

Homework Centre History

2007 Annual report

General mention not worth recording here.

Thank yous combined with EMC Refugee Youth Program so hard to distinguish which belong to the Centre except that they thank the Fitzroy Library and Yarra-Melbourne Regional Library Corporation.

2007 Homework Club Report

Undated, scribbly meeting notes & typed version. Emily Duizend. 8/11/2007

Movement from JPET to EMC. Then to Napier Street to integrate it better into other BSL and local services as part of Neighbourhood Renewal

EMC: Managed by Noah Ariel who is to supervise Heba Ibrahim.

8-12 kids regularly (30 kids in all I think). Operates 4-6, Monday to Thursday

Venue: Library

ANZ and Freehills, \$22,000 with volunteers from GHD.

Scope for development listed as exploring how it meets refugee needs and how this can be enhanced, improving the relationship with parents such as through the PACTS program, developing a relationship with the schools, employing more ESL volunteer teachers, including the Homework Club in the Atherton Gardens network meetings, research comparison with other clubs.

Homework Club Report 2007

A basic description of the club, student participation, volunteers, challenges, aims and achievements.

Secondary homework centre report 2007

SWOT analysis with description and recommendations for increasing project worker hours, training of tutors, rationalising line management, strengthening the relationship with supporting bodies, with the AG residents association and student support organisations, integrate the club into RMC more.

Swot Analysis completed by Catriona Hodgson.

2006 Annual report:

General mention not worth recording here.

Names projects and partners: Nick Sykiotis, Mark Safe, Gon Ngo, Naresh Pereira, Sophie Gammon, Macquarie Foundation, Edward Wilson Trust, Joe White Bequest. Fitzroy Library staff, Yarra-melbourne Regional Library Corporation.

Brotherhood of St Laurence Homework Centre 2006 (John Meredith, JPET)

Aims, description, discussion of model, key elements of an effective homework assistance model. Includes, outcomes, student feedback, statistics, networking and partnerships and innovation

'Helping fill the gaps: BSL Homework Centre Evaluation' Cath Lee, unfinished draft, September 2005

Refer to document for details. Evaluation conducted by a student researcher supervised by Daniel Perkins.

Note this was never finished, there was conflict between the program organisers (particularly John Meredith) and Cath Lee with respect to the representation of the Homework Centre.

Draft Employment, Research and Advocacy Plan 2005-06, p2 (internal document)

A Homework Centre review was scheduled and assigned to Daniel Perkins.

Strategic Directions June 2005 (internal document)

'Homework Program: Developing the model for replication with DEET.' Complete content.

June 2005 (email)

Email to Lee-Ann Boyle inviting her to take part in the Yarra Melbourne Regional Library's Homework Help project.

2004-05 Annual report:

No mention in body.

Thank yous: Nick Sykiotis, Sophie Gammon, Naresh Pereira, Gon Ngo, Mark Safe, Macquarie Foundation, Edward Wilson Trust, Joe White Bequest. All staff from the Fitzroy Library, Yarra-melbourne Regional Library Corporation.

BSL Human Research Ethics Committee Minutes 13 May 2004 (internal document)

Proposal for evaluation put forward by Daniel Perkins. Discussion about ethical issues.

Operational Planning 2004, p103 (internal document)

Homework Centre Manager, Lee-Anne Boyle

Summary: Located at Fitzroy Library, sessions 4-6pm Monday – Thursday. Program provides one on one tutoring and personal support. Description of client group resembles that in 2008. Funding from one-off Body shop grant to be exhausted in that year. The document notes discussions with Yarra Melbourne Regional Library Service (YMRL) to look at alternate funding models and the possibility of extending the program to 7 other libraries in the region. The Regional Library Coordinator suggested that this be coordinated by the BSL with funding sought from YMRL, BSL, councils and government. If this aim failed, they planned to seek trust, grant or BSL funding at a cost reduced by 25 per cent. One KPI was that the centre be self sustaining by July 2005. Rent is at half cost with a note that in 2004-05 'it is expected that no rental will be charged.' Strategic objectives included raising awareness at a state level of the role of homework centres and using research to assist this. Another research objective was identifying the ways in which the current education system is failing to meet student needs. They aimed to complete the research by the end of 2004, build relationship with Department of Education and Training and invite the minister to visit the centre. Refer to hard copy for more detail.

2003/2004 Annual report:

Longer listing: RMIT Homework Centre evaluation [Cath Lee's which is incomplete and never published?]

Thank yous include: Fitzroy Library, Yarra Melbourne Regional Library Corporation.

