



“Helping Inspire Change for Marginalised Young Australians”

Youth in Cessnock to benefit from community grant

Coca-Cola Australia Foundation supports the Northnet Youth and Garden Project

XX November 2011 – Northnet have today announced their ‘Northnet Youth and Garden Project’, which with the help of a community grant from the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation (CCAF), will benefit unemployed youth in the Cessnock region.

Northnet understands that classroom style learning is not suited to everyone and as such has developed alternate methods of education for youth who have a desire to work, however lack the skill level to gain initial employment. Northnet’s new Youth and Garden Project is an innovative community initiative to train, motivate and support these young people. As part of this Youth Project, a practical way of involving all youth and members of the community is the establishment of the Northnet Community Youth Garden.

The Northnet Youth and Garden Project aims to build confidence in participants by highlighting their potential and encouraging them to take control of their lives. Run over 26 weeks of full time tuition, participants will work as a team on designing and building a garden as well as learning about the health benefits of fresh produce.

All students involved in the project will engage in Certificate I in Construction and Certificate II in Horticulture and have the opportunity to work towards their Senior First Aid Certificate and the OH&S White Card.

The grant from CCAF will fund the installation of a small Trade Skills classroom next to the garden. The ‘Trade Skills Classroom’ will be used as a training facility where participants will learn to deal with a variety of hand and electrical tools needed for constructing gardens beds and other small projects. Knowledge and experience with the tools are core competencies associated with the Certificate II in construction

“This program, with the assistance from the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation grant, will help train and motivate disengaged youth to be constructive members of the Cessnock community,” said Bronwyn Musgrove, General Manager, Northnet Incorporated.

“The Northnet Youth and Garden Project is in line with our commitment to help inspire change for marginalised young Australians and as such CCAF is delighted to award a grant to Northnet in support of their program,” says Jim Bird, Chairman of the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation.

At the conclusion of the project, it is expected that all youth involved will have specific qualifications to assist in their endeavour to seek employment.

For more information about Northnet and the Northnet Youth and Garden Project go to www.northnet.org.au

About the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation (CCAF):

Established in 2002, the Coca-Cola Australia Foundation (CCAF) aims to help inspire change for marginalised young Australians aged primarily between 12–25 years. Jointly funded by Coca-Cola Amatil and Coca-Cola South Pacific, CCAF was originally created to bring together the wide-range of Community programs already being funded in Australia by both businesses. Through funding innovative and practical programs run by community and youth organisations, charities and NGOs CCAF supports young Australians who are facing major social, physical and/or economic challenges in their lives. CCAF works with a select number of National Partners on larger-scale, longer-term programs and also funds a number of Community Grants for smaller-scale programs to achieve its aims. CCAF donates approximately \$1 million each year and since its inception over \$7,000,000 has been awarded to hundreds of programs right across Australia

www.coca-colaustraliafoundation.com.au.



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About Northnet

Northnet Incorporated is a "Not for Profit" community based organisation which exists for educational and charitable reasons. Since its inception in 1983, Northnet's passion for helping the people of the Hunter area to upskill and achieve their career goals has been paramount. Training is targeted at the surrounding industries' needs to ensure positive employment outcomes for all clients and stakeholders. A major driving force in the area of vocational training, Northnet strives for excellence and will continue to deliver superior training and charitable activities in the Hunter for many years to come.

Our Vision: Northnet is a public benevolent organisation with the vision of providing a service of excellence; whose reputation permeates the community and inspires participants from all walks of life to enhance their circumstances through education and self-development.

Mission Statement: Our mission as a benevolent organisation is:

To supply community based education that is affordable, accessible or sponsored

To provide enthusiastic, skilled and well qualified educators who are student orientated

To provide educational outcomes that are relevant, useful and achievable

To improve career opportunities for the disadvantaged and the community as a whole

To add value to the community by increasing job prospects and personal fulfillment

Northnet **endeavours** to keep abreast of all employment opportunities in the Hunter and offers training programs to meet these opportunities. Clients in need of Literacy, Language and Numeracy assistance will be catered for to ensure they can pursue their career goals confidently and without barriers.

Northnet offers training across the entire Hunter region. Areas include Singleton, Muswellbrook, Newcastle, Toronto, Raymond Terrace, Maitland, Cessnock and their surrounding suburbs. Our theory: "if you have the people and the need, we will come to you".

Areas of training include: qualifications from Certificate 1 to Diploma level in Hospitality, Tourism, Business, Community Services, Information Technology, Retail, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management.

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