



**2019** BEACON  
FOUNDATION  
**HIGH IMPACT  
PROGRAMS**



# Employment is more than just a job.

For a young person, gaining employment can impact almost every aspect of their lives.

Employment provides a means for achieving financial stability and independence. For some young people this can mean access to stable accommodation and adequate standards of living. It can help a young person to escape family violence, reduce substance abuse or stay out of the justice system. The positive impact of employment on a young person's self esteem, mental health and social inclusion is widely recognised.

The transition period between leaving school and finding employment is increasingly precarious for Australia's young people. Over 248 000 young people aged between 15 - 24 years are currently unemployed<sup>1</sup>, accounting for more than a third of total unemployment across the country.

By supporting young Australians to become 'job ready' while they're still at school, we can help them step onto the path of a bright and positive future.

Beacon's High Impact Programs prepare and motivate young people for a successful post-secondary school transition.

In the space of a school-day, young people practice highly sought after employability skills and participate in workshops that build aspirations, resilience and self-advocacy. With the help of our facilitators and volunteer industry mentors, young people gain valuable insights into workplace expectations, career pathways and opportunities.

As expressed by a past participant, Beacon's High Impact Programs help to 'remove the cloud of mystery' that hangs over the heads of so many of our young people preparing for life after school.

Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2018, Labour force, Australia, 'Table 13. Labour force status for 15 - 24 year olds by sex - trend', time series spreadsheet, cat. no. 6202.0, viewed 20 February 2019, <http://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/DetailsPage/6202.0Dec%202018?OpenDocument>.

## High Impact Programs

### Prepare Years 7 & 8 - 1 Day Workshop

Prepare introduces students to the world of work and gives them an insight into prospective careers and work readiness skills. Raising aspirations, goal setting and the value of adopting a growth mindset are key focus areas of this program. The evidence for early intervention in all aspects of education and employment is solid. Prepare sparks interest and curiosity for students beginning their journey into high school education, preparing for casual employment and exploring career possibilities.

### Polish Years 9 & 10 - 1 Day Workshop

Polish empowers students to better navigate their transition into the future world of work. The program equips students with an awareness of global trends, the demand for cultivating a transferrable set of skills and the importance of self-advocacy. Through interactive modules students learn to identify, build and promote their own enterprising skills including communication, team work, problem solving and networking.

### Perform Years 11 & 12 - 1 Day Workshop

An intensive one-day program, Perform focuses on supporting young people who are in the throes of making crucial decisions about their life after school. The program improves employment opportunities by helping students to understand recruitment trends and practices, build self-awareness for individual and team success and gain insights into common workplace expectations and behaviours.

# The Mentor Experience

High impact Programs provide a unique opportunity for members of the business community to participate as volunteer industry mentors.

In just 2 - 3 hours of volunteering time, industry mentors have the opportunity to connect with 20 - 25 young people at the throes of making crucial decisions about their life after school. Activities include panel sessions, networking lunches, small group workshops and mock interview sessions.

By sharing career stories and employment experiences, mentors provide a vital link to the working world. Mentors help participants to build enterprising skills (such as team-work, communication and networking) and feel optimistic about their own career journey, attributes that can accelerate a young person's transition from education to employment.

But mentoring isn't a one way street. It's an incredibly rewarding way to reflect while building communication, public speaking and leadership skills.

We invite you and your organisation to be a part of the community supporting every young person in Australia find their path to an incredible future.

*"It was inspiring to meet kids with goals and ambitions at such a young age. I loved sharing my personal experiences with the kids in the hope that they derive as much value from the experience as I did"*  
- Industry mentor

*"Such a unique opportunity to meet and interact with young people Their positivity and zest for life is refreshing. I gained a lot from my mentoring session."*  
- Industry mentor

# Program Outcomes

## Student Outcomes



## Industry and Educator Outcomes

100%

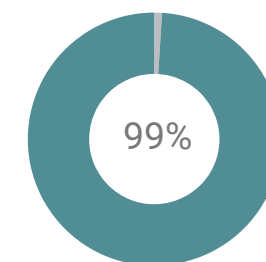


of industry representatives involved in the program reported that they felt the day equipped the students with more skills to secure employment

100%



of educators involved in the program reported that they felt the day equipped the students with an increased knowledge of the world of work



of educators and industry representatives involved in the program reported that they felt the day was a valuable experience

## Contact

To book your program or for more information contact,

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*"Over the past 20 years of teaching this is one of the most inspirational workshops that I have witnessed. The students were challenged and inspired with 'real life' examples. The opportunity to chat with mentors and have their opinions valued was invaluable. Their faces beamed!"*  
- Teacher

*"I feel as if my future is brighter after today. I feel more motivated to work and do well in schooling. Hearing what adults had to say about their work which they love, makes me inspired to work hard to be in a workforce I'm passionate about. I feel confident in going for that job, using the people skills I've been taught."*  
- Student