

A YOUTH TRANSITIONS SERVICE FOR AUSTRALIA

Operating in unemployment hotspots in outer Melbourne, the Brotherhood's Youth Transitions Service has successfully moved 70 per cent of the jobless youth participants into work, training or education.

The program, which is embedded in local communities and harnesses the efforts of local businesses and service and sporting clubs, offers an intense focus on building up the young person as a worker.

This means developing their 'employability' skills, coaching them, providing tailored career advice and planning, setting up work tasters and work experience, and making introductions to local employers looking for recruits. Importantly, the service provides support to each employer who takes on a young person, and remains in touch with the applicant in their new job for up to six months. This pilot has so far worked with 300 young people, many of whom have left school early or have been looking for work for many months.

The elements of this structured program can be scaled into a national program as the diagram shows:

