



The journey to adulthood and independence is tough for everyone, but some people face a bumpier road than most.

Learn how IMVC helps young people build a better future for themselves.



**Impact Report
2020**





Endless Opportunities

Acknowledgment of Traditional Owners

IMVC acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we work and live, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging.





This year has been like no other year we have experienced. The impact of COVID-19 was as deep as it was wide. Every aspect of our life was interrupted. It made sense that so many people were frightened and lost confidence and hope living in such uncertainty.

But at the same time, many individuals and organisations dug deep and found not only great strength and resilience but also a spirit of innovation and adaptability.

At IMVC we celebrate the resilience, flexibility, and sheer hard work of our staff, the young people we work with, and our community and industry partners who ensured that we didn't let COVID-19 stop us doing what we needed to do!

About IMVC

We are IMVC, a small, progressive not-for-profit organisation that has been providing vocational education and training programs, and employment services for young people and people experiencing disadvantage for over 20 years.

Our purpose is to develop the confidence, education, and employability skills to ultimately transition our participants into work and independence.

Vision

Linking the energy and potential of young and marginalised people with industry, government, and community

Mission

To be at the forefront of developing progressive, innovative, and high-quality programs and supports for people experiencing barriers to education and employment and creating opportunities for them to fulfill their potential for economic and social participation.



Working together for good

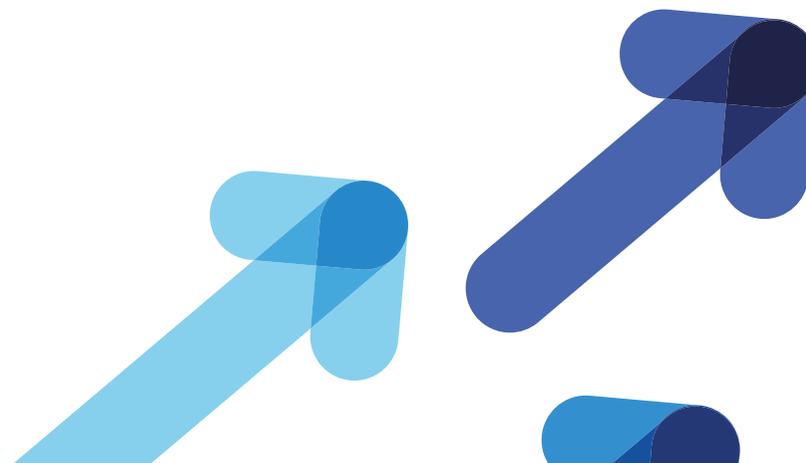
The strength of IMVC in a large part lies in the strength of our collaboration with numerous formal and informal partners and critical friends. No person with whom we work is facing the same circumstances and challenges, and so every one of them needs a different response and network of support to assist them in their transition towards work and financial independence. Most of the cohorts we support are experiencing disadvantages including long-term unemployed, people with disability, young people, disengaged school students, CALD (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse), and more.

To assist our clients, we work with:

- Local, State, and Federal Government Departments
- Government, Catholic and Independent schools
- Universities, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) Institutes, Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), Learn Local Organisations, Group Training Organisations (GTOs), and alternative education program providers
- Employment providers such as Disability Employment Service (DES) and jobactive
- Employers, industry networks, peak employer bodies
- A diverse range of community service and health-related agencies and providers

In 2020 IMVC was in consortium relationships with the following organisations to deliver various government contracts and we wish to formally acknowledge and thank them for working so positively with us to deliver such strong outcomes to our communities.

- Jesuit Social Services
- TaskForce
- AMES Australia
- YouthNow Inc
- Westgate Community Initiative Group (WCIG)
- Djerriwarrh Community and Education Services



'Regardless of what's happened before, you can build a bright future.'

Transition to Work Case-worker



What do we do?

We asked our staff, those who are out there working with people who need a hand, what is it that they do. This is what they said.

- We offer young people access to opportunities they might not otherwise have had.
- We help young people learn who they are, discover what they can become, and show them the pathway to get there.
- We develop confidence, education, and employability skills.
- We help young people build a better future for themselves.

The way we do this is through:

- Education advice
- Vocational training
- Short courses to upskill for your next job
- Jobs and Career advice
- Case management
- Referral to other services
- Links to industry
- Contribution to national agenda and policy development.

8 Summary of IMVC programs and services in 2020

LEARN

Vocational Education and Training

VET delivered to Secondary Students

Facilitation service for 120 Cluster School members servicing almost 1600 students.

RTO courses

10 accredited VET courses delivered by IMVC to students at Cluster member schools, as well as selected courses to the public.

Accredited Short Courses (for school groups and general public)

RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol), RSF (Responsible Service of Food), Barista training

Learn Local

Pre-accredited training courses with the objective of assisting people improve literacy, numeracy, work readiness and life skills. Some of the courses were delivered at IMVC facilities-Avidity, and The Little Kitchen that Could.

