

2012

REPORT



2012

Chairperson's Report

Once again it is pleasing to report to our local communities that the CCLLEN has continued its good work with the community during 2012 - consolidating on previous successes, striving for further improvements, or launching new initiatives.

The LLEN as an statewide entity celebrated its tenth year during 2012. This was a similar story for us at the CCLLEN as we marked our tenth year in March 2012. A statewide celebration was held in Melbourne in August to commemorate the occasion. This was a time for reflection on how far we had come in providing educational and employment outcomes for young people across Victoria. But as with all things it challenged us to think about what more could we do.

Data is telling us that we have remained stagnant with Year 12 completion rates in schools, yet on a local level this may or may not be the case. In small communities such as ours I believe we are more keenly aware of the issues our young people face and encourage them with whatever opportunities we can provide.

Local communities are able to come up with solutions to local problems given support or key partners in the necessary areas. This support and partnering is an important aspect of the work we do at the CCLLEN that inspires me, because as you can imagine, the needs of young people in Cohuna or Rushworth would be different to young people in Echuca, Kyabram or Rochester.

Two projects that we have worked on in 2012 highlight this difference immensely. Our Youth Partnership projects in Gannawarra and Kyabram are poles apart in the styles of projects they became, but the outcomes achieved - as defined by the local communities - were what was required by the local communities. This is a win-win situation in my opinion.

As I wrote this report last year we were eagerly anticipating the launch of our School Friendly Business initiative. It is very pleasing to report that the business and industry community have embraced this project wholeheartedly with sign ups continuing as I write this report! This initiative embraces many aspects of our strategic plan, and is looking to become the umbrella under which we will work in the future.

Feedback from Business and Industry is that they are eager to create links with schools, and often ask how they can support them in their goals of engaging and creating 21st century learners and future employees. The CCLLEN in partnership with key stakeholders is able to facilitate this link, as you can read about further in this report.

In closing I wish to thank the CCLLEN Board members and the staff for their passion, dedication and commitment to our vision of creating opportunities for the young people and their families within our communities.

I hope you enjoy reading about our activities of the past year, and again, urge you to think about how YOU could be involved. "Many hands make light work".

Kerrie Raglus
Chairperson

Executive Officer's Report

2012 has been an excellent year for us as we built on our strengths, made significant progress on our objectives and established strong partnerships.

The *School Friendly Business* initiative was launched and is rapidly growing. Businesses signing up are eager to engage with schools and we have been able to offer them many opportunities. You will read about some of those opportunities in this Annual Report. We have invited students to events we hold for our School Friendly Businesses and the students, both primary and secondary, have enjoyed and benefited from the experiences.

We are finding that as *School Friendly Business* grows it is intrinsic to our Strategic Plan. The initiative links to all the work of the CCLLEN and presents our purpose in a format that everyone understands and can engage with.

The *Youth Partnerships* projects have formed strong partnerships. The Kyabram Project has built a robust platform for the partners and service agencies to use to work together collaboratively to support young people. From taking time to build the relationships we now have greater understanding between agencies and a focus on developing better referral and information sharing processes. The Kyabram Project aims to have an “any door entry” service delivery model, so that a young person can initially make contact with any service provider and, through that agency, be linked with the support services needed, without needing to repeatedly tell their story, or separately find and access the services.

The Gannawarra Youth Partnerships Project has developed a Flexible Learning program which is successfully engaging young men in education, community and employment. Further work on sustaining the program will be required during 2013.

The Southern Mallee Youth Partnerships Project is developing a governance model for vulnerable youth support across four Local Government Areas, to then provide a more consistent approach to integrated service delivery.

City Kids Experiencing Country Life is a new contract we have with DEECD. We have funding to pay transport costs for city primary school students to visit our area and learn about agriculture, history and rural life styles.

With so much new work we have added to our team with new Project Officers employed casually to work on specific projects.

I thank the Board of CCLLEN for their support throughout the year, and I particularly thank the staff for their enthusiasm, professionalism and the consistent high quality of their work.

Anne Trickey
Executive Officer

What is the CCLLEN?

The CCLLEN is a grouping of organisations and individuals interested and involved in the wellbeing, education, training and employment of young people. Our core objective is to improve participation, engagement and attainment and transition outcomes for young people 10 –19 years. There are 31 LLENs across Victoria. The CCLLEN's geographic boundary is inclusive of the Shire of Campaspe and Cohuna in the Gannawarra Shire.

Government reforms at the end of 2009 resulted in a National Partnership between the Commonwealth and the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) in Victoria. LLENs are funded via this Partnership.

The CCLLEN's stakeholder group encompasses education and training providers, business and industry, community organisations, and parents and families. The CCLLEN undertakes the brokering of partnerships with these stakeholders to assist with the successful transitioning of our young people through education and training into employment. The age range of young people we work with is 10 to 19 year olds.

The CCLLEN holds contracts for three major programs -

The **School Business Community Partnership Brokers Program** negotiates and establishes lasting partnerships between schools, business, community groups and parents and families to improve education outcomes for young people.

The **Workplace Learning Coordinator** works with secondary schools, TAFEs, adult and community education providers and local employers to source hosts for work placements for school based apprenticeships and traineeships, structured workplace learning and work experience.

City Kids Experiencing Country Life provides all transport costs for Year 6 students in metropolitan based schools to visit and experience life in regional and rural Victoria. The CCLLEN also organises accommodation and all the activities for the camps. The City Kids Experiencing Country Life initiative is supported through the Victorian Government's Regional Growth Fund.



Progress on Strategic Plan

This is a summary of our actions throughout the year. Further details on some projects are provided later in this report. Full details on our progress against our strategic plan, as reported to DEECD, are available from CCLLEN on request.

