

Re; Gannambarra Ltd views on improving the effectiveness of the current number of employment programmes and services.

I write in response to the request for our views on how employment services can be improved.

As STEPERS organisation provider we suggest the following:

- Access to the EA 3000 data base to ease processing of information and administration of the program.
- Currently under the STEP ERS we can not claim outcomes for clients who are assisted to commence long term training at the universities or TAFE colleges. We suggest a provision of some incentives to organisations that assist Indigenous job seekers commence in long term training at universities or other tertiary institutions. We also suggest provision of incentives directly to Indigenous job seekers who are over 18 years old who commence and complete literacy and numeracy training
- The widening of the skills voucher available for free training opportunities to clients who meet specific criteria to include the job seekers who are 18 years old and over.
- As provider of the STEP ERS program our effectiveness is limited by the fact that we are dependant on JNM referring Job seekers to us for complimentary services. Because job seekers are tied to JNM there is not enough compulsion on the part of the job seeker to adhere to the activities organised by the STEP ERS provider. Well as the participant can be breached by the Job network upon us remitting a report for failure of the participant to participate without satisfactory reason. The participants do not consider us (STEPERS provider) main players in their quest to find a job. We suggest that participants be referred to us directly by centre link for job search assistance and training. This will ensure a fair playing field as some JNMs are STEP ERS providers as well.
- We suggest funding be availed to STEP ERS providers to cater for wage assistance to employers taking on indigenous job seekers in the infant stages of the employment this will strengthen the work activity program.

We greatly appreciate the opportunity accorded to us to make these suggestions.

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