

Wesley Mission's Employment Services (WUE) operate from 59 locations in Sydney, major regional centres and smaller communities across NSW, assisting people to identify the vocational path that allows them to use the skills and experiences that God has given them. Employing 470 staff, this year we placed more than 15,000 people in employment, education and training.

With our help, many have overcome severe and multiple barriers to work.

Work satisfaction

Bringing restoration and reconciliation to people's lives we hope to see them function with increased potential and opportunity. We hold a firm conviction that work satisfaction is central to adult self-esteem, and that those who are unemployed should be assisted to find work that is appropriate to their circumstances.

Top performance

Our Employment Solutions Programs had an outstanding year. Operating in a competitive environment, it is particularly pleasing to have programs in this area ranked very highly by the government. Our Community Work Coordinator Program (known as Work for the Dole) was rated most effective in 12 of the 19 areas in which we work.

In Federal Government reviews, Wesley Mission's Personal Support Program for disadvantaged clients was recognised as one of the most effective in the community. This program is crucial for the unemployed with significant mental, physical and social barriers to employment. It performed highly, ranking number one in 8 of the 12 areas in which we operate, assisting 2644 people over the year – a growth of 16% on the previous year.

51 new partnerships

Work for the Dole Services developed new partnerships with 51 community organisations across NSW, yielding 1673 work experience opportunities and attracting over \$6.3m in Federal Government funding to support staff, supervisors and work experience participants. Our Disability Employment Network saw an increase of almost 300% and was able to assist 96 people with disabilities in the Ballina and Lismore areas, 71 more than the year before.

Supporting community need

In September, Rev Keith Garner presented a trailer made by WUE Work for the Dole clients in Kempsey to the Nambucca Netball Association, helping the netballers to boost their fund-raising efforts and lift community morale. WUE clients have produced trailers with built-in barbecues for other regional community groups, thereby learning skills such as welding, fabrication and metal-work. The WUE North Coast team conducts outreach activities aimed at creating self-esteem and drive among people who live in hardship. Mentoring work is vital: many are wary of making contacts outside their communities and lack hope about achieving a life of fulfilment.

Our Work for the Dole (WFD) IT Restore Program has provided refurbished computers to two communities this year. Fifteen other computers were delivered to the Taree area to assist indigenous families in need. The newly-formed Little Darlings Support Group, based in Maitland, also received a computer to boost their resources. The Greater Building Society donated 30 computers to the program after a major upgrade in June and we are thankful to businesses who partner us in our community work.

Fulfilling our potential

We aim to provide job-seekers with a sustainable job, the means to address and overcome barriers to employment, increased confidence, a sense of self-worth, vocational skills and connectedness to other people and services. We prize job-seeker development, while investing in our staff and acknowledging their significant contribution, valuing innovation and transparent, constructive relationships with other Wesley Mission services and the wider community.

Business Support Services was established to provide transparent business resources to staff within WUE. This encouraging development brought about positive cultural change and enhanced support particularly helping to integrate the relationship between Job Network and Employment Solutions.

Clinton strives for success

Clinton, 26, had been registered with Centrelink for 80 weeks. Hearing-impaired and receiving the Disability Support Pension, Clinton strove for success. With the hard work of the Wesley Mission team of Bruce and Tim, and the support of the Wesley WRAP-Wage Subsidy, Clinton attended an interview, with Bruce by his side, after which Clinton gained employment in hospitality as a Bar Attendant. Within a few weeks, follow-up with the employer revealed that Clinton had been promoted to Bar Supervisor. He is now Executive Bar Manager.

Clinton's confidence has increased along with a larger than life attitude. He is now able to pay off debt. Wesley accessed job seeker funding for transport assistance, enabling Clinton to secure additional working hours. Clinton is over the moon with his new job. When asked how his work was going, he proudly claimed, 'I own that place now'.

His success can be partly attributed to the support from Wesley Mission but Clinton's desire to make a change in his life and to overcome personal and physical barriers was an essential ingredient!



job network

JPET (homeless youth)

personal support program

work for the dole

disability employment

youth pathways

indigenous youth
employment centre

SANDS (youth training)

prison support services

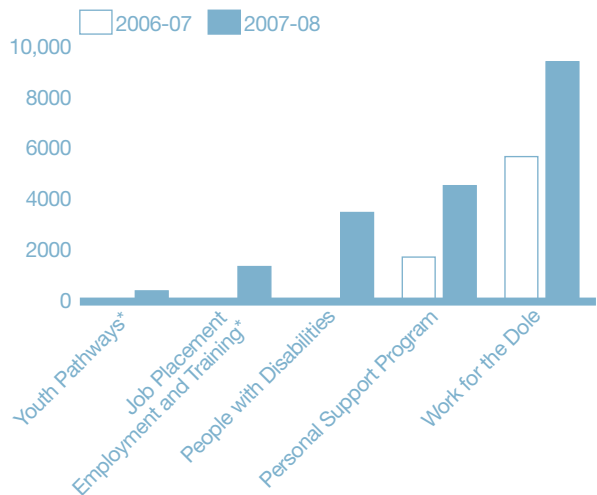
MERIT (drug rehabilitation)

Nambucca Night Patrol



employment services

Clients assisted



*Youth Pathways assists young people at school
*JPET assists youth at risk of homelessness

Totals

Total number of people placed in a job	14,534
Total number of people assisted	34,157