Goal 1: Improve post compulsory education and transition outcomes for young people

Strategic Actions included:

- Youth Partnerships projects in Kyabram and Gannawarra
- Professional Development for VCAL teachers
- Participation in and support of Campaspe Careers Professional Learning Network
- Participation in Gateways 4 Sustainable Communities
- Partnerships with Workplace Learning Coordinator on VET Awards, Murray River Culinary Challenge and Kyabram Industry Open Day
- School Leavers Guide
- Support of Youth Connections and engagement with their staff on issues and activities, provision of information, and assistance with networks and contacts
- Support to Beacon Foundation activities
- Projects in partnership with School Focused Youth Service and Wellbeing Clusters

Indicators: Year 12 attainment rate, 2008 = 67.8%, 2009 = 72.4%, 2010 = 78%

VET in Schools enrolment, 2009 = 658, 2010 = 609, 2011 = 770

VCAL enrolment, 2009 = 130, 2010 = 225, 2011 = 201, 2012 = 185

Re-engagement through Youth Connections, 2010 = 55 final outcomes, 2011 = 76 final outcomes, 2012 = final outcomes

Goal 2: Improve indigenous student (10-19) transitions and attainment

Strategic Actions included:

- Engagement with key indigenous networks including Campaspe Aboriginal Health Partnership Group, Local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group, Njernda, Koorie Engagement Support Officers and Koorie Educators
- Facilitator role in creating new working group for the Campaspe Aboriginal Health Partnership Group. Working group is charged with focusing on Aboriginal education, employment and economic development for young people
- Support for Koori students to undertake work experience
- Support of Koori student awards

Indicator: Number of indigenous students completing Year 12 in 2010 = 6, in 2011 = 7, 2012 = 7

Goal 3: Improve employability skills of students through enhanced careers and transitions and workplace learning programs

Strategic Actions included:

- Employability skills incorporated into Student Work Placement and Work Experience Log Books
- Partnership with Workplace Learning Coordinator to promote work experience and work placements for students

- A number of careers and workplace learning events -
 - Kyabram 'Day in Industry' where more than 100 Year 9 students each visited three local businesses to explore the range of careers available
 - 'Upload Your Future' events showcasing careers in Information and Communication Technology. Two events held in Kyabram and Echuca with interactive workshops, guest speakers and panels of young workers.
 - Student excursions to Auto Horizon Foundation, Fox Collection and Automotive Centre for Excellence with funding obtained by CCLLEN from Careers in Manufacturing program
 - Support to Beacon programs in Echuca Moama and Kyabram for careers and employability skills related activities such as Work with Wheels careers expo, industry speakers, tours and mock interviews

Indicator: *Number of businesses engaged in School Industry Partnerships,*
 2010 = 24, 2011 = 40, 2012 = 161

Goal 4: Increase and improve parent and family engagement, especially at Years 7, 8 and 9 with education, training and pathways planning.

Strategic Actions included:

- Focus on family engagement through parents' workplaces via the implementation of School Friendly Business Campaign
 - Parent information on supporting their child's learning placed in staff rooms of school friendly businesses
 - Presentations to staff at school friendly businesses
- School engagement and careers related events for Year 9 students at Kyabram and Echuca
- Parent information session
- Tips for parents on supporting learning in CCLLEN Bulletin

Indicator: *Parent attendance at events with CCLLEN involvement,*
 2010 = 522, 2011 = 596, 2012 = 118

Goal 5: Improve and increase the partnership and connections between education and training providers with community groups to support and wellbeing, education and transition outcomes of young people (10-19).

Strategic Actions included:

- Development of Youth Partnerships projects to build partnerships and connections to create integrated service delivery and flexible learning options
- Facilitation of Campaspe Youth Services Network connecting youth service organisations and workers
- Database of youth services providers maintained and distributed to stakeholders
- Support of School Focused Youth Service and partnership in projects funded by the Service
- Youth Services Directory provided to students and agencies
- Engagement with networks such as Network of Disability Services, Kyabram Service Providers Network, Chances for Change.

Indicator: *Number of new partnerships, 2010 = 2, 2011 = 2, 2012 = 1*

Local government strategies which include CCLLEN priorities = 2

School Friendly Businesses



This initiative aims to enhance business and school relationships for the benefit of all, and to improve education and transition outcomes for young people.

The questions it seeks to address are: -

- How can businesses be more engaged with schools in general and connect with potential future employees?
- How can schools be more engaged with local business?
- How can young people be more aware of the career opportunities available to them in their home town?
- How can businesses be recognised for the work they already do with schools and the support they already give students?
- How can working parents be encouraged to be more engaged with their children's learning?

Students 'need aspiration, experiences and networks – the type of support and opportunities that are only possible through a whole of community approach'. (Business Working With Education Foundation).

After consultations with school principals, business leaders and business representative groups such as the Murray Business Network and the Echuca Business and Trades Association, the School Friendly Business initiative was launched in Echuca Moama in April 2012. From there it rapidly gained support and further momentum.

Visually stunning glossy A1 coloured poster calendars were created featuring school events and dates relevant to the community and photos from all schools. These were distributed to schools, parents and businesses. The calendars enable all to be aware of important school dates.

Businesses are invited to apply to be recognised as 'School Friendly'. It is obvious there are many ways businesses can be 'School Friendly'. The School Friendly Business initiative therefore involves a whole suite of criteria that a business can select from. These include:

- Being aware of important school dates
- Considers flexi time for parent/guardian employees to attend significant school events
- Welcomes authorised school and parenting promotional literature in staff rooms
- Is prepared to host workplace learning (work experience, work placements and/or school based apprentices) and tours of worksites
- Considers mentoring students
- Engages with the Beacon Foundation
- Would like to be invited to important school events

- Is keen to help train potential employees
 - Wants to part of the 'village that raises a child'
 - Gives 'other' support to schools or young people (as described by the business)
- A business has School Friendly Business status if at least six of the above can be ticked.

School Friendly Business was featured at a Murray Business Network event in May. At this event Dr Leeora Black was the key note speaker on the topic of Corporate Social Responsibility. Prior to Dr Black's address CCLLEN gave a brief presentation on the School Friendly Business initiative. Many business people present thought the initiative was a great idea and pledged their support by immediately signing on. Dr Leeora Black congratulated the CCLLEN on the program and said it was 'a great example of corporate social responsibility on a local level'.

The Shire of Campaspe and Echuca Regional Health, two of our region's major employers, have particularly embraced the School Friendly Business concept and have welcomed school and parenting promotional literature into their work sites. This has supported the CCLLEN's work to engage parents in their children's education. The partnership nurtured with the Echuca Moama Beacon Foundation benefitting young people has also been a highlight.