Youth2Industry

Under the status of a Non Senior Secondary School provider IMVC delivers the VCAL certificate to students in Albert Road at the senior, intermediate and foundation levels.

In Jan 2021 this program shifted to be delivered by Youth2Industry College, an independent community school located at 220 Albert Road, South Melbourne.

WORK

Employment services

Transition to Work (TtW) - Federal Government Funded

- STRIVE (Western Melbourne Employment Region)
- Youth Start (Inner Metropolitan Melbourne Employment Region)

A program for early school leavers (15-24). Most young people are referred from Centrelink with direct referrals also from mental health and youth justice services. We work with young people to gain and sustain accredited education or employment.

JVEN (Jobs Victoria Employment Network)

This is a work-focused program where involvement by the participants is totally voluntary. As such, the participants are not obliged to demonstrate they are looking for work. While some are receiving Centrelink benefits, there are no Centrelink referrals.

Reconnect

A Victorian Government funded program designed to offer young people and early school leavers education as a means of breaking the cycle of long-term unemployment.

Structured Workplace Learning

A service to the cluster member schools where IMVC organises SWL for VET subject students studying a course with a mandatory SWL component.

Myer Melbourne Work Experience program

Since 2018 IMVC has managed the Myer Melbourne work experience program. Open to any student from any school. Great opportunity for so many students from the cluster schools and our VCAL program to have work experience. Put on hold in 2020 due to COVID.

ENGAGE

Re-engagement & transition programs

Better Futures

Support for young people (16-21) living in out-of-home care to prepare for transition out of care which happens when they turn 18. Post transition care is part of this program too. (Victorian Government funded).

Courses to build employability skills

MAP – (Making Alternatives Possible)

This is a 10-week, 3-day a week pre-accredited course for young adults aged 17-19 who have left school. The focus is education re-entry rather than finding a job – although some do find work. Content also includes independent living skills, career pathways, industry immersion, building confidence and social skills.

Cooking on a budget (AKA Cooking with Lou and Kel)

In 2020 this was a self-directed learning activity delivered online, teaching participants how to plan for and prepare healthy, affordable meals.

Jump on Board

This is a 2-week, 3 day a week program for 17 – 19-year-olds who are quite work ready but need a little support to progress them forward in getting a job. Content is about transition to work, how to do well in interviews, writing an effective resume, TFN, etc.

Value-add

NDCO (National Disability Coordination Officers)

IMVC ‘hosts’ two of 31 national NDCOs at Palmerston Crescent (Federal Government funded).

They work at a strategic level to improve the transition of young people living with disability from school to further education and employment.

Industry immersion programs

These are IMVC funded programs applicable across the organisation. They engage with industry to offer our young people opportunities for exposure to different industries and experts, to open their eyes to what’s available as well as deepening their understanding of workplace expectations.

A-Frame Exchange website management

This is the website portal where all the Learn Local providers can access curriculum frameworks known as A-Frames. We undertake day to day admin tasks and website performance reporting.

New in 2021

We have recently received notification from the Government that IMVC, in a consortium with IELLEN, has been awarded a contract to deliver the Jobs Victoria Advocate program. This program which runs to June 30 2023 helps job-seekers navigate the job-searching landscape at a local community level.



A word from the Chair

It takes my breath away just how much the IMVC team achieved in 2020, the most challenging year for both our organisation and the world.

The Board is proud of how our staff quickly changed service delivery practices to meet the COVID-19 stay-at-home safety rules.

Our Transition to Work team in particular was faced with enormous challenges. The number of young people displaced from work due to business shut-down and stay-at-home restrictions was dramatic.

Participant numbers soared from 475 to 1283. The TtW staff responded by changing to a telephone or online service rather than face to face meetings to ensure these young people were seamlessly supported through this difficult period.

2020 will also be remembered as the year our founding Executive Officer Penny Vakakis resigned after 21 years of service. Penny grew IMVC from a small network of schools with a tiny \$5,000 seeding grant to ensure secondary school students had access to VET courses, to a \$6 million+ pa multi-faceted organisation.

Penny leaves IMVC to become the founding Principal of the Youth2Industry College, a new independent school born from the work and vision of IMVC. Youth2Industry College is a small independent school specialising in delivering VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning) to students with learning and access needs. Penny's hard work and dedication have enabled the IMVC Board to make a \$750,000 gift to underpin the start-up of the school.

In 2020 there were also changes to our Board. I would like to thank and acknowledge the support and guidance provided by resigning members Trish Van Lint (former Chair), Peter Farley, Steve Bebed and Pam Hargreaves. I welcome our new Board members, Nella Ranno, Angela Middleton, Nicholas Deluca, and Julie Allica who joined us in June. I also thank our ongoing board members, Annette Travers, Julie Piloglou and, Loes Westerbeek for enabling us to maintain a consistent and stable platform while everything was changing.

