



# STANDING TALL

A SCHOOL BASED MENTORING PROGRAM



## CORPORATE PARTNERSHIP PROSPECTUS

**WHAT DOES STANDING TALL MEAN TO YOU? DOES IT MEAN RISING TO A CHALLENGE? STANDING TALL IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY? OR DOES IT MEAN STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE AND SUPPORTING SOMEONE WHO NEEDS YOUR HELP?**

In Warrnambool it means all of those things, with the Standing Tall school-based mentoring program offering students at risk of disengagement the support they need to stay in school and enjoy happy and healthy outcomes.

Since the program started in Warrnambool in 2010 it has supported more than 100 'at risk' students with 98% still at school or in supplementary education, such as WAVE school or TAFE.

All of last year's participants said the program had led to them having a more positive outlook about their school; 99% felt more valued since joining the program and 96% per cent said their behavior had improved at school and at home.

**The program is in demand, with enrolments up 16% in 2015.**

## THE PROGRAM

The program matches carefully selected and trained community volunteers with at risk year 7 and 8 students studying at Warrnambool and Brauer colleges. The volunteers have a one-on-one hour-long session every week, which can involve talking, playing cards, cooking, undertaking activities – or whatever the mentee chooses – as well as regular group sessions that focus on issues pertinent to the students involved.

Students enter the program for two years and sessions are conducted informally at the student's school and operate at the same time every week. While mentors are only expected to participate for the one hour session per week, we find many develop ongoing supportive relationships that extend beyond the school gate and provide the mentees with a supportive adult relationship.

These relationships have the potential to change lives and have provided dozens of young people with a new, positive path they may otherwise not have found.

## THE OUTCOMES

In 2014 Warrnambool's Standing Tall program:

- conducted 382 mentoring sessions;
- provided 14,120 mentoring hours at two secondary schools;
- worked with 35 students;
- trained 40 community volunteer mentors.

The program's 2015 Student Survey revealed:

- More than 95% of participants enjoyed being part of the program;
- 87.5% wanted to be mentored in the subsequent year;
- 80% thought their mentor improved their school performance;
- 96% felt comfortable speaking to their mentor about things that were good and bad;

2015 participants were asked what they liked best about the program. Their responses included: 'being with my mentor', 'just talking', 'having someone to count on', 'too many to name', 'the people who listen to what we say'.

As well as:

“Thank you for mentoring me for the past one and a half years. It has helped me and my confidence so much. I really look forward to Tuesday period 2 now because it's a time where I don't have to worry about anything in the whole wide world.”

## HOW CAN I HELP?

There are so many ways you can help make a difference to a young person. We are always looking for volunteers, for empathetic community representatives who can provide our mentees with a stable, supportive adult in their lives.

We're also looking for corporate partners who can support us with much-needed funds to ensure the program and its participants continues to flourish.

**WE'RE MAKING A DIFFERENCE  
– SO CAN YOU.**

## TESTIMONIALS

“*Standing Tall offers our students the opportunity to experience, once a week, the care and support of a significant adult on a one-on-one basis. The space for discussion, learning and getting to know one another is invaluable as it enables our students to better navigate the tricky path of early adolescence.*”

Dave Clift  
Assistant Principal  
Warrnambool College

“*Standing Tall provides students with the opportunity to develop a relationship with a significant adult who then mentors, helps them build life skills and expands their horizons. The impact of these mentors on young people is immeasurable.*”

Jane Boyle  
School Principal  
Brauer College

“*The Standing Tall Program is a chance to make a difference in a child's life by giving them encouragement, advice and a role model to look up to. For me personally it's a chance to give a little back and let the kids experience things they might not often get the chance to do. Not only do the kids grow but the Mentor gains so much out of it as well.*”

Matty Stewart  
Program coordinator



## HOW IS IT FUNDED?

Warrnambool's Standing Tall is a self-funded program, sourcing income through sponsorship and donations from the local business sector, community service clubs, philanthropic foundations and the general community.

It does not receive government funding.

The funding model allocates \$1500 per student per year – meaning it will cost \$66,000 for the program to operate in 2015.

These costs cover the employment of a Program Coordinator, mentor training, insurances and any educational, art craft and other items and activities used in the mentoring sessions. Mentors do not need to pay for anything out of their own pocket.

Importantly, the funds pay for the food which is provided at all sessions. Many students in difficult situations attend sessions and school without the benefit of a healthy breakfast and many are not provided with money to buy lunch.

A major part of the program is teaching students cooking and food preparation with quick and easy recipes so they are able to feed themselves and other family members, if needed.



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# CORPORATE PARTNER PACKAGES



## GOLD PARTNER

Your investment: \$10,000 per year

Your return: Your logo prominently on all printed marketing material, radio advertising valued at \$2500, monthly promotion through our social media networks, profile on our website with links to your business website and the priceless knowledge you have helped at least six at risk students stay in school and on the path to a better life.



## SILVER PARTNER

Your investment: \$5000

Your return: Your logo on all printed marketing material, radio advertising valued at \$1250, quarterly promotion through our social media networks, profile on our website and the priceless knowledge that you have helped at least three at risk students stay in school and on the path to a better life.



## BRONZE PARTNER

Your investment: \$1500

Your return: Your logo on all printed marketing material, twice yearly promotion through our social media networks, business listing on our website and the priceless knowledge that you have helped an at risk student stay in school and on the path to a better life.



## CONTACT US



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