In second semester of 2012 the roll out commenced in the Kyabram community. Nine Kyabram and district schools from Government and Catholic sectors and 33 businesses signed on by the end of 2012. Calendars were distributed at the start of semester 2. The Cohuna community is also in line with a launch planned there for early 2013. Five schools in the Cohuna region have made commitments and a number of businesses have already been approached. At the end of 2012 dates and photos were gathered from 25 schools for semester 1 2013 calendars in Echuca, Kyabram and Cohuna to be printed and distributed at the commencement of the new school year.

Two School Friendly Business lunches were held which businesses, principals and student representatives attended. Mutually beneficial guest speaker topics were around the themes of what industry needs to know about young people of today and conversely what industry needs from young people. At the first lunch School principals presented on the topic: 'Generation Next – Your Future Employees'. At the second lunch industry leaders presented on: 'How Technology is Changing Our Business'. These lunches also provided valuable networking opportunities between the schools and business representatives – something that does not happen often.

The initiative will be extended to Rochester and Rushworth and their surrounding communities in mid 2013. Several other LLENs have expressed interest in replicating the program.

The School Friendly Business initiative, through its suite of criteria, addresses most of the retention in education and education attainment related strategic goals of the CCLLEN. The initiative has made real progress towards achieving outcomes against the targets and indicators in the CCLLEN Strategic Plan. Whilst in many cases the progress at this stage is setting up for achievement in the longer term there are already tangible results. There has been a significant Increase in the number of employers engaged in school industry partnerships.

Eighty businesses signed up to the program by the end of 2012, and 29 had engaged in activities with the schools. Thirty-four School Friendly Businesses took students on work placements in 2012. School Friendly Businesses have placed parenting literature in their staff rooms and offices and displayed the school events calendars. The Shire of Campaspe, Kagome and Echuca Regional Health, through their staff professional development and managers' meetings, also provide such information. Parent engagement is being increased as this information is reaching parent employees in School Friendly workplaces.

The School Friendly Business initiative has surpassed all expectations. It is a logical and straight forward concept but one that is innovative. All of the businesses that have signed up have met at least 6 of the criteria to become a School Friendly Business. Schools, other Education and Training providers, Business and Industry organisations and individuals have given the initiative great acclaim and support. Parents and families will find it easier to participate in their children's school activities. Businesses are not being asked for money and this is a plus in the current economic climate. Other LLENs want to replicate the program. Regional DEECD officers have been very encouraging. Business and School relationships and avenues of communication have been enhanced and/or developed for mutual benefit.

The School Friendly Business initiative develops and enhances engagement and collaboration between schools, education and training providers, parents and families, community groups and business and industry. School Friendly Businesses support their communities and help improve education and transition outcomes for young people.



Campaspe Youth Services Network

The CCLLEN convenes quarterly meetings of the Network, including arranging the meeting venue and guest speakers. The CCLLEN also maintains a database of Youth Services which is regularly updated and distributed to members of the Network.

Community Services Forum

Emerging regional workforce development issues in Early Childhood, Aged and Disability Services were addressed at the Murray Campaspe Community Services Forum in November. Collectively, the Community Services and Health industry is the largest in Australia and is increasing at twice the rate of all other industries.

The CCLLEN supported the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, Murray and Campaspe Shire Councils and other local partners to hold the Forum.

The agenda included presentations from the Federal Government's Industry Skills Council, Skills Victoria and State Training Services NSW. During sector breakout sessions local workforce issues were identified, strategies to address prioritised issues were developed and actions required to achieve the strategies were assigned. A Question and Answer session between Government and Industry representatives and the convened group proved very valuable. Isabel Osuna-Gatty from the Community Services and Health Industry Skills Council finished the day with a National Workforce Development Fund Application Process Workshop.

Koori Projects

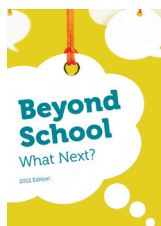
CCLLEN has been a member of the Campaspe Aboriginal Health Partnership Group since mid 2010.

In June 2012 the Group held a planning day that lead to a number of recommendations. One of the recommendations was -

To develop a new working group focusing on Aboriginal education, employment and economic development. This group will focus on improving educational attainment and access to economic and material resources for the Aboriginal community. The target group will be young people and the actions will include advocacy, developing partnerships and creating supportive environments. This working group will report to the Partnership group at every meeting as a standing agenda item.

CCLLEN was nominated to develop and facilitate the working group. Work on this has commenced.

School Leaver's Guide



CCLLEN partners with Goulburn Murray LLEN to update and re-print this valuable resource each year. Copies are distributed to all schools prior to their Year 12 students finishing classes for the year. Schools were also provided with additional copies for younger students who leave school.

Youth Partnerships

Youth Partnerships involves designing and testing new ways for youth services across all sectors to work together more collaboratively to support vulnerable young people aged 10-18 years. The needs of young people, and the services available for them, differ from area to area. Local agencies are best-placed to know local needs, what works 'on-the-ground' in supporting young people, and what gaps and issues in service provision exist. Youth Partnerships aims to engage local agencies in the process, and build local capacity for enduring collaboration and service integration to better support young people.

The key goals of Youth Partnerships are to:

- Improve engagement in education and training; and
- Reduce the escalation of problems for individual young people.

There are seven demonstration sites for Youth Partnerships in Victoria and within each demonstration site there are a number of pilot projects.

CCLLEN is involved in three projects. In the CCLLEN area we have one project funded in Kyabram, another in Gannawarra and another for Southern Mallee which covers the Local Government Areas of Swan Hill, Gannawarra, Buloke and Loddon.

The CCLLEN has worked on project proposals and project plans for all three projects. This has been a substantial amount of work. Initially CCLLEN helped with meetings and discussions across our area seeking to gauge the levels of interest and support in participating in Youth Partnerships. From these discussions CCLLEN brought together potential partners to meet and explore options. This resulted in more partners being identified and the formation of the partnerships.