BSL Strategic Directions, November 2003, p14 (internal document)

"Fitzroy Library Homework Program

- Work with Yarra Melbourne Regional Library to develop a plan for funding, coordination and delivery of a region-wide service, with BSL as Co-ordinator.
- Build closer links within the BSL
- Develop RDPA provision
- Include this area in the Education portfolio."

Strategic synopsis of service areas June 2003 (internal document)

'To have the homework centres recognised as playing a crucial role in the education system by doing so be funded by the State Government. Evaluation and research undertaken 4th term 2003. Advocacy plan in place by June 2004.' Complete content.

Emerging Projects – Community Services, March 2003 (internal document)

"Homework Program: Developing the Model for replication with DEET"

Note: Department of Education, Employment and Training

2002-03 Annual report:

'Homework Centre: Assisting secondary school students during the school term. A secure and friendly environment for students to study independently, meet other students or discuss personal issues with the Centre staff and volunteers. Staffed by qualified teachers, tutors and volunteers. More than 100 clients. Statewide partnerships with the Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues, Yarra Council and the Regional Libraries Corporation' (p18)

Thank yous: The Body Shop, Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues and Fitzroy library

Fundraising – June 2002 (internal document)

Exploration of philanthropic trusts Fundraising could apply to. It lists the Hector Waldron Pride as donating \$17,000 in 1997 and the Sunshine Foundation donating \$8,000 in March 2000 in addition to other non specified donations such as Flor Frank Leith in 1999 and the Melbourne Newsboys Club.

2001-2002 Annual report:

Nothing

2001 Annual report:

No mention in report body.

Thankyous for Centre include: The Body Shop and volunteers (not further defined)

City Services, Report to Board, March-April, 2001

Note about volunteers that meetings have been held to implement the AXA program with the Homework Program and the Coolibah.

2000 board minutes

Under funding for HIPPY (\$95,000) it is noted that the funding from the body shop included \$50,000 for the Homework Program

2000 Annual Report:

General reference in report body.

Thankyous: Arthur Robertson and Hedderwicks, Flora and Frank Leith Charitable Trust, Irene and Margaret Stewardson Charitable Trust, Melbourne Newsboys Club Foundation, Sunshine Foundation, The Body Shop

Board Minutes of 24 October 2000, page C (internal document)

Lists funding from the Body Shop of \$95,000 of which \$50,000 was for the Homework program. The remainder was for HIPPY.

2000 Community Services annual plan 1999-2000

Key activity noted as tutoring 50 students in VCE subjects. An evaluation of student satisfaction was planned and the Homework Program was to be redeveloped following a review of BSL service involvement in the final years of schooling and early school leavers.

1999 Annual report:

No mention in report body.

Thankyous for Centre include: The Body Shop, The Hector Waldron Pride Charitable Trust.

Community Services Annual Plan 1999-2000, p11-12 (internal document)

Homework Program listed as tutoring 50 students in VCE subjects. Outcome and Performance Indicators include a qualitative evaluation. Objectives include determining the percentage and number of students satisfied with resources, staff, contribution to future directions. It was to collect data on the number of financially disadvantaged, indigenous and NESB and students from sole parent families. Data was to be compared over time. The evaluation was to use self assessment surveys and or interviews. It was to include percentage and dollar value of actual to budgeted expenditure with a view to comparison over time.

A second activity was the 'redevelopment of the Homework Program to follow a review of BSL service involvement in the final years of schooling and early school leavers.' This was to occur in the context of a review of practical experience in terms of policy development and the development of a position of the BSL's strategic role.' An outcome was modified program implementation in January 2000.

1998 Annual report:

'Helping students achieve: Homework Centre: An innovative response to the study needs of secondary students from low income families, providing 50 secondary students a quiet place to study, individual tuition, computers and other resources. All Year 12 students involved in the program were successful in their studies and progressed to tertiary study' (p18)

Thank yous: William Angliss Trust, Permanent Trustees, The Hector Waldron Pride Charitable Trust.

1997 Annual report:

'Working with students to achieve: With new, more spacious accommodation, the Homework Centre has for the first time been able to accept all students wishing to enrol in the Centre's after-school tutoring service. Based in Fitzroy, the Centre has an enrolment of 67 secondary students, compared with 50 the previous year. Through hard work and commitment, students overcome some enormous personal difficulties. The program provides them with a quiet space to study, individual tuition and access to resources including computers and the Internet, newspapers and other study materials' (p7).

No Thank yous.

