

Paperworks

ACT Social Enterprise Hub Participant 2009 Baseline Report

Canberra, ACT



Purpose

Paperworks is a start-up social enterprise established to provide employment opportunities to people in the local community who are marginalised from mainstream employment, particularly due to disability.

Rationale for Hub Assistance

People suffering from mental disability find it particularly difficult to actively participate as members within their local communities. There are 11 employment agencies in the ACT servicing this group and all have waiting lists.

Paperworks have identified this need and wish to start a social enterprise based around the art of paper making which will provide meaningful employment opportunities for people marginalised

from mainstream employment.

Paperworks will provide high end hand made paper products from recycled materials to custom orders, as well as capitalising on tourist and boutique sales avenues in the ACT.

Historical Achievement

In 2007 Paperworks ran a successful nine month creative paper making program for people suffering from mental disability. This program received overwhelming support from members of the community.

Goals

1. Develop a viable business plan.
2. Establish Paperworks social enterprise.
3. Provide employment for job seekers from marginalised backgrounds.
4. Improve the quality of life of employees from marginalised backgrounds.
5. Provide new work experience opportunities for disadvantaged job seekers.

Hub Support

The Hub will support Paperworks to:

- Conduct market research into market opportunities for their products and programs.
- Conduct financial modelling on the business.
- Develop a robust business plan.
- Build organisational capacity.
- Launch a social enterprise.
- Match with a mentor for a 12 month period.

Outcomes

- Development of Paperworks social enterprise.
KPI - launch of enterprise by January 2010
- Provide employment for disadvantaged job seekers.
KPI - number of people employed from a marginalised background
- Increase in work experience positions for disadvantaged job seekers.
KPI - number of work experience positions
- Increase in the quality of life for employees from disadvantaged background.
KPI - average wage

Richard Pedvin, Co-Founder, Paperworks

Richard Pedvin is one of the co-founders of Paperworks. Richard has both an extensive and broad history of involvement with the arts with a career which began as a photographer for the National Gallery of Australia. This grew to include working with many and varied groups helping artists expand on their personal skills and knowledge.

Richard has a diverse skills base having studied areas in the arts including technical, craft, art and education as well as over 10 years experience teaching.

His goal is to 'develop a studio which provides meaningful employment with opportunities for education and personal development – a place where people meet and cultivate skills on a multitude of levels to empower them selves and others.'