Kyabram Youth Partnership

The Kyabram project employed a part time project worker early in 2012 to develop processes and structures to support integrated service delivery for the Kyabram community, and create a governance structure to ensure this continues past the duration of the project. The project has two teams of people involved – a Project Management Group consisting of Principals, Executive Officers and Managers from the partner organisations, and an Operations Team consisting of workers from organisations delivering services to young people in Kyabram. Throughout the year the Management Group has developed sustainable governance arrangements that will endure past the funded period of the project, and the Operations Team has worked on referral protocols, information sharing and privacy issues so that young people can connect with any service provider and be linked to the supports they need. This will lead to an "Any Door" entry system for vulnerable young people who ask for assistance. Ultimately the Kyabram community will be able to cater to individual circumstances and provide services and education tailored to the needs of each young person.

Gannawarra Youth Partnership

The Gannawarra project provides a flexible learning program for students from Cohuna Secondary College and Kerang Technical High School.

Twelve male students are engaged in the program. They attend school two days a week, Kerang Learning Centre one day a week undertaking Certificate in General Education for Adults, work on community projects, with an outdoor focus, for Gannawarra Shire one day a week and individual work placements with local businesses one day per week.

The students' engagement in the program and regular school has improved markedly with attendance at almost 100%. Some of the work placements have become School Based Apprenticeships, and some of these are for two days a week. The students' confidence, behaviour, teamwork and attitude to teachers have all improved greatly.

CCLLEN undertook a study of the program with a view to its sustainability beyond the Youth Partnerships funding. The report made a number of recommendations which will be implemented in the first half of 2013.

Southern Mallee Youth Partnership

The Southern Mallee project is investigating a sustainable governance model for youth services across the Local Government Areas in the Southern Mallee region. This will have the capacity to inform and guide future funding for youth services to enable better collaboration and more comprehensive service delivery. The Southern Mallee region is large with many small towns and currently subject to fragmented service delivery.

Work so far has brought together four Local Government Areas, three LLENs and Northern District Community Health Services. The group has identified key stakeholders, discussed governance models and best practice and participated in a governance workshop and a Social Network Analysis project. A consultant will be employed early in 2013 to work with Local Governments on this project.

CCLLEN is working in partnership with Murray Mallee LLEN on the Gannawarra project and with Murray Mallee LLEN and North Central LLEN on the Southern Mallee project. DEECD Youth Partnerships Project Officers provide considerable advice and support to all three projects.

2012 VET IN SCHOOLS

CAMPASPE COHUNA LLEN VET STUDENT OF THE YEAR 2012



SARAH HEAD

Home School:
Echuca College

Training Organisation:
Echuca College

Workplacement:
Bendigo Equine Clinic



On Wednesday night we celebrated the outstanding achievements of Vocational Education and Training (VET) students at the Moama Bowling Club. Around 600 secondary school students are enrolled in VET, and the awards ceremony, with winners announced in 18 categories.

Organised by the Campaspe Cohuna Local Learning and Employment Network (CCLLEN), attending were students and their families, schools, teachers, host employers and sponsors.

Students are nominated for the Awards by their VET teachers and trainers and must provide reports on individual student performance. Nominated students submit their reports in preparation for entering the workforce. The judges were again impressed by the outstanding performance of the students.

Anne Trickey, Executive Officer of CCLLEN congratulated all involved, "The annual Awards support of our local businesses in providing authentic and quality work placements for our students."

What is VET?

VET, or Vocational Education and Training, refers to a nationally recognised vocational certificate and can be undertaken by students as part of their Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) or Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) studies. A VET subject includes both a theoretical and an applied "hands-on" component. Students undertake VET for a variety of reasons. A student may be looking to enter the workforce upon completion of Year 12 and successful completion of a VET subject is an advantage when applying for an apprenticeship or that first job. Also, students headed for University may find the "hands-on" component of VET a welcome contrast to an academic schedule, and the work skills gained are beneficial across the board.

A vital component of a VET subject is Structured Workplace Learning. Students are hosted by a wide range of local employers and undertake structured on the job training during which they are expected to master a designated set of skills and competencies related to their course.



CCLLEN's School Friendly Business initiative is aimed at enhancing the support they give to young people in their journey through school. VET in Schools host employers and Awards sponsors are demonstrated by young people.

FINALISTS

Allied Health
Emily Monaghan
Michelle Beck

Applied Fashion Design and Technology
Jordyn Robertson
Kate Zakrzewski
Larni Williams
Lucy Benbow
Rhiana Micheal

Automotive Studies
Jake Taylor
Stephen Briggs
Tom Farrell
Tom McCluskey

Beauty
Alison Cardwell
Carmen Dye

Building and Construction
Ben Davis
Bryce Niven
Jake Parkinson
Jamie Franklin
Mark Hocking

Business
Monique Hargood
Community Services
Georgia McMurdo
Kayla Hore
Rebecca Ashwell
Rebecca Cheep

Dance
Holly Kornmann
Lewis Beer
Lisa Styles
Stacey Ross

Electrotechnology
Jaycob Dingwall
Stephen Bessell
Engineering Studies
Jake Ryan
Leigh Horgan
Thomas Hepburn

Equine Industry
Sarah Head
Hairdressing
Hollie Hildebrandt
Phoebe Pike
Rachael Else
Tara Wilson

Hospitality
Georgia Wickham
Kerith Sims

Music
Alex Harris
Brittany Barnard
Brooke Thomson
Hayley Barnard
Louis Spencely
Mitchell Spiers
Retail (Café skills)
Joel Lehmann
Matthew Webb
Teagan Priestley
Sport and Recreation
Jack Milligan
Tracey Ogden
School Based Apprentice/Trainee
Daniel Conlan
Ella Thompson
Jesse Collins
Lilly Dodds

ALLIED HEALTH



MICHELLE BECK

Home School:
St Joseph's College
Training Organisation:
VIC Uni of Technology
Workplacement:
Echuca Regional Health



COMMUNITY SERVICES



REBECCA CHEEP

Home School:
Echuca College
Training Organisation:
Echuca College
Workplacement:
Campaspe Children's Centre



DANCE



LEWIS BEER

Home School:
St Joseph's College
Training Organisation:
Echuca College
Workplacement:
Suzanne's Schools of Ballet



ELECTRO - TECHNOLOGY



STEPHEN BESSELL

Home School:
Rochester Secondary College
Training Organisation:
Bendigo TAFE
Workplacement:
D.J & P Hocking



ENGINEERING STUDIES



LEIGH HORGAN

Home School:
Rushworth P-12 College
Training Organisation:
GO TAFE, Shepparton
Workplacement:
PF Engineering Developments & Trevaskis
Engineering & GV Engineering



EQUINE STUDIES



SARAH HEAD

Home School:
Echuca College
Training Organisation:
Echuca College
Workplacement:
Bendigo Equine Clinic



EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Education & Training (VET) students within our regional schools at an Awards Night at T subjects in our region. Fifty-four finalists were presented with certificates during

CCLLEN), the night was a great success with more than 220 people attending. Those sponsoring businesses.

have completed a work placement in the industry to be eligible. Host employers their resume and attend an interview with a panel of judges. The process is a good standing calibre of the candidates.

