



Charity Youth Programs

An Initiative of the Property Industry Foundation



St Vincent De Paul Society Youth Outreach *Dee Why* est.1985

Youth Outreach is a dedicated program within the St Vincent de Paul Society which focuses on counselling and teaching lifestyle skills to survive in everyday life. Vinnies Youth is a broad term to encompass all ages and groups of volunteers including Young Adults, Young Vinnies (High School and Colleges) and Mini Vinnies (Primary Schools). "The mission of Youth Reach is to provide youth with care and support so that they can each grow as a whole person towards their full potential."

How do they help youth homelessness and young people at risk?

Youth Outreach helps a significant number of young people in crisis who are affected by homelessness, family breakdown, substance abuse, domestic violence, problem gambling and unemployment. Trained staff supervise young people at risk and involve them a range of activities that challenge them to improve their lives themselves.

Educational programs and individual advice are provided on issues such as drugs, sexuality and establishing healthy relationships. Youth are supported in starting new jobs and also in the cost of fees, books and equipment necessary for educational programs and accredited courses. The Outreach centre also provides bathrooms and clothes washing facilities.

The Staff act as advocates for them when dealing with the legal system, health system, government agencies, landlords and other agencies as well as giving personal assistance with resumes and job seeking.

What is the program that PIF is funding?

PIF sponsored a dedicated Caseworker and Program Facilitator, responsible for individual case management for adolescents in crisis, within a safe environment. Youths have participated in a variety of programs, to improve their prospects within the community. Programs include the Living Skills Program, the RUSH (Responsive User Services in Health Program, drug and alcohol counselling and forums on "Alcohol and Other Drugs".

Why did PIF believe that the program needed funding assistance?

The Foundation realised that the St Vincent De Paul Youth Reach Program fills a gap in the services available to young people living in the Northern Beaches district. It was as a result of this funding that the centre could continue to offer disadvantaged young people opportunities to deal with crisis circumstances and regain effective control of their lives.

Total cost of this program?

1st Year: \$45,000

2nd Year:\$45,000

3rd Year: \$50,000

How much did the PIF Board approve for this program?

1st Year: \$45,000

2nd Year:\$45,000

3rd Year: \$50,000