On behalf of the Board, I thank the IMVC staff for their flexibility, innovation, and dedication. It is their tireless work that has enabled us to prosper and pursue new directions in such challenging times.

**Peter Harrison
(IMVC Board Chair)**



Peter Harrison

The end of an era

After more than 20 years leading the IMVC, Penny Vakakis tendered her resignation at the end of 2020. She is leaving IMVC to become the founding Principal of the newly established independent school Youth2Industry College.

In her own words....

‘Reflecting on my 20 years with IMVC I feel extremely proud of all the accomplishments, and the difference IMVC has made to young people and at-risk cohorts in the region. I am reminded of IMVC’s creation and am eternally grateful to Alistair Dobbs - leading teacher at Hobsons Bay College (now Albert Park College) – who encouraged me to consider the initial position; Brian Goodman, the first IMVC Board Chair who suggested we become Incorporated; Peter Harrison who was instrumental in setting up the very first VET Cluster classes with Kangan TAFE; and over the last 10 years, Board Chair Trish van Lint, who mentored and supported me.

‘Working at the IMVC has been the most enjoyable and rewarding job in my career and I am appreciative of all the opportunities afforded to me.

‘I have been privileged to work alongside talented and committed staff who have provided great support and sheer hard work in establishing and building the IMVC to what it is today. So much has been achieved in vocational education, applied learning, and employment for so many participants. Your commitment, resilience, unwavering passion, and determination to enhance the career progression of participants are hallmarks of the IMVC culture.

I know young people and marginalised cohorts in the Inner Melbourne region will continue to get the wonderful support that is now synonymous with IMVC. It has been an honour to work with you all and I wish you all the best for the future.’

Cheers Penny



Penny with IMVC staff Louise Barrett and Bethany Newman.

“
On behalf of the thousands of young people Penny has helped over 20+ years, we say thank you.
 ”

2020. The year that was...

January

A year full of promise begins...

February

The first two of a new series of career pathway exploration videos were produced exploring floristry and the manufacture of high-tech building materials. These videos will become part of our library of resources to support jobseekers and those who support them.

March

- COVID-19 hits Melbourne.
- Office 365 installed for remote learning.
- Training the trainers and other staff to use Zoom.



April

- Schools closed.
- Jump on Board course curriculum re-written three times to meet changing COVID requirements – for face-to-face, telephone, and online delivery using Zoom.
- Online delivery of courses begins.



May

- TTW participant numbers doubled from pre-COVID times and continued to grow until the end of the year. More time-efficient online support enabled staff to manage the increased workloads.

June

'Cooking with Lou and Kel' launched.



July

In a response to COVID requiring more online resources, the national NDCO team began a collaborative project to produce four education awareness videos about 1:5 people living with disability.

August

The Education Services Team move to 220 Albert Road.

September

- Launch of the inaugural IMVC Endless Opportunities Youth Report.
- In the latter part of September and October IMVC was required to provide evidence for three audits.
 - RTO re-registration (once in five years). Successful with only one minor rectification.
 - Non-Secondary School Provider re-registration (once in five years). VCAA approved curriculum; financials & policies unreported as IMVC voluntarily relinquished registration on the confirmation the new school was approved.
 - Registration audit with VRQA to establish the new school. The audit was the final stage of 15 months' preparation. Ultimately successful.

October

Schools re-open for face to face teaching in Term 4.

November

Tender preparation with IELLEN to Victorian government to deliver the new Jobs Victoria Advocate program.

December

- Notification that we have been successful with our application to establish Youth2Industry College as an independent community.
- Penny Vakakis resigns to take up the role of Founding Principal of the Youth2Industry College.

VET (Vocational Education and Training) delivered to Secondary Students

The most remarkable thing about the VET Delivered to Secondary Students program in 2020 is that despite all the COVID-19 challenges and restrictions imposed on Victorians, the program kept going.



I want to thank you and all your team for the amazing amount of work you do for us. Through the IMVC you offer a huge number of programs and opportunities for our students who benefit greatly. You are so easy to work with, friendly and always helpful. Such an amazing organisation run by wonderful people!

(Louise Bates, Vet Coordinator, Kew High School)



Over the last 5 years,

7,626

secondary students enrolled in VET courses facilitated by IMVC in a certified course delivered by IMVC.



17 awesome RTOs
worked with IMVC to deliver

55

amazing VET courses to 1579
secondary students.

While it was observed that at times for some students who had chosen to do VET subjects for a more hands-on style of learning, changing to remote learning online very challenging. However, the majority of students adjusted to the new context and successfully completed their courses.

Unlike in previous years, because of the COVID 'stay at home' rules, students were unable to participate in the workplace learning component of their course.

The VET Delivered to Secondary Students program continues to be an important part of the mix of subject choices in schools demonstrated by record enrolments received for 2021.