Awards Night celebrates the achievements of young people and acknowledges the for our students."

Australian School Based Apprenticeships/Traineeships

A School Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SBAT) is a combination of secondary school, paid work and vocational training. SBATs are available in a wide variety of industries and involve a contract of training and paid employment. Typically, a student is employed in the workplace one day per week, and attends school the other four days.

Alison Dunstan, Workplace Learning Coordinator with CCLLEN, comments "School Based Apprenticeships/Traineeships are a 'win win' situation for both the student and the employer. Students gain a nationally recognised qualification and valuable experience in the workplace. Employers contribute to the career development of a young person, and gain an extra pair of hands in a very cost effective manner".

On completion of the SBAT an employer may offer full time employment to the young person who has already proved their value.

business and school relationships for the benefit of all. This includes recognising local businesses for ol and into further education and employment.

ting ways of being School Friendly. We thank both hosts and sponsors for their contribution to local

SCHOOL BASED APPRENTICE/ TRAINEE OF THE YEAR 2012



JESSE COLLINS

Home School:

Rochester Secondary College

Training Organisation:

Bendigo TAFE

Workplacement:

Ged Giddings Constructions



APPLIED FASHION DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY



KATE ZAKRZEWSKI

Home School:

St Joseph's College

Training Organisation:

Echuca College

Workplacement:

Zimmermann



AUTOMOTIVE STUDIES



TOM MCCLUSKEY

Home School:

Echuca College

Training Organisation:

Echuca College

Workplacement:

Echuca Rural



BEAUTY



ALISON CARDWELL

Home School:

Echuca College

Training Organisation:

Bendigo TAFE

Workplacement:

Echuca Amcal Pharmacy



BUILDING & CONSTRUCTION



BEN DAVIS

Home School:

St Joseph's College

Training Organisation:

Echuca College

Workplacement:

Tim Warde Builder



BUSINESS



MONIQUE HARGOOD

Home School:

Rochester Secondary College

Training Organisation:

Echuca College

Workplacement:

Corrs Chambers Westgarth



HAIRDRESSING



HOLLIE HILDEBRANDT

Home School:

Rochester Secondary College

Training Organisation:

Bendigo TAFE

Workplacement:

New Image on Gillies & Infringez for Hair



HOSPITALITY



GEORGIA WICKHAM

Home School:

Rochester Secondary College

Training Organisation:

Bendigo TAFE

Workplacement:

Sweet Sisters



MUSIC



LOUIS SPENCELY

Home School:

Rochester Secondary College

Training Organisation:

Echuca College

Workplacement:

Echuca College VET Information Night



RETAIL (CAFE SKILLS)



TEAGAN PRIESTLEY

Home School:

Echuca College

Training Organisation:

Echuca College

Workplacement:

Echuca College Café



SPORT AND RECREATION



JACK MILLIGAN

Home School:

Rochester Secondary College

Training Organisation:

Echuca College

Workplacement:

Rochester & Echuca Football Umpire Association



City Kids Experiencing Country Life

Two groups of Year 6 students from metropolitan schools have visited Echuca during 2012 under the City Kids Experiencing Country Life initiative.

During their camps the students visited the Golden Cow at Tongala, a working dairy farm, a local primary school, Waranga Basin, Kagome tomato processing plant and the Port of Echuca. They received information on agriculture, history, irrigation and tourism in our area.

The students stayed at Billabong Ranch where they enjoyed a range of outdoor activities, the animal nursery, a night time walk, a campfire, and local indigenous dancing.

As part of the Victorian Regional Growth Fund, the City Kids Experiencing Country Life initiative is providing \$1 million over four years to enable Year 6 students in metropolitan based schools to undertake excursions to regional and rural areas. CCLLEN is coordinating City Kids excursions in the Loddon Mallee Region and using the funding to pay for all transport.

The program aims to provide opportunities for students to:

- visit working farms, natural attractions, historical and tourist centres in rural and regional areas
- gain insight into the role regional and rural Victoria plays in Victoria's economy
- develop an understanding of agriculture and food production and the range of associated career options
- understand the role that farming plays in relation to Victoria's future
- develop understanding about the quality of life and career opportunities available in regional and rural Victoria

Highlights of the visit for the students were the visit to Golden Cow (dairy and tourism centre) where the students learnt about the dairy industry, enjoyed milkshakes, watched cows being milked and fed calves. Having 40 squealing kids in a small paddock with six hungry bobby calves was great fun and everyone loved it. The students said it was "awesome!" Students also enjoyed learning indigenous dances, meeting students from local Primary Schools, and the paddlesteamer ride.

The students' behaviour and engagement was excellent and commented on by staff at the places they visited. The accompanying staff from the schools were very supportive and well organised.

Further camps are planned for 2013, across the Loddon Mallee Region. It is anticipated that eight camps per year will be held.

More information on all of the City Kids camps is available at <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/curriculum/Pages/citykids.aspx>



VCAL Professional Development Day

The Transitions and Pathways Network Forum held in July at the Kyabram Community & Learning Centre (KCLC) featured Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) exemplars, showcase pieces and great ideas from both the Loddon Mallee and Hume regions of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD).

School and TAFE VCAL staff, Workplace Learning Coordinators and staff from Job Services Australia, registered training organisations, three Local Learning and Employment Networks and other community sector personnel appreciated the professional development and the opportunity to connect with each other and share resources, programs and tactics. KCLC staff showcased how successfully they have been engaging young people in their Certificate of General Education for Adults (CGEA).

