SA gets only one headspace funding grant - the work continues . . .

The Adelaide Hills Youth Mental Health Partnership was disappointed that SA only received funding for one new Headspace facility - in the Upper Spencer Gulf region. While there are critical needs in that region, the decision means that the Hills will have to wait a little longer for similar support. With the partnership having demonstrated the demand but only half of the Headspace funding allocated, there is optimism that a future funding opportunity may arise.

The Hills’ interest in gaining a Headspace facility was strongly supported by Health SA and, buoyed by the strong and unified support from the community, the group has vowed to continue its work on an integrated “learning and clinical partnership”.

Geoff Ewens, AITEC MD

Partnering In Action
Youth Bus Partnership aims to extend services for Hills Youth

The Adelaide Hills is characterised by many beautiful communities distributed though the Hills and connected by winding, narrow roads. Transport — or, more correctly, the lack thereof — is a frequently-cited challenge for accessing services from education to recreation. As a result, many Hills youth miss out on recreational, social and other services that youth take for granted in other near-metropolitan regions.

AITEC has been working to explore options for mobile service delivery for nearly 12 months. As a result, it has been able to secure a commitment by HETA Inc to make a renovated ex-STa bus available to the Hills community from mid-2012. This has brought a wave of excitement amongst youth workers and community agencies who see this as a means through which they can extend their services for youth.

AITEC has met with a range of initial agencies with a keen interest and is rapt to see the excitement this is generating. Adelaide Hills Community Health Service, RDA, Adelaide Hills Council, SAPOL, District Council of Mt Barker and Barker-to-Bridge, Employment Options and Mission Australia have all expressed desire to be part of this project.

AHCHS has even committed the services of 2 Occupational Therapy students to consult with Hills youth and communities on the services and facilities of the bus as well as its name and fit out. The bus could also support outreach services for youth mental health and other health services. But more early next year!

DECS gets DECD

Recently, Keith Bartley, Chief Executive Officer of the Department for Education and Child Development, advised of a departmental name change to reflect the integration of child-focused services. What used to be the Department of Education and Children’s Services (DECS) is now to be known as the Department for Education and Child Development (ECD).

HETA’s Kate Rush (centre) with Rene Peters and Sasha Dragovelic from AITEC.

To be removed from this mailing list, please send an email to sbcpb@aitec.edu.au insert your address - with the subject line ‘Unsubscribe’.
Hills Connect: exploring opportunities to connect up our youth with community

Just as limited transport restricts access to social and recreational opportunities in the Hills, it also restricts educational opportunities. If a student misses “the bus”, the day can easily be lost to learning. Hills communities are often smaller in size and even at the High or Area schools of the Hills, numbers may not be high enough to offer the same wider range of subjects as in metropolitan area schools.

With this in mind, a group recently met to explore the potential to better harness community-based facilities and expertise for e-connected learning.

Some Community Centres, libraries and houses have been progressively updating their own ICT system and preparing for more digital demand e.g. Kindle e-book readers. The NBN is also installing its optic fibre cable through Strathalbyn and Stirling with interests in exploring how it can support better business, stronger communities and better learning.

Convened by AITEC, a group comprising Education & Child Development, St Francis de Sales College, Employment Options, District Council of Mt Barker, Adelaide Hills Council and Regional Development Australia has formed to collaborate on using ICT, community facilities and expertise and curriculum to enhance continuing learning for young people across the Hills.

The group has elected to start with pilot projects in 2 locations through 2012 and welcomes ideas and input from businesses, community, youth workers, schools and parents.

The vocational equivalent to Year 12

This NCVER paper prepared by Patrick Lim and Tom Karmel was recently released and featured in The Australian (12 October, John Ross).

The report investigated what the national vocational equivalent is to completing senior secondary school for employment, further training or university. It found that:

- no VET pathway can be considered to be equivalent to Year 12 in a literal sense; VET pathways form an alternative to Year 12 but aren’t equivalent;
- for any further and higher education study (Cert IV & above), senior secondary school is preferable
- If there is to be some equivalence for female employment purposes, it should be at the Certificate III level.

To download the complete report go to...

Parents’ workshops at Campbelltown

Parents play key roles with their young people, but Eastern Adelaide’s youth workers note that they are often overlooked when focusing on youth. In collaboration with Workskil and Campbelltown City Council, AITEC is helping to organise a series of exploration sessions with parents to hear from them and support them to maintain healthy relationships and families.

Topics may include:
1. Parental expectations . . . unrealistic or misunderstood?
2. Working with young students who don’t want to go to school or that have learning difficulties
3. Building positive relationships between parents and schools
4. Demystifying education and career pathways
5. Communication issues; Kids’ disconnection and more…

Stay tuned for further details!

