and worked in collaboration with other community agencies and services to support the young person. Services most often accessed included; temporary accommodation; psychological assessment; drug and alcohol treatment; education and training; personal counselling.

The JPET programme was funded by the Department of Employment & Workplace Relations.



JobLink

The Job Link program was a community-based employment service which assisted local job-seekers, business and industry to meet demands for a skilled and employable workforce. This program was delivered by BJL from 1987 to 2002.

The program offered personalised employment assistance services to jobseekers to access employment, training and enterprise opportunities with particular emphasis on job-seekers with special needs, such as the long term unemployed; people with disabilities, those from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, ex-offenders, mature-aged people, Aboriginal people, school leavers (including youth at risk), and women returning to the workforce. BJL also delivered a specialist indigenous Job Link program to work with Aboriginal communities and organisations to develop locally-based enterprise, employment and training initiatives to enhance job prospects for Aboriginal people. Job Link was administered through the State Employment Assistance Strategy (SEAS), funded by the WA Department of Training and Employment

NB: BJL has run the longest Indigenous Specialty program in the north metropolitan region spanning the organisation's history. This program is one of BJL's and the WA Department of Education and Training's oldest Indigenous Speciality Programs and as such, is well established and accepted within the community.

Local Learning and Employment Partnership (LLEP) North Metro

The Local Learning and Employment Partnership, North Metro (LLEP) aimed to assist 15 to 19 year olds in their transition from school to further education, training and employment.

To meet this mandate the LLEP undertook activities in three main areas;

- research and strategic planning
- networking and developing partnerships
- identifying and initiating projects

The LLEP had a mandate to assist in planning for the delivery of transition programs that;

- helped young people navigate their individual pathway between school and further education, training and employment;
- analyse local education, training and employment environments;
- develop a view of local needs;
- encourage the development of innovative programs and projects to better meet the needs of youth that were not currently being met by the education and training opportunities in the region.

The Local Learning Employment Partnership was delivered from 2003 to 2004 primarily within the Cities of Wanneroo and Joondalup, and funded by the WA Department of Education and Training.



Make Apprenticeships & Training Options (MAPTO)

Make Apprenticeship and Traineeship Options (MAPTO) pilot program provided one to one specialist career guidance and coaching in the area of Apprenticeships and Traineeships to assist individuals of any age or circumstance to: discover options; make informed choices create individualised action plans and support their journey towards a positive outcome.

Developed from a strong belief that effective one-to-one career counselling with young people interested in pursuing a trade would cement the career exploration and realisation process, and also assisting young people to stay within their chosen trade after completing MAPTO (and thus improving first year retention rates) the primary aims were to:-

- Inform and educate young Western Australians of the alternative career pathway of Apprenticeships and Traineeships, and
- Assist Western Australians to gain meaningful employment into Traineeships and Apprenticeships of their choice.

The MAPTO Programme delivered on all these aims, with many students engaged in MAPTO successfully gaining an Apprenticeship or Traineeship. The remaining participants either returned to an education environment or went on to other forms of employment.

The MAPTO Programme was born out of the successful Apprenticeship and Traineeship (APT) pilot programme delivered from our Joondalup office in 2005-06.

This programme was funded by the WA Department of Education and Training from July 2006 to June 2007 and delivered through the EDN North and EDN Central service in partnership with the Career Development Centre, Perth.

Migrant Assistance Program (MAP)

The MAP Program assisted people from Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) backgrounds with their employability, education and training requirements through one to one counselling, career advice, and assistance with resumes, selection criteria and job search support.

This programme was originally funded from 1993 to 1994 by the Department of Immigration and Ethnic Affairs, and in 1995 funded by the Western Australian Department of Education and Training.



Moving on Starting Out - MOSO

Government and non government schools in Western Australia

The main focus of this festival was peer education, where creative resources on issues associated with Career Development and the Management of Life, Learning and Work were designed by young people for use with young people in the school community. Some of the key aims of MOSO were to raise the awareness of the critical national and WA state government career development agenda and providing schools with a creative vehicle for focussing their career development delivery to students.

Within a high school setting there was an evident need for a creative platform to encourage and inspire high school students between the ages of 12 and 18 to engage in dialogue and reveal their key issues surrounding managing life, learning and work. We used media because of its significant and importance in young people's means of expression and communication.

MOSO was a creative, interactive shared learning experience. It was designed to encourage students to express themselves and share their learning and work experiences. This meant that they had to be open to learning from their teachers, peers and access learning from government, industry and community. MOSO was also incorporated into the curriculum. MOSO was aligned to the Australian Blueprint for Career Development and Western Australia Education Curriculum outcome based assessment – so all students from year 8 to 12 could get their work accredited.

It was an opportunity for young people to “Tell their story through a choice of mediums - short film (camera); super short film (mobile phone, digital camera, web cam); visual art (storyboarding); and captioned photography.

Students across Western Australia were asked to explore and communicate their issues, opinions and views surrounding one of the following:-

- What is work?
- What makes me who I am and what I become?
- When and where does learning begin and end?
- What is education?

To further assist students, short clips from previous year's winning film entries could be found in the “Clips” section of the MOSO website – developed by WestOne and hosted through Get Access website (<http://getaccess.westone.wa.gov.au/moso>).