Some school representatives stayed on at the conclusion of the Forum and held impromptu VCAL team meetings to develop their individual school programs.

Certificate 1 in Vocational Preparation students from KCLC did a great job in providing lunch for the some 40 participants.

Feedback comments on the day included:

- *Thanks for organising VCAL specific Professional Development in our local area. Great job by student caterers.*
- *Reiterated the importance of flexibility in approach and of building relationships.*
- *Am a little clearer of my role and how much to 'direct' their [student] learning. Gained points from each session which have helped clarifying aspects.*
- *I will now hold team meetings on a regular basis of VCAL Personal Development teachers and coordinator.*
- *VCAL is a completely different way of teaching- this has really helped me today.*
- *Range of different approaches to enhance my program in Personal Development Skills.*
- *Use contacts/networks made today!*
- *Nice to see wiki being used. I've tried blog sites and will re-think. Put my ideas into a forum the students to use WIKI & Face book.*

This particular Forum was a joint initiative of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA), Hume and Loddon Mallee regions of the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD), Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and the Campaspe Cohuna, Goulburn Murray and NE TRACKS LLENs.

Murray River Culinary Challenge

The Murray River Culinary Challenge is an industry standard cooking competition for Vocational Education and Training (VET) students enrolled in a Hospitality Training Package. The main aims of the Murray River Culinary Challenge are to promote Vocational Education and Training in schools, promote hospitality as a career pathway, and better align secondary school hospitality training with industry requirements.

The Murray River Culinary Challenge is a three tiered competition. At the school level, students compete individually to vie for a spot in the Regional Final. The two top scoring students from each school are paired and compete as a team in the Regional Final, and the top scoring team then progress to the Grand Final. Menus in each level of the competition become progressively more difficult and are designed for students to be able to demonstrate their skills learnt during their Hospitality training.

Over 114 Hospitality students from 16 schools throughout the Murray River region demonstrated their culinary skills in hot pursuit of this year's Challenge title. Five regions participated in the Challenge: Campaspe, Shepparton, Swan Hill, Wangaratta and Wodonga.

In the Campaspe region, a total of 25 students from Echuca College, Kyabram P-12 College, Rochester Secondary College, Rushworth P-12 College, and St Joseph's College Echuca competed in the Challenge. VETiS Hospitality students in Echuca and Rochester are trained by Bendigo TAFE, and students in Kyabram and Rushworth receive their training at GO TAFE Shepparton.

Each level of the competition is judged by industry representatives in each region. This year, George Santos from Moama Bowling Club, Paul Cohen from Rich River Golf Club, Barry Moyle from Moama RSL, Dean Oberin from Oscar W's, Judi Gilson from Coriander, Scott Pitts from Cerés Restaurant, and Lynden Goulding from Radcliffe's provided their culinary expertise in judging the various levels of the competition in the Campaspe region.

Schools represented in the Grand final were Rochester Secondary College (representing Campaspe Region), Notre Dame College (Shepparton Region), Swan Hill College (Swan Hill region), Wangaratta High (Wangaratta region) and Tallangatta Secondary College (Wodonga region).

Teams had two and a half hours to present four serves of an entrée, main and dessert from a very challenging menu. Grand Final judges, from across the regions, were Ross Graham (GO TAFE), Lynden Goulding (Radcliffes Restaurant), George Santos (Moama Bowling Club) and Rebecca Hart (Murray Downs Golf and Country Club).

Both the Campaspe Regional Final and the Grand Final were held at the Bendigo TAFE Echuca Kickham's Mill training restaurant and were well attended by Principals, teachers and trainers, parents, community organisations, and hospitality industry representatives, and received considerable media coverage from the Riverine Herald. Representatives from the Victorian Department of Education and Early Childhood Development and the Federal Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations also attended and participated in presentations to students.

Congratulations to the students from Rochester Secondary College who were the overall winners on the day. This is the first time the Campaspe Region has won the Grand Final of the Challenge. Rochester now holds the perpetual trophy, which features a slab of Murray River redgum, sourced from Koondrook.

The Murray River Culinary Challenge promotes workplace learning opportunities for secondary school Hospitality students, and it is not uncommon for the next budding chef to be offered a full time apprenticeship.

Thank you to our major sponsor Moama Bowling Club for their generosity and support of the Murray River Culinary Challenge in 2012.



Job Search Report

Each week a summary of positions vacant advertised in regional papers that are suitable for our young people are collated into a single report, the Job Search Report, and emailed out to schools and other education and training providers. Papers reviewed are the Kyabram Free Press, Riverine Herald, Campaspe Times, Cohuna Farmers Weekly, Country News, and the Waranga News. Websites searched include Australian Job Search and Seek. This resource is eagerly anticipated each Friday morning and provides students with a valuable job search resource. The reports are also used to generate annual frequency data on types of jobs advertised in terms of vocation, time fraction, and apprenticeship or traineeship.

‘Upload Your Future’ ICT Careers Events

The wide variety of exciting careers in Information Communication Technology (ICT) were showcased for Year 9 students at Echuca College and Kyabram P-12 College.

The ‘Upload Your Future’ events, coordinated by CCLLEN and funded by the Department of Business and Innovation and Australian Industry Group, are part of the Victorian Government’s ‘ICT: Start Here, Go Anywhere’ campaign. The term ICT recognises that technology is as much about communication as it is about information. ICT Skills are the skills of the future, locally and internationally and it is an industry that just keeps growing.

At the events a panel of young ICT industry professionals spoke about their particular career paths. Students rotated through a variety of interactive workshops provided by Higher Education and local industry representatives. Students came away with the knowledge that few other industries are as diverse as ICT and few other skills are so flexible, universal and in demand.

Workshops on offer at both events were:

- AR Drones and Games - Monash University. This included hands on activities with drones, and running an X-Box gaming LAN.
- Robotics - Latrobe University. Students learnt about the future of this engineering technology and enjoyed getting to drive remote controlled vehicles over obstacles.
- Games technology - Latrobe University. Students created characters and a format for their own computer game.
- Multi Media /Graphic design/ cartooning - Splatoon Cartoons, Beechworth. A showcase of technology that allows a business to conduct its activities from, and to, anywhere in the world.

