

This was another great year for Youth Foundation 3081 and Parkville College with young people working out how to make a difference in their community. 75 young people applied for grants totaling \$14,500, to carry out 15 projects. They celebrated their achievements at Latrobe University, showing off the work they had done to partners and supporters. In all, we estimate the program benefited over 350 members of the community in a positive way this year.

PARKVILLE COLLEGE

Parkville College is a specialist Victorian Government School that provides education 52 weeks a year, within custodial settings.

Thank you to our growing number of supporters who

enable Youth Foundation Parkville College to happen. Now in it's second year, Lis could hardly keep up with students wanting to apply for programs which will support and build their community.

Project BABI (Buy all Books Immediately)

Students at Malmsbury Youth Detention Centre raised \$1000 to buy books, to be placed on shelves built and installed by the carpentry students. In the future, they are hoping to raise money for two couches to make the whole experience more comfortable.

“I have read Nelson Mandela and Malcolm X's autobiographies. Bill Bryson's book about Cosmology has opened up a new world to me. I want to study science when I get out now because of that book. Books have changed my life and they can change other peoples' lives too.”

First Aid Course

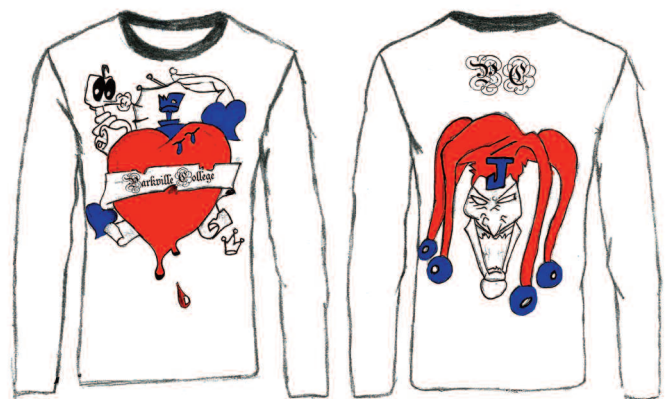
Over two days, women from Parkville Youth Detention Centre learnt CPR, how to clean and dress a wound and what to do if someone overdoses or passes out. Concentration and enjoyment was high as they built practical skills they can apply once on the outside.



“Thank you for making the First Aid course possible for us. We think all schools should offer this program to their students!”

We are Family

Students raised \$1000 to print 25 t-shirts for their unit.



“This t shirt design truly reflects the values of our unit. We will feel more like a family if we all are wearing the same t shirts. The love heart means we all unite as one. The tears resemble the mistakes we have made in the past, which are now running away. The Jester means we all have have a bit of a laugh. We have spent a lot of time on this art piece choosing colours and designs so have been developing good learning skills we can get accredited for at school. A lot of us don't have money for clothes, so it is good to have a t-shirt we would want to wear when we are out (of detention) and which connects us back to our memories at Parkville College.”

Pride



A beautiful mosaic now hangs proudly at the Flexible Learning Centre welcoming everyone with the words *Wominjeka*. Bec and Emily wanted to create something which celebrated Aboriginal language and culture. The mosaic was made by all the students and teachers over two months. Youth Foundation paid for the mounting of the mosaic, plus a plaque and special opening celebration.



“I just wanted to follow up on today’s event and thank you again for making it all possible. The girls doing their speech was awesome. When Bec first started at FLC she was super quiet, and would often hide her face, then today she gets up there in front of everyone and does a speech! Thank you for helping to make that happen!”

Other programs funded at Parkville College in 2017 are:

- New turf and furniture to create a welcoming and relaxing outside space at Parkville FLC for celebrations, bbqs and leisure.
- 200 magazines written by young women for young women as they enter Secure Accommodation. This will be full of stories, tips and art work for new referrals so they know they are not alone at what is often a stressful and unknown time.
- \$1500 worth of music equipment for Parkville FLC. Music is one of the most popular activities and an important part of the culture of the College. This will enable MORE students to access MORE music activity, MORE of the time.
- Also, much thanks for the donation of an acoustic guitar for Malmsbury FLC from Musical Futures Australia.