“

Thank you for all your assistance this year. This year has been my first year as VET Coordinator at Scotch College, and you have made my job a lot easier. Thank you for answering all my questions - no matter how obvious or silly they may have been to you.

(Mark Zannoni, Scotch College)

”

RTO (Registered Training Organisation) Operations

The impact of COVID-19 on our RTO operations was significant due to the 'stay-at-home' restrictions that meant all learning in Terms 2 and 3 was done online.

This was very challenging for some of our students who had deliberately chosen VET courses preferring the more hands-on, practical learning style. It was also challenging for our teaching and behind-the-scenes staff re-writing curriculum, setting-up online learning tools and rapidly adapting to the new environment.

What staff and students learned is just how adaptable they are, and they now have a whole new suite of learning tools that will enable them to either deliver or undertake online learning successfully in the future. Future opportunities now exist that didn't seem realistic in the past, to offer a lot more flexible learning programs.

“

'Through COVID I have learned to adapt to different situations'.

Chloe, Student from a Cluster member school.

”

Over the last 3 years

2,724

people have enrolled in an
accredited course delivered
by IMVC.





921

people enrolled into IMVC accredited courses in 2020, with an average completion rate of 85.06%.

Enrolments were lower than usual due to the impact of COVID.

Nevertheless, IMVC delivered the following accredited courses in schools in 2020:

- Cert II in Hospitality
- Cert II in Kitchen Ops
- Cert II in Salon Assistant
- Cert II in Retail Cosmetics
- Cert III in Screen and Media
- Cert I in Employment Pathways
- Cert III in Make-up
- VCAL (Foundation)
- VCAL (Intermediate)
- Responsible Service of Alcohol
- Responsible Service of Food
- Barista Training

General public courses

- Responsible Service of Alcohol
- Responsible Service of Food
- Barista Training
- Cert III in Make-up

Youth2Industry

Since 2017 IMVC has delivered the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) under the sub-brand Youth2Industry, as a Non-Secondary School Provider.

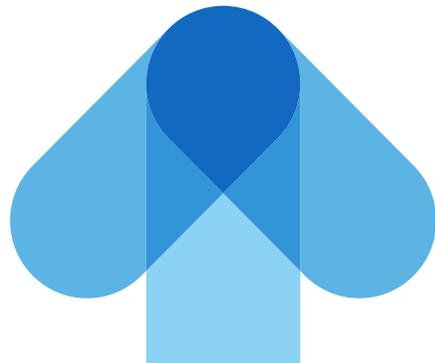
Youth2Industry is a specialist VCAL program for youth with learning access and learning needs. The program focuses on the development of each learner's strengths, supporting them to build confidence and employability skills.

Students, most of whom struggled in a mainstream school, thrive in the intimate, safe and friendly learning environment.

IMVC had

21

students enrolled in
VCAL in 2020.





Investing in their future

IMVC invested \$250,000 in 2019/20 to renovate space at 220 Albert Road, South Melbourne to create a purpose-built, sensory-sensitive learning facility in anticipation of the future establishment of the Youth2Industry College, a small school for students with learning and access needs.

After 15 months of hard work, in December 2020 it was confirmed that our application to establish the school had been successful.

The new school, now a separate entity to IMVC, opened with 30 students in February 2021.

“

Thank you for all you have done this year. Your work and that of the other trainers has been appreciated enormously.

(Leanne, parent of a VCAL student)

”

105

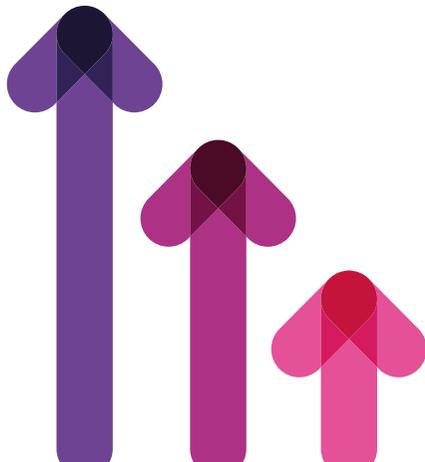
**people enrolled in our 2020 Learn
Local short courses to help them
build literacy, numeracy, life,
and employability skills.**



“

Cassandra (the trainer) was the most helpful being. I called her on a day when there was no class and past business hours, yet she instantly called back and helped with my paperwork for a job. Overall, 10 out of 10.

”



Learn Local

IMVC is a registered **Learn Local** provider and as such delivers pre-accredited training courses funded through the Adult Community and Further Education Board.

There are over 250 Learn Locals in Victoria, all not-for-profit organisations, based in the community close to where people live or work.

Our Learn Local programs focus on identifying pathways for learners to further education and training, leading to employment.

Pre-accredited courses do not award a recognised qualification or certification.

