



Achieving greatness together

SUPPORTER NEWSLETTER





Stephen Silk, CEO

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE EXPERIENCING DISADVANTAGE

Our end of year newsletter celebrates the successes, triumphs and greatness of the many young people we support. Indeed, thousands have participated in our programs this year, making 2016 one of our biggest yet. We have also launched our new Future Focus program for secondary school students in Years 7 – 8. This means that we are now proud to be one of but a few Victorian organisations that provide programs spanning the key life stages of a

young person across primary, secondary and tertiary education.

Let's continue our good work together into 2017 and beyond. Without you we wouldn't be able to support young people experiencing disadvantage.

Many thanks, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

Stephen Silk
Chief Executive Officer

*Our supporters can, and do, make a huge difference to young people's lives. In the words of our Cadet Kim Quinones:
"Doxa believed in me and I wouldn't be where I am today without them."*



EXPLORING CAREERS OF THE FUTURE

Our University Pathways Discovery (UPD) program and University Pathways Program (UPP) supports secondary school students in Years 9-12.

STEMM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths, Medicine) disciplines are back in focus for careers of the future. So this year we have reflected this in our programming

< *Students explore science with Victoria University*



Participants having a laugh at the September Holiday Camp

Time to be a child again

This summer over 200 primary school-aged children will participate in our residential program at Malmsbury and City Camp. For many, it will be the time of their lives.

Can you sponsor a child to attend?
Find out more at www.doxa.org.au/donate

for UPP with workshops at AECOM, CSIRO and Victoria University's Engineering Department.

Students also learn personal development and leadership skills and it has been wonderful to see participants Terry and David put these new skills into action at the Changemakers 2.0 Inspire, Empower, Transform Youth Conference.

Our warmest thanks to participating schools, partners and funders for their involvement.

AIDING THE TRANSITION TO SECONDARY SCHOOL

Without you we wouldn't be able to continue the growth, expansion and innovation across programs. And, with significant funding from the Colonial Foundation, we were able to launch a brand new residential and in-school program for students in Years 7 – 8: Future Focus.

This new program is all about aiding the transition from primary to secondary school and addressing adolescent issues such as bullying, drugs and alcohol, and building confidence and self-esteem.



Future Focus participants share their personal strengths

Save the date

DOXA'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER!

Doxa's much-loved Racing Lunch returns to the RACV Club, **Friday 10 March**. Keep an eye on our website for an announcement of the 2017 racing VIP speaker!

www.doxa.org.au



“Journey Program gave us a good opportunity and support to learn new things about the animals, the hills, the mountains. Because we are refugees and come from countries like Africa we don’t know about things like that.”

Mohammed, student at North Geelong Secondary College

Students enjoying our Journey Program

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF THE DOXA SCHOOL BENDIGO

The Doxa School Bendigo provides a second chance and alternative learning environment for marginalised young people who are at-risk in mainstream education.

John Russell, Principal, says that *“Often the most powerful moments come from a few words of appreciation from a student or parent, then I realise the work we do here is worthwhile and important, it really can change people’s lives.”*

AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN NEW THINGS

Our wonderful Journey Program is a multi-day trekking adventure in the Kooyoora State Park and Goldfields of Central Victoria.

Thanks to generous funding from Gandel Philanthropy, seven of these Journey Programs are specifically designed for young people from a

refugee or newly arrived migrant background. The focus is on social inclusion, teamwork and encouraging a sense of belonging and connectedness between cultures that young people can take back with them into their community. It has been heart-warming to see the impacts of this program.



Students on their Kakadu trek of discovery

DAVE'S TREK TO KAKADU

We were delighted to collaborate with the Foundation for Young Australians on their IMPACT program for young Indigenous people in Years 10-12.

Participants undertook a four-day, 11km trek through Litchfield National Park and Kakadu

National Park and had the opportunity to connect to and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture. Dave Ciavarella, our City Camp Manager, assisted the program expedition, drawing on his extensive experience leading groups of young people on expeditions around the world.

Doxa was honoured to be asked to collaborate on this venture and we celebrate the opportunity to empower, build skills and foster a connection to community, culture and country.

Ellen's mentor said:

"This is the first time our team has taken on a Doxa Cadet and it has changed the way we think about recruiting junior staff. The Doxa program plays a vital role in connecting high calibre, highly motivated young people with great professional development opportunities."

ELLEN FLOURISHES AT PWC

Ellen Lu is a second year participant in Doxa's Cadetship program. Her placement is at PwC, and she is a shining example of what the program can achieve for both the young person and the sponsor company.

Having been placed at PwC for her Cadetship she impressed them so much that she has been offered a further opportunity of a casual role in the People & Org – International Assignment Solutions (IAS) team. Congratulations Ellen!

< Ellen Lu on her Cadetship placement at PwC.

*Find out more
about Doxa*

Find out more about our wonderful programs that offer positive life experiences, education opportunities, and employment pathways to young people experiencing disadvantage.



Doxa.org



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We acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands and waters where we work and live