PAVILION SCHOOL

Daring with Dolphins

This year Pavilion School will have an end of year trip to remember, which will take them out of their comfort zone, as they don wet suits and jump into the waters near Geelong to swim with the dolphins and learn about marine life. They are there as I write this and it’s 35 degrees. I hope they brought the sun screen!

Stay On Top

Skye successfully applied for a lap top for young mums at her school.

“Young mums often can’t get in to school as they are caring for family or have health appointments. This lap top means we can study at home and stay on top of school work.”

MACLEOD COLLEGE/ AFRICAN WOMEN’S ACTION GROUP

Class of 2017 Graduation Party

After some vandalism in their local school, and the Somali Community being blamed, three young women wanted to show that Somali people could do the right thing.

“We wanted to put on a community event which celebrated our achievements, brought people together and which raises money for the school. It’ll be an evening of pride and we hope we will set the tradition for this to become a regular event for those who follow us.”

MELBOURNE POLYTECHNIC

This year we worked with three VCAL student groups who all wanted to improve their community in different ways.

Work in Progress



Students were concerned that many young people experience mental ill health. They undertook some training with Headspace to build their own knowledge, and then set up and ran a stall at Malahang Festival, which involved fun 'feel good' activities and information about mental health, ensuring others know they are not alone.



Clean and Green



Others wanted to improve the environment. Working with Banyule Council, students learnt about the importance of growing native plants. On the day of Malahang Festival, they too had a stall, sharing the information they had learnt and providing free native seedlings for the community, all planted in used biodegradable coffee cups.

Packs for the Homeless



After visiting the Salvos and finding out about homelessness and the reasons behind it, students set up and ran a bbq fund raiser. With the money they earned plus the grant they raised with Youth Foundation, they were able to put together hygiene packs for the homeless.

“Youth Foundation catapulted our project into a different stratosphere. It was huge to have an extra \$500 – it meant we could make 50 packs, rather than the 15 we had planned for. That was the real impact on the community – we made an extra 34 bags than we had initially planned.”

OLYMPIC VILLAGE PRIMARY SCHOOL



Students had so many ideas on how to develop their community, including slime wars, being inside their own computer game and riding their

bikes in school play time. In summary – there is little for them to do after school and in the holidays and they were all crying out for active, adventurous and creative activities where they could have fun and hang out with friends. The results were a trip to Watermarc and an adventure experience at Camp Toolangi.

“My favorite part was seeing the determination of everyone giving it a go and the support students gave each other. Eating lunch together and sharing stories from the day. I’m proud that the instructors gave us a wonderful feedback due to the attitudes of how much fun everyone was having.”



Other news

- We had the pleasure of supporting an ex Parkville FLC student for two months work experience as he studies for a Community Development Diploma at Melbourne Poly. Thanks for all the hard work Akolda. We look forward to hearing what you do next.



- We said goodbye to Katy Richards who had worked as Youth Facilitator for 5 years, instigating the Parkville College Program and building strong links and programs across the community. We wish you well Katy.

- We welcome Lis Blake into the role, who brings a wealth of experience from education, community development and the arts.
- Well done to Youth Foundation recipients 2016 who were awarded the Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority 2016 VCAL Achievement Awards for their program to help the homeless last year.

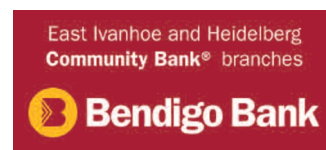


Check out some of our videos of celebrations and projects at www.bchs.org.au/video-gallery

Youth Foundation is made possible by the following supporters:



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As well as the kind donations from the Bendigo Bank Community Bank branches of Warburton, Yarra Junction, Boronia, Ringwood, Coleraine and District, Buninyong, Lang Lang, Pearcedale, Koo Wee Rup, Tooradin, Narre Warren, Blackburn South, Altona, Laverton, Point Cook, Gisborne as well as Windsor Management Insurance Brokers and Sandhurst Trustees.

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