Brotherhood Action 1997 Autumn (No. 299), p4:

Program occurs in a 'spacious hall not far from the Brotherhood's offices in Fitzroy' the number of students 'made it necessary to larger premises for the 1997 academic year.' The centre had a newspaper rack and provided 'educational resources not available at home. The centre is listed as being open 4-6pm four days a week and had 50 students most from low income NESB families. Phil Burke and Zoe Psomiadis are listed as tutors.

Community Services Directorate Annual Plan 1997/98, p27 (Internal Document)

"Goal 1: Responding to poverty

Overall Activity: Homework Program by providing educational support and resources to young people from NESB and low income families

Outcome and Performance Indicator: 90% of students complete Year 12; Past users maintain contact with the program as role models; 50 students participate"

1996 Annual report:

'Homework Centre, Fitzroy: Aim: to offer free assistance with homework to secondary students from low-income families in the City of Yarra and provide them with access to computers and other services that they may not be able to afford. There has been an increase in Year 7 and 8 students participating in the program due to new students at secondary school requiring additional help. Outcomes: 54 students use the centre compared with 32 the previous year. There has been overall improvements in the students' written and verbal communication skills particularly among those with previously minimal English language skills. Highlights: expanded access to computing resources, including Internet access, has helped students achieve their goals as well as the program's aim of increasing educational opportunities. Establishment of individual programs for students requiring specialist tutoring. Staff: two part time staff assisted by two volunteers. Budget: \$42,223' (p20).

One set of thank yous to cover all organisations in a clump.

Brotherhood Action 1996 Summer (No. 297), p5:

Records donation of two PCs from the Commonwealth Bank.

Staff pictured include: Program Manager – Sue Culligan; Tutor – Zoi Kasparidis and teacher – John Dahlenburg.

1995 Annual report:

'Homework Centre, Fitzroy. Aim: to offer free assistance with homework to low-income family secondary students in the City of Yarra and give them access to computers and other services that they may not be able to afford. Outcome: as well as a 100 per cent success rate for VCE students, this year 32 students aged 12 to 27 were assisted compared with 23 last year. Highlights: the service has changed the program from one large group three times per week to two groups twice a week to increase access to the program/ A weekend camp was also organised for the students.

Factors impacting on this service included cuts in state government funding to schools, particularly in English as a Second Language and changes to the structure of the VCE course. Staff: two casual staff assisted by two volunteers. Budget: \$41,497' (p17).

One set of thank yous to cover all organisations in a clump.

Brotherhood Action 1995 Autumn (No. 294), p3:

By this stage listed as operating 'most days' and having 32 students. Of the 1994 VCE students (N = 12) all 'obtained VCE results that enabled them to gain places in TAFE or university courses around Melbourne.' The program still served students from the Fitzroy flats who attended on a voluntary basis. Most were from NESB and having lived for five years or less in Australia.

1994 Annual report:

No mention. One set of thank yous to cover all organisations in a clump.

1993 Annual report:

No mention. One set of thank yous to cover all organisations in a clump.

1992 Annual report:

No mention. One set of thank yous to cover all organisations in a clump.

1991 Annual report:

'Homework Programs: The homework program in Craieburn is similar to a model developed in Fitzroy. Homework programs provide free tutorial assistance and a quiet place to study as a means of encouraging students to remain at school. Education empowers young people to avoid poverty and overcome obstacles in the home which may further disadvantage their school years. During the year, 27 local young people enrolled in the Craieburn homework program , while in Fitzroy another 40 students benefited from the person attention of the homework tutors. Each homework program provides assistance in subject areas determined by the students. In Craieburn, maths and English are considered the most important areas of remedial study. In Fitzroy, the demand has been for maths and humanities. Both programs are supported on a part time basis by two trained teachers. The programs were run at a cost during the year of \$40,000' (p9).

One set of thank yous to cover all organisations in a clump.

Brotherhood Action 1991 Winter (no 281), p4:

An article describing Craieburn Family Services. The Homework Centre is noted to have 27 students and 2 tutors (Pierina Morano and Leigh Riley) who assist with maths, English, history and science. A parents evening was held in April 1991 and it is noted that: 'Most parents have been quick to recognise the value of education in providing their children with greater life choices.'

Brotherhood Action 1991 summer (no 279), p1:

Described as a recent project. In addition to homework the program taught study and organisation skills. The article says they plan to teach essay writing and arrange excursions to educational institutions like the state library in school holidays. Books and equipment were provided. Attendance was optional and free. The program was then run by professional teachers and tutors Tuesday – Thursday for both primary and secondary students. It is supported by the Fitzroy Library.

1990 – no mention

Sharon Bond
Brotherhood of St Laurence
2008