In addition Kyabram had workshops on:

- ‘Inside the box’, How a Computer Works - Advance Computing, Kyabram
- CISCO global networking activities - GOTAFE

And Echuca had:

- ‘Lights, Camera, Action’ - Film and Television Student Deakin University. Echuca College alumni Travis Morris engaged students with his digital movie making skills.
- ‘Inside The Box & Ways with Photocopiers’ - Peats Office Equipment, Echuca.
- Interactive Multi Media - Bendigo TAFE, Echuca Campus. Students created a simple animation.
- Food Manufacturing & Agricultural Technology - Kagome Echuca. Hands on activities using technology through the growing, harvesting and manufacturing processes.

Morning tea and BBQ lunch was provided for students, teachers and presenters, with Echuca College’s Chaplaincy Committee and Kyabram P-12 College ‘Life Skills’ Group doing the catering as fundraisers.

Feedback from the students proved that the day was extremely valuable. For example, when asked what they liked most:

- *Learning what different types of jobs there are in ICT and the different paths you can take*
- *The event was very instructive and it all linked to technology. It's what this generation needs*
- *Every single workshop was informative and I enjoyed it*
- *Learning about all the different areas of ICT and being very involved in the activities*

When asked what they liked least:

- *It didn't go for long enough, a week would be awesome*
- *Nothing overall, this was the best career experience I have been on so far*
- *I enjoyed everything. It was a shame we were not able to do all the workshops*
- *Recess because I wasn't getting to learn about anything*



Safe Partying

The CCLLEN hosted an eye opening free Safe Partying parent seminar with Sonya Karras in November.

Sonya's time as a Nightclub Manager and Crowd Controller has given her a world of experience in how young people party. Topics covered at the seminar included alcohol, drugs, the law, after parties, schoolies events, hosting parties at home, drink spiking, talking to teens about drugs and teenage secret language. Sonya delivered her serious message in an entertaining and enjoyable manner.

Parents left the seminar with an inside view into the partying lives of teenagers and a range of ways to communicate with young people around the range of safe partying issues.



Student Work Placement Log Books

Following the successful pilot of the Student Log Books in 2011, the Log Books were further developed as a collaboration between the Workplace Learning Coordinators at CCLLEN, North Central LLEN, the Northern Mallee LLEN, the Wimmera Southern Mallee LLEN, and the Central Grampians LLEN.

Other regions' Workplace Learning Coordinators also adopted the books, enabling the group to collectively have the books professionally printed at a competitive price.

All secondary schools in the CCLLEN region utilise the books, which were supplied free of charge as an initiative of the Workplace Learning Coordination program. Bendigo TAFE Echuca Campus, Campaspe College of Adult Education, Kyabram Community Learning Centre and Lets Learn also received Log Books for their students undertaking work placements.

The Log Books provide:

- standardised work placement documentation, across the region;
- a more structured method of recording student achievements whilst on work placement to assist with gathering evidence of competencies for assessment purposes;
- a tool to increase student engagement with their work placement to enhance their workplace learning experience;
- host employers with more structure in the workplace learning process.

The Student Workplace Log Book is orange and the Work Experience Log Book is blue, so it is easy for employers to identify which type of work placement a student is on. This is all part of the process of further engaging employers with the work place learning programs and ensuring consistency in the documentation they receive.

Both Log Books can be used as a comprehensive class room activity for preparing students for their work placement, and have activities that enhance both student and employer engagement in the work placement. Upon completion of their work placement, the Log book will provide the student with a powerful tool to use at interviews or to inform their resume.

Business Breakfasts

CCLLEN's Workplace Learning Coordinator has conducted Business Breakfasts in Rushworth and Cohuna to thank the business community for hosting secondary students for work placements, be that for work experience, a structured work placement, or a School Based Apprenticeship/Traineeship (SBAT), and to welcome businesses new to work place learning.

At each breakfast the school Principal or Assistant Principal attested to the benefits to both students and the business community in hosting students for workplace learning and representatives from Group Training Organisations discussed the flexible staffing options and Government incentives afforded by the SBAT program.

Previous School Based Trainees spoke at both events describing how the experience and training had helped them to complete their senior secondary study whilst equipping them with the skills required to secure subsequent full time employment.

The Workplace Learning Coordinator advised employers of her role in encouraging students to undertake a work placement, and the assistance that can be provided to employers that offer those opportunities.

The School Friendly Business initiative was introduced to attendees in preparation for the launch of the initiative in Cohuna and Rushworth in 2013.

All up, the Employer Business Breakfasts are a great networking opportunity between the College and the business community, and many pledges from the business community of continued support, and offers of new opportunities for hosting students resulted from the mornings.

The Business Breakfasts were a terrific success and will be repeated in 2013.



Kyabram Day in Industry

Each year, Kyabram P-12 College Year 9 students participate in the Day in Industry program. The aim of the program is to expose students to the range of careers that are available locally and to get them thinking at an early stage about the sort of career paths they might like to further investigate. The Day in Industry is a collaborative program between the Workplace Learning Coordinator and Kyabram P-12 College.

Prior to the day, the Workplace Learning Coordinator conducted activities with the Year 9 cohort about Employability Skills, highlighting the skills that students already have, and the skills they need to develop to get them ready for the workforce.

This year, twenty-eight businesses and more than one hundred students participated in the day. Eleven groups of students each visited three Kyabram businesses and talked to employers about career opportunities and future pathways. On their return to school the conversations were very animated with students comparing their experiences and commenting on their future opportunities. Students were able to reflect on the visits and continue to work on developing their resume and investigate a career of choice as part of a five week unit about careers. The students found the day a very worthwhile exercise, and employer feedback was positive.

Thank you to the businesses who participated in the 2012 Day in Industry program.



Youth Services Directory

This resource helps the community be aware of what services and agencies are available in Campaspe and Cohuna. The Directory is a simple listing of services and agencies and their contact phone numbers or websites printed in colour on a double sided A5 card. CCLLEN updates and reprints the information each year. It is distributed to all schools, Shire offices and youth agencies.