COVID Impact

When COVID hit, we were concerned about the challenge of keeping learners engaged. But reality was much better than expected.

Our senior curriculum writer and trainer Cassandra Kear explained that the positive engagement was possibly because participants, who are often very anxious about face-to-face learning, felt more at ease learning online from the safety of their own environment. Some learners also commented that they were pleased to be doing something constructive while being stuck at home.

Broader industry feedback revealed that many Learn Local providers shut up shop claiming online learning didn't work for these courses.

But the IMVC staff rose to the challenge of adjusting the teaching style, resources, and curriculum to suit the new Zoom format and delivered courses as promised.

**No-one is judged.
No-one is hopeless.
We will always work together
to find a way forward.
Case-management team leader.**



In 2020 our case-workers supported

1,011

young people on their journey towards independence to find alternative education or work.

Transition to Work

Transition to Work is a program funded by the Australian Government to support youth (15-24) who didn't finish school, progress towards work through upskilling, overcoming non-vocational barriers and finding work that aligns with their interests, talent and experience.

The support each young person needs is as varied as their circumstances but includes such things as:

- Intensive case-management support
- Help to identify each young person's interests and desired future
- Exploring different pathways forward
- Identifying possible courses for upskilling
- Providing funds to cover course fees and other learning tools
- Hooking the young person up with other agencies to sort out housing, health service support, emergency-relief
- Job-readiness support (resume writing, job searching skills, mock interview practice, letter writing, employer expectations)
- Provision of specialty work-place clothing or footwear
- Post-placement support to sustain education or work

Because of COVID much of this work was done remotely either by phone or online.



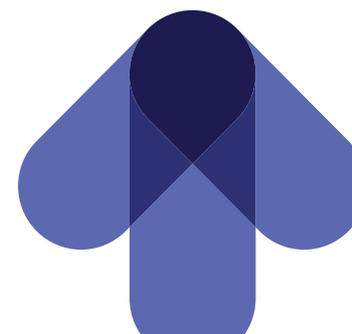
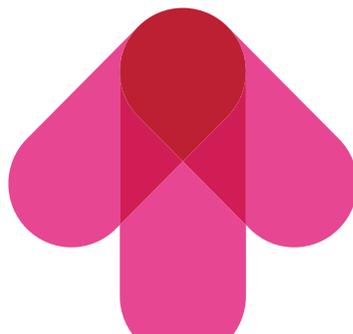
IMVC is the lead agent in two Transition to Work programs

- **STRIVE** Youth Services delivers employment support to Melbourne's west with locations in Footscray, Sunshine and Werribee. Our STRIVE partners are YouthNow and Jesuit Social Services, and AMES Australia is a sub-contractor.
- **Youth Start** delivers employment support in Inner Metro Melbourne with offices in Collingwood, CBD, Cheltenham, Chelsea, Flemington, Moorabbin and South Melbourne. Our Youth Start partners are TaskForce Community Agency and Jesuit Social Services.

The impact of job losses due to COVID-19 severely impacted young people resulting in a

104.5%

increase to the national Transition to Work program caseload between Feb and Sept 2020.



THIS IS WHAT WE DO....

One man's story

Twenty-one-year-old Boku Mohamed came to Transition to Work in May 2020. He had lost his job in hospitality due to COVID, and because of lack of income, was living in unstable housing.

With our help Boku enrolled in Certificate III Health Services Assistant commencing the course online in June 2020. Our Youth Start team arranged the purchase of a laptop to enable Boku to engage with online learning. Youth Start also referred Boku to Front Yard (a specialist organisation dealing with youth homelessness) that offered him accommodation while supporting him to sort out his long-term housing options.

In September Boku was granted transitional housing for the next 3 months. But this meant moving several times and internet was not always readily available. To fix this issue Youth Start purchased a portable modem to give Boku direct access to the internet so he could study. We also provided him with supermarket vouchers to assist with ongoing food and living costs ensuring Boku could remain engaged in education.

Great news! Boku successfully completed his course and is now in stable, shared accommodation. He has completed his work placement and now Youth Start is actively assisting Boku find on-going employment.



Boku Mohamed



THIS IS WHAT WE DO....

