

## Successful Project concludes with Employment Expo in Ceduna

A Career Expo and Fun day was recently held in Ceduna for 45 Aboriginal students at Ceduna Area School and Crossways Lutheran School. The day was the conclusion of the Vocational Taster Project – Your Journey to Work, a program which has been operating in Ceduna and Port Lincoln since the beginning of 2010. The program aims to give young Aboriginal people a ‘taste’ of a variety of different career pathways and experiences while they are still at school.

The program has been delivered by Eyre Futures with funding from Regional Development Australia through the Department of Education Employment and Workplace Relations. The program has been an outstanding success with 125 school aged young people engaged with the program and undertaking career development, work experience and training in a variety of areas including horticulture, hospitality and construction.

“We’ve had great participation in the program and it’s been a real bonus that so many of the young people have come out of this program with jobs” said Project Manager Sharon Wait.

In Port Lincoln and Ceduna 38 young Aboriginal people have gone into employment through the program in a range of industries including administration, community service, construction and retail.

‘The Career expo was a wonderful conclusion to the project and the Ceduna business community were really supportive of the two day event’ said Mrs Wait

During the expo, students visited workplaces and got to hear first-hand from employers and employees about local business and industry and the range of jobs available. The second day was a fun day held at the Far West Aboriginal Sporting Complex with students accessing lots of career and study information, ranging from courses at University to a range of exciting new local initiatives being delivered at TWT.



Eyre Futures and Regional Development Australia were both optimistic ongoing funding could be found to continue the program given its popularity with young people and the successful outcomes to date.

### **Picture:**

Chelsea Ware and Anneliese Porta at the Career Expo in Ceduna – both Vocational Taster Clients who completed Year 12 in 2010, and are now employed as Community Services Trainees with Eyre Futures.