Work With Wheels

This is a career expo with a difference. The expo, an initiative of Echuca College, Echuca Moama Beacon Foundation, and the CCLLEN's Workplace Learning Coordinator, showcased a range of local businesses and organisations that had some mobile aspect to them.

More than 15 businesses and community organisations braved the extraordinarily chilly morning and brought their cars, vans, trucks, tractors, utes, and emergency service vehicles loaded with equipment required on the job. Student groups made their way around each business completing a 'passport' of questions to find out more about the careers on display and the possible pathways to those careers.

Students then attended an Apprenticeship Panel session hosted by the Workplace Learning Coordinator. Electrical and Mechanical Apprentices from Foodmach, an Apprentice Chef from Earth Moama, and a student from Echuca College undertaking a School Based Apprenticeship with Haeusler's, were on the panel and talked about their experiences as an Apprentice, why and how they chose their career paths, and the subjects to focus on at school for their respective trades. All Apprentices had completed a work placement with their current employer, prior to gaining employment, demonstrating the benefits of undertaking workplace learning.

Ian Whiting, Finance Manager from Foodmach advised students of the skills and personal attributes his company look for in a new employee, and Trish Martin from MEGT was on hand to clarify aspects of the School Based Apprenticeship program. The Work with Wheels expo was a terrific success and will be an annual event on the school's calendar.

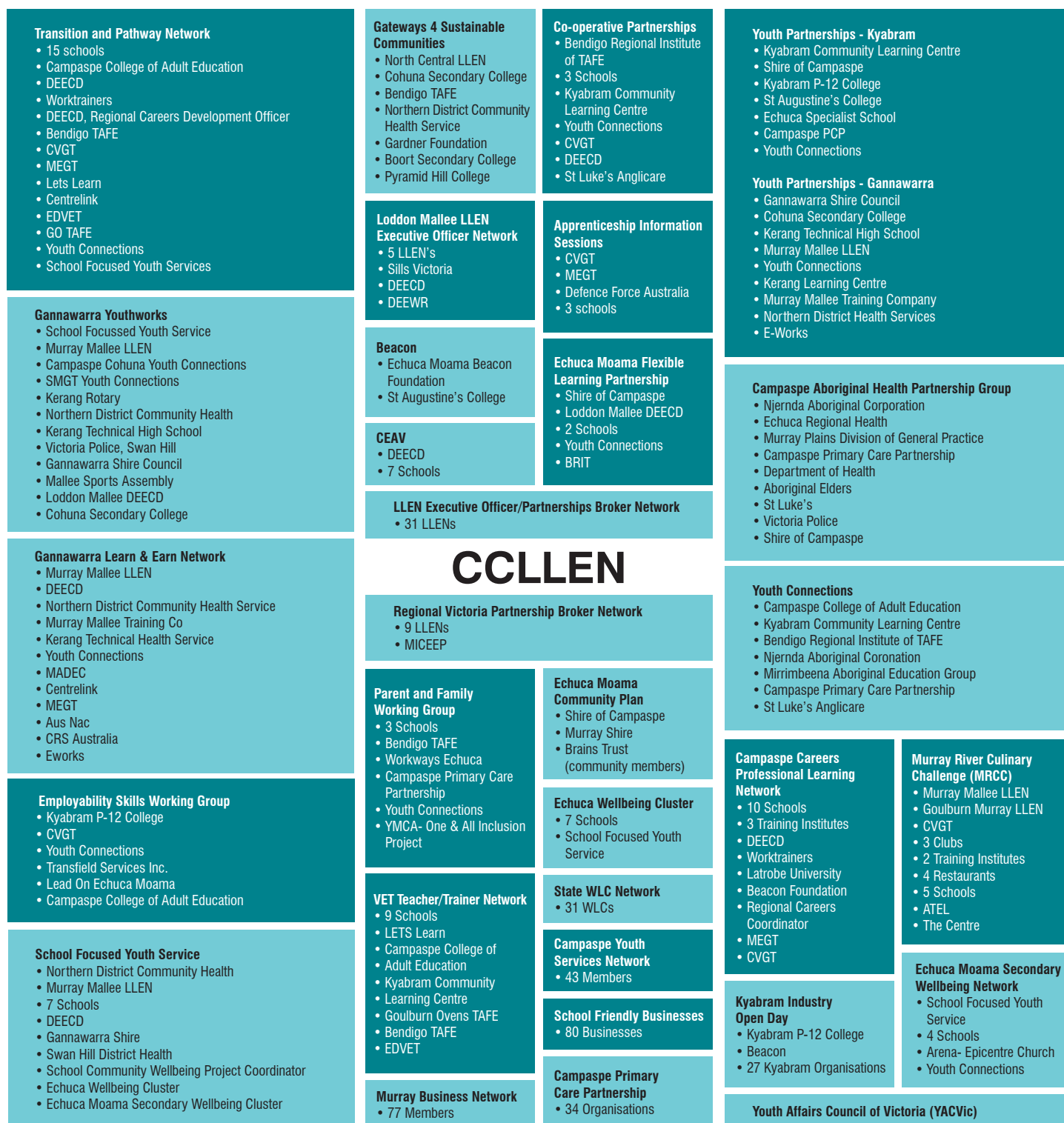


Beacon Foundation

CCLLEN supports the Beacon Foundation in Echuca Moama and Kyabram, and participates in many of their activities. CCLLEN staff participated in mock interviews to help prepare students for the world of work, and attended the Business Breakfast and Charter Signing ceremonies.

The CCLLEN Workplace Learning Coordinator partnered with Echuca Moama Beacon Foundation to organise and run the Work With Wheels careers event at Echuca College. This event will run again in 2013.

CCLLEN's School Friendly Business campaign recognises businesses for their involvement with the Beacon Foundation, as it demonstrates a high level of commitment to working with schools.



KEY

- Level 1 Partnerships:** The CCLLEN has had a **direct** facilitation or lead role in initiatives with outcomes supporting the retaining/re-engaging of young people in education, training or employment.
- Level 2 Partnerships:** The CCLLEN has an **indirect** or support role in initiatives with outcomes supporting the retaining/re-engaging of young people in education, training or employment.

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