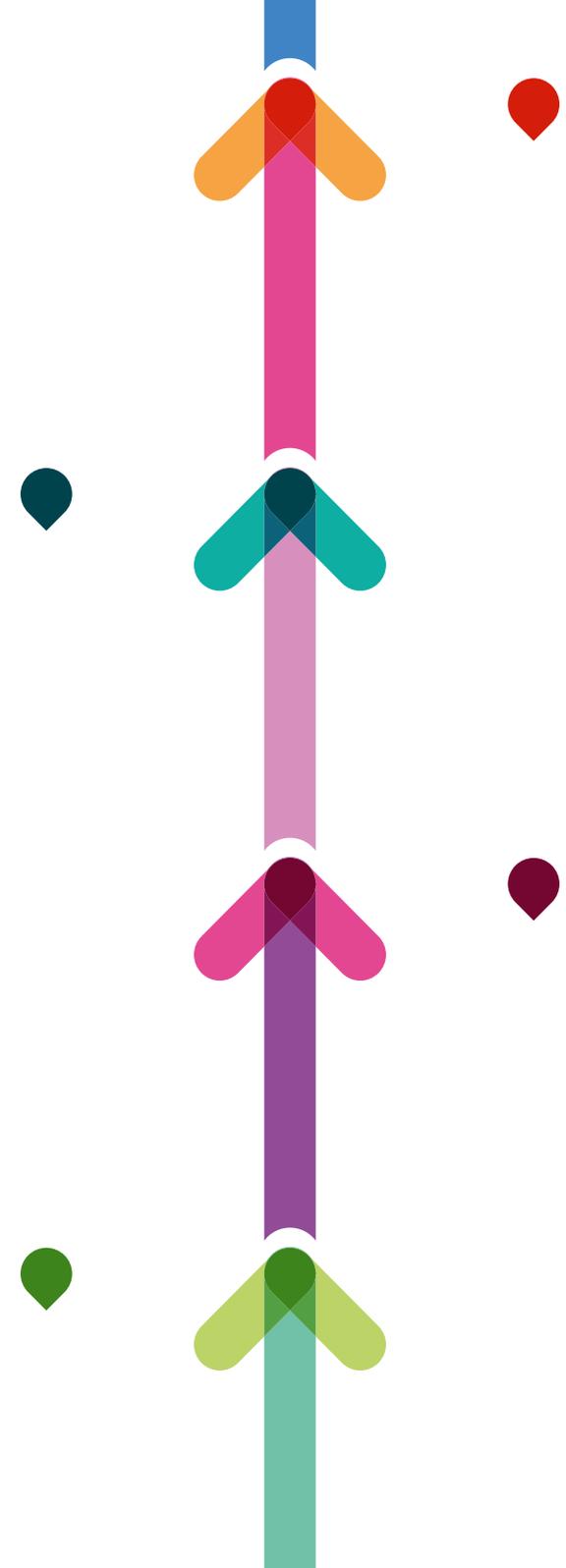
One man's story

When Taw commenced with STRIVE in Melbourne's west in July 2020, he had very limited work-force experience having left school after Year 9. His living arrangements were unstable as he couch-surfed from house to house.

We assisted Taw to access housing support through a referral to Whitelion and Wombat Housing and helped him to fill out housing applications. We also facilitated a referral for him to access mental health support with Youth Mental Health specialists Orygen.

Once Taw was secure in safe, temporary accommodation and receiving help to improve his mental wellness, the STRIVE program re-focussed Taw to build his job-search skills. This included developing his resume, teaching him job-searching skills, drafting cover-letters, and developing conversational interview skills. Taw was then ready to be reverse-marketed to employers in his local area including a Laverton-based employer who offered him employment.

STRIVE then assisted Taw with PPE clothing and equipment, and a bicycle to get himself to and from work. Since he commenced employment Taw's Transition Officer has kept in touch to offer post-placement support to him and his employer. Taw's employer has had nothing but positive feedback about his performance in his role and he plans to change Taw's employment from casual to permanent.





The STRIVE program has helped me out so much in my first year of my apprenticeship. I appreciate everything the program has done for me. This tool kit is not only gonna help me in my first year, it's gonna help me out going all the way through my apprenticeship. Danni has been amazing the whole way through my experience with STRIVE. She has done so much for me which I appreciate so much.

Participant, STRIVE

When I started with Transition to Work, I didn't think I could do anything, I was in a bad place. I now have my own place, I'm studying English and am really excited to go to university to make something of myself.

Mohammed, STRIVE

I like the thought that I am genuinely helping people identify career paths and they are going along ok.

Case-worker

I always wanted to work where I could help people and make a difference.

Transition Officer

Before this program, I never thought I could have a career, now I am studying and see a career and a future.

Sheyne, Youth Start

It was great getting help with my career direction. They helped me pick a course that I enjoy and made sure I had the right uniform, so I didn't get sunburnt. Also, during COVID she would call to check in on me to make sure I was doing alright and that was nice. I enjoy our conversations. I am excited to use my qualification to get a job.