To showcase student's skills to a wider audience, photographs and storyboards were exhibited to the general public and films screened at the annual Screening and Awards Night. Access 31 televised the events which were hosted by Edith Cowan University.



During the 5 years, the following schools took part in the festival;

- Ballajura Community College
- Broome Senior High School
- Corrigin District High School
- Duncraig Senior High School
- Foundation Christian College, Mandurah
- Frederick Irwin Anglican School, Mandurah
- Girrawheen Senior High School
- Hamilton Senior High School
- Hedland Senior High School
- John Curtin College of the Arts, East Fremantle
- Lumen Christi College, Martin
- La Salle College, Middle Swan
- Lockridge Senior High School
- Mercedes College, Perth
- Mandurah Baptist College
- Mandurah Senior College
- Mindarie College
- Mercy College, Koondoola
- Mt Lawley Senior High School
- Mirrabooka Senior High School
- Ocean Reef Senior High School
- Padbury Senior High School
- Rossmoyne Senior High School
- Sacred Heart College, Sorrento
- Scotch College, Swanbourne
- Seton Catholic College, Samson
- Shenton College
- St Brigid's, Lesmurdie
- Warwick Senior High School
- Woodvale Senior High School
- Wanneroo Senior High School
- Yanchep District High School
- Yandeyarra Remote Community School, South Hedland
- York District High School

MOSO was delivered annually from 2004 to 2008 and funded by WA Department of Education and Training (2004 to 2007) and Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (2007 to 2008).

The Festival was delivered through the EDN and LCP Programs and in partnership with; Edith Cowan University; WestOne Services; Access 31; Nova 93.7; Film and Television Institute; Workplace Services; S & T Graphic Designs; Custom Create; Civic Video; Woodvale Art Frames and City of Stirling Youth Advisory Committee.

Personal Support Programme

The Personal Support Programme (PSP) provided intensive case management over a two year period to participants facing multiple personal barriers and aimed to achieve increased economic and social participation. Typical barriers faced by participants included mental health problems, homelessness, family breakdown, substance abuse, chronic health problems and social isolation.

PSP provided one-on-one support for clients through counselling, referral, information and resource sharing. In general, participants were aged between 19 and 64 years, spanning a wide range of barriers including substance abuse, psychiatric disorders, family/relationship breakdown, domestic violence, homelessness, poverty, severe phobias, very limited employment/educational experience, and other disabilities. Additional support was given through the provision of group workshops and some financial assistance for clients enrolling in studies or training to make them more 'job ready'.

The PSP Programme was funded by The Department of Employment & Workplace Relations and delivered through a sub contract arrangement with Jobfutures from 2002 to June 2009.



Triple C Project: Teaching and Reaching Learners at Risk

BJL in partnership with the Ministry of Justice, JobsWest and Community Youth Training Services created an information resource package for use with youth at risk students in a training and development environment in 2002.

The focus of this resource was when we have learners in our courses that have difficulties in their lives; the facilitators then become teachers at risk – at risk of losing able students. As facilitators we are usually not able to resolve the complex issues youth at risk can face. That requires professional services. But as facilitators we are in a privileged position where we can get to know and understand our learners, provide ‘front line’ support for them, and direct them to other services if that is required. Students who could achieve what we intend for them if we understood better what their individual needs were – and that depends on establishing good working relationships with these learners.

This ‘kit’ of materials was designed to share strategies developed over the years that have helped us talk with our students and especially our at risk students whose life experiences were often very different from our own. But the kit is also designed to raise questions because there is no simple ‘formula’ for getting this right. This effective approach will be different for different learners (and different teachers) and in different contexts.

The kit contained:

- an introduction about the wisdom (or otherwise) of labelling a learner ‘at risk’;
- guidelines for questioning new enrolments
- using student resumes as a way of getting to know your students
- guidelines for observing the signs that a student may be at risk
- suggestions for ways you and your colleagues (or your students) can document local support and services for learners at risk.

Where Do We Go To From Here (Retrenched Timber Workers)

BJL delivered in partnership with Combined Team Services four “Where Do We Go to From Here” Courses to 64 Timber workers who were retrenched from the industry due to the state Government’s decision to reduce log allocations.

The aim of the two week program was to assist the retrenched timber workers find a new career direction; identify transferable skills and develop employability skills; raise understanding of the changing world of work; provide workshops on job search and self employment and personal development activities.

The courses were delivered in 2002 and 2003 and were funded by the WA Department of Education and Training.



YMCA Mobile Bus

In 2003 BJL working in collaboration with the YMCA piloted an outreach Employment Directions Network service in order to connect with disenfranchised youth.

The YMCA Mobile Youth Service has proved itself to be one of the largest youth services operating in and around the suburbs of Perth. It offers young people a safe place to meet and recreate in an atmosphere that is congruent to young people.

Our target audience were youth who were not aware of or accessing mainstream services the EDN provided. Our approach was to promote the services of EDN and deliver more flexible and tailored services to meet the education, training and employment needs of individual young people so critical in the growth and development of themselves and the community.

The program was extremely successful with most of the participants obtaining employment. The Gordon Reid Foundation provided additional funding for the following year, 1994.

WAVE Program

From the success of the 1994 "Breakthrough Program", BJL obtained a grant from the Department of Employment Vocational Education and Training to fund another retail training program for youth, this time employing the services of professional retail trainers to assist with the delivery of the course.