PARENTS . . .
Please share your thoughts about what parental topics would you like to speak about and what information would you like to hear about at parents’ seminars? sbcpb@aitec.edu.au
A teacher professional development industry familiarisation was organised by AITEC in collaboration with Digital Media Businesses - Rising Sun Pictures, Monkeystack, Media Resource Centre and tafeSA College of Arts. This was arranged to develop teachers’ awareness of emerging industry skill needs, such as writing for online media, digital media skills in theatre and performing arts, animation and movies. Teachers also learned about forthcoming “boot camps” - to include students - and future PD being developed for teachers. Through this exercise, they also explored current work practices, engaged with industry leaders and extended their knowledge of the DM workplace.

On the day, 11 teachers and 8 students accessed information about TAFESA courses in Film & Television, Gaming and Audio; Pathways & industry work practice for students, the new Digital Media Industry Pathways Program and how Partnership Brokers can help schools to create better relationships with industry and their community.

Students with a passion for a future in media were also part of this workplace and industry networking opportunity. The attendees visited industry facilities to become familiar with state-of-the-art equipment. Such in-service days are planned to be held twice a year. For more information about this exciting experience visit: http://www.aitec.edu.au/sbcpb/index.php/digital-media/55-sace-teachers-in-service-day.

## Digital Media IPP Industry - Tour (8 September 2011)

A teacher professional development industry familiarisation was organised by AITEC in collaboration with Digital Media Businesses - Rising Sun Pictures, Monkeystack, Media Resource Centre and tafeSA College of Arts. This was arranged to develop teachers’ awareness of emerging industry skill needs, such as writing for online media, digital media skills in theatre and performing arts, animation and movies. Teachers also learned about forthcoming "boot camps" - to include students - and future PD being developed for teachers. Through this exercise, they also explored current work practices, engaged with industry leaders and extended their knowledge of the DM workplace.

### ATTENDEES
- Industry Skills Managers from Eastern Adelaide and Barossa
- Teachers from: Concordia College, Glenunga HS, Henley Beach HS, Mount Compass AS and St Mary’s College.

### SCHEDULE
1:00 - 1:30 Rising Sun
2:00 - 2:30 Monkeystack
2:50 - 3:30 TafeSA
3:40 - 4:30 Media Resource Centre

Addressing the partnering needs of schools, parents & families, business and community

**Out And About - Digital Media Industry Pathways Program**

**SACE Media Teacher In-Service Day (28 October)**

During the development of the new Digital Media IPP, tafeSA’s Adelaide College of the Arts expressed its desire to build a stronger relationship with media teachers through regular in-service days hosted at the College. The Education Department (now ECD) supported the proposed training, with industry as well as the DECS IPP Curriculum Manager to be actively involved to shape this experience. As part of its DM partnership, AITEC supported a pilot program organised on October 28. AITEC assisted by targeting and convening media teachers across SA’s different regions, utilising the Partnership Brokers and Industry Skills Manager networks and by contacting all Adelaide Eastern and Hills secondary school contacts.
CRS Program for School Leavers

Through this program, CRS Australia aims to help young people in mainstream education that have a barrier such as anxiety, depression, an eating disorder, bipolar mood disorder, diabetes, chronic fatigue syndrome, acquired brain injury, conduct disorders and learning and developmental disorders. Following the Commonwealth Government’s introduction of initiatives to support young people to stay engaged in meaningful work or study, CRS Australia, a Disability Employment Service Provider, developed this program to support young people.

CRS Australia works with eligible* school leavers, providing a free, confidential and individualised service, to help students:

- maintain engagement, or
- reengage with schools, or
- transition to apprenticeship or work.

CRS Australia is part of the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and is funded by DEEWR for service provision.

* For further information, please contact Deb Winter, Marketing Manager SA/NT. Ph: (08) 8402 4200 or go to: http://www.crsaustralia.gov.au/young_people_and_school_leavers.htm

Out And About - Initiatives and Partnerships

AITEC was invited by Open Access College to support a development process for Structured Workplace Learning through community projects in Digital Media for remote schools. A meeting was organised by AITEC with Jeane Schocroft (Principal, OAC), Margaret Lambert (ISM), Stefan Demianyk (ECD) and Adam Hodson (OAC) to initiate the partnership which will support regional schools, with Cummins Area School taking a key role in the project.

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From left - Kelli Lewis (Catholic Education SA), Ali Abdullah-Highfold and Fran Zilio (SA Museum), René Peters (AITEC), Ivan Copley (Turkindi, Greg McCulloch (ABS), and Coby Edgar (Adelaide HS). Also attending were Chris Nobbs (ECD), Lorraine Securo and Andrew Babirat. Kick-off meeting of the “Rescue the Past” partnership aimed at strengthening Indigenous youth attainment through Culture. Adelaide High Years 10 and 11 Indigenous students will conduct research project activity at the Museum’s Indigenous Cultural Centre, with support from the Education Officer and the Indigenous community as well as the Museum Indigenous Cultural Centre specialists.

What a closing for 2011!!