Jack, STRIVE



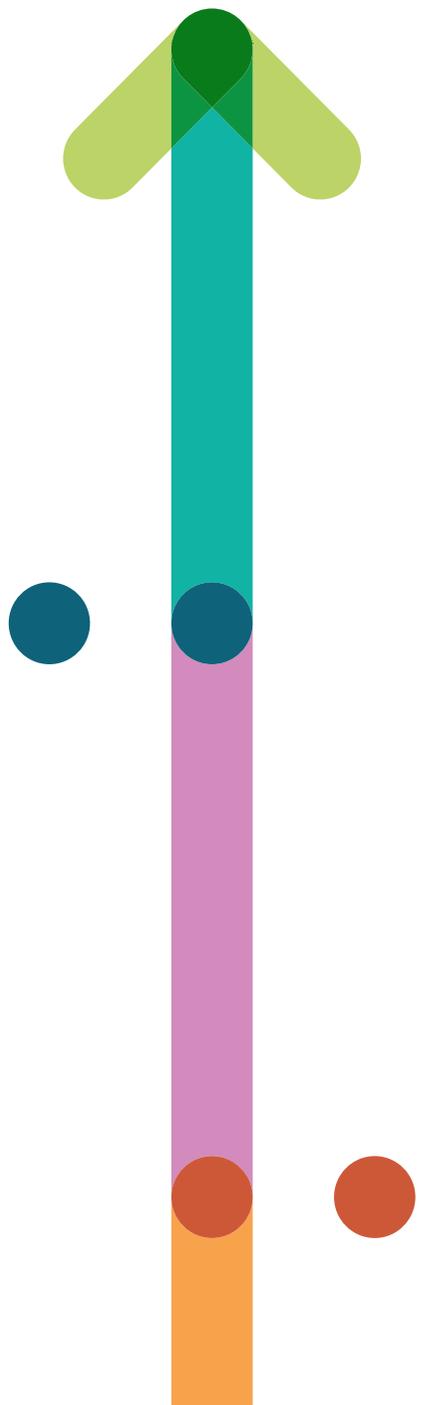


\$191,557

was spent by IMVC purchasing courses, resources, job-ready equipment, and other support services to assist young people transition towards work and independence.

70

Our JVEN team placed 70 long-term unemployed people into work in 2020.



JVEN

Jobs Victoria Employment Network (JVEN) is the Victorian Government's major activity to help Victorians facing barriers to employment into jobs. In particular this program supports the long-term unemployed of all ages, many of whom also live with complex barriers to employment.

170 long-term unemployed people enrolled in JVEN sought help to overcome barriers like mental health issues, unstable housing, language barriers, substance abuse, and learning needs that were making it hard to get work.

JVEN will cease in June 2021 and will be replaced by JVES (Jobs Victoria Employment Services) from July 2021. In addition Jobs Victoria has a new program to support jobseekers known as Jobs Victoria Advocates beginning March 2021, a contract IMVC will be delivering with IELLEN in Inner Metro and Inner South East Melbourne.

The top 5 industries in which IMVC JVEN participants were placed:

- Aged care
- Construction
- Hospitality
- Cleaning services
- Meat processing

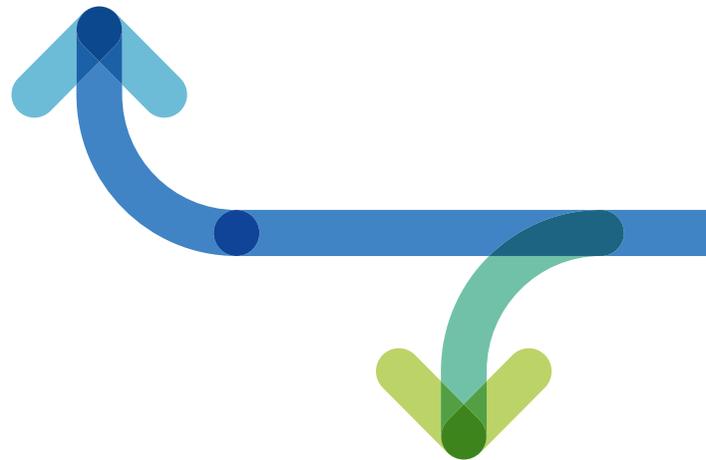
Reconnect

160 people with significant disadvantage aged 17-64, who are living within Kingston, Stonnington and Glen Eira, received intensive one-on-one support to assist them overcome barriers that were preventing them from engaging in education and progressing on their pathway to work.

Reconnect 2018-2020 was a very successful program for us with all program milestones being achieved. That means that 60%, or 96 people living in very challenging circumstances who previously were neither studying or working, ultimately enrolled in a Skills First funded course thus taking a significant step forward towards work and financial independence.

The challenges our Reconnect clients received help with so they were in a position to even consider studying or working, included:

- Diagnosed mental health conditions
- Medical/health conditions
- Family relationship breakdown
- Domestic violence
- Substance misuse
- Learning and access needs
- Criminal history or risk of offending
- Homelessness or housing instability
- Long term unemployment
- Financial hardship





The young people we work with are not failures, they just don't fit in the mainstream system, or they have had too many barriers to overcome.

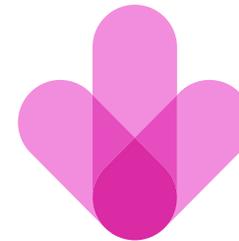
Peter Harrison, Chair, IMVC Board

Giving people a voice

Part of our role is to advocate for those who may not have a voice that is heard. We do this in various ways.



- We supported **20 young people** living in out-of-home care to have an active voice in their transition planning through the **Better Futures** program. This means standing beside them as they navigate the complexities of sorting housing, health, education, employment and community connections in readiness for moving away from care on their 18th birthday.
- Our NDCO officers, two of a national team of 31, worked tirelessly at a strategic and policy level to **support people living with disability to transition from school to higher education**. Their aim is to drive change to ensure people with disability have equal opportunities to access, participate and achieve their goals in tertiary education and subsequent employment.



- **411 young people had their say** when they responded to the first-ever IMVC Endless Opportunities Youth Survey. This will inform our decision-making for future programs and services.



**We are small
but have a lot on offer.
You don't have to be big
to achieve great things.**

**IMVC Reconnect Pathway
Support worker**

Why do we do what we do?

**Because education is
power; and a job is a
pathway to a better life.**

Everyone has the right to that.

IMVC staff member

Another story of success

Harvey you're a star....



Eighteen-year-old Indigenous man Harvey Wiseman joined Youth Start in May 2020 during COVID.

Harvey has lived with his grandparents since his father died. Having just finished Year 12 at Parkdale Secondary College, like many his age, Harvey was lacking confidence and uncertain about the future. In the end he decided to seek work while he considered what next.

Harvey and his Transition Officer decided the best way to support Harvey was to help him become more 'work-ready'. While new to Zoom it didn't take Harvey long to become fully involved in three online courses. Jump on Board by IMVC, Passport to Work by Juno and Work Readiness by Taskforce. Harvey was determined and threw himself in 100%. He also took up the opportunity for one-on-one monthly mentoring with KPMG Senior Manager – Matthew Collier.

At the same time Harvey began applying for jobs. One was Given a Chance for a Business Traineeship role with CPB Contractors through the Brotherhood of St Laurence. After a successful interview via Zoom Harvey secured the position. However, when COVID Stage 4 lockdown began, CPB decided to defer until lockdown ended.

Not one to give up, Harvey continued to apply for jobs, including the position of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Support Officer with the Department of Justice and Community Safety. Again, via Zoom he was interviewed and won the job to begin in November 2020.

Harvey was smart in that he remained diligent and worked together with his Transition Officer to continuously refine his cover letters and resume. He applied for jobs and followed up appropriately keeping his Transition Officer updated regularly. Prior to each online job interview, they practiced mock interviews sessions on Zoom to build both confidence and anticipate the likely questions.



'Being able to practice my online interview skills led to me getting not one, but two jobs!'

Harvey, Youth Start participant



Industry Immersion

The best way we know of opening peoples' eyes and minds to the breadth of work and career opportunities out there is to take them out to see, feel, and taste different workplaces and sectors.

It gives our participants the opportunity to hear from experts, learn about different career journeys, discover jobs they never even imagined and ask as many questions as they want.

Most of all it gives people who didn't have hope or direction the courage and confidence to visualise and shape their own future.

Over the last few years, we have facilitated almost 2,500 students into structured work placements and another 1,000 young people into work experience programs.

We have forged relationships with most of the major industry peak associations leading to opportunities for traineeships, internships, apprenticeships and paid work for the young people we work with.

About 500 of our young people have attended excursions to various workplaces joining in a range of hands-on activities to give them a taste of what it might be like to work in that industry. Many others have heard from guest speakers sharing with them insights of their industry sector.



We wish to thank our industry partners and employers for all the amazing opportunities you have given our young people.

**Tell me and I will forget.
Show me and I may remember.
Involve me and I will understand.**

Confucius 450BC

**We go to where we are
needed rather than
making people come to us.**

IMVC Case-worker



Case-worker Support

Our out-reach model of service is supported with offices we work from in South Melbourne, the CBD, Cheltenham, Chelsea, Flemington, Collingwood, Brunswick, Moorabbin, Footscray, Werribee, and Sunshine. We also meet people in cafes, shopping centres, libraries – wherever they feel safe and comfortable.

Learning with IMVC

Our education services are also delivered in many different places:

- IMVC Albert Road Learning facility
- Avidity Hair & Beauty Salon, Albert Park
- The Little Kitchen that Could, South Melbourne
- In the classrooms of several schools across Melbourne
- At 17 different RTOs
- Various training rooms across 4 local council areas – Boroondara, Melbourne, Port Phillip and Yarra
- Directly to you at home with our on-line learning



Endless Opportunities

Inner Melbourne VET Cluster

Level 1, 71 Palmerston Crescent

South Melbourne VIC 3205

Tel: (03) 9686 2354

Fax: (03) 9686 3572

For VETiS or RTO Enquiries

Tel: (03) 7007 4750

Website: www.imvc.com.au

Email: info@imvc.com.au