

Case study template

Date of the project	January 2007 to December 2007
Title of the project	Disability Employment and Training Project
Organisation managing the project (including Web link)	Finding Workable Solutions inc www.fws.org.au
Description of the project	<p>The Disability Training and Employment Program operating from our Mt. Barker and Murray Bridge service outlets will promote the Project, interview all potential project participants and provide a holistic, goal orientated training and employment program for each registered participant.</p> <p>In both regions the project expects to engage 10 participants with a minimum of five employment outcomes & delivery of 650 training hours.</p> <p>The established FWS Case Management model will be used to achieve the project objective of supporting individuals with a disability into training and employment. In summary this model includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of project to potential participants, via community networks • Selection of participants according to target group criteria • Comprehensive initial assessment of participants to determine training and support requirements • Development of an Employment Assistance Plan (EAP) outlining training and employment goals, as well as support to be provided by FWS. • Implementation of employment and training activities contained in the EAP, with individualised support provided by FWS Job Support Officers • Liaison with Employers, job placement services (e.g. Disability Works Australia) and training providers by the Case Manager & service team to identify & secure employment /training opportunities for participants, according to stated vocational goals. • Job placement & ongoing job maintenance support provided by Job Support Officers & coordinated by the Case Manager.

Pictures	Not available as discussed 22/6/07
Personal Background	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teresa is a 16 year old girl who lives in Murray Bridge with her family. ▪ Teresa was referred by, the Learning Support Coordinator at Unity College Murray Bridge. ▪ She is currently attending Unity College year 10, however wants to leave. ▪ When Teresa turned 16, her mother became ineligible for parenting payment from Centrelink. ▪ Teresa worries and feels guilty seeing her mother struggling to make ends meet. ▪ Teresa has to attend regular medical appointments in Adelaide, another financial burden to her mother ▪ School grades are poor is due to ill health and medical commitments. ▪ Contact with peers is limited adding to feelings of inferiority and loneliness.
Barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Double Vision ▪ Balance Problems ▪ Weakness Down Left Side of Body ▪ Slurred Speech ▪ Fatigue ▪ Short Term Memory Loss ▪ Ongoing Pain
FWS Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teresa's first goal to gaining independence was to apply for the Disability Pension or Youth Allowance. ▪ FWS assisted with filling out Centrelink forms and medical reports, a lengthy process. ▪ FWS encouraged Teresa to make decisions while giving positive reinforcement. ▪ FWS assisted Teresa search out options for further study for her long term goal of employment as a librarian. ▪ Currently FWS are helping Teresa acquire her learner's license. ▪ Social and communication skills. ▪ Transport. ▪ Regular meeting with parents.

<p>Outcome to Date</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teresa has acquired a Youth Allowance with a DSP component. ▪ Her mother has been allocated a Carers benefit. ▪ Work Experience program is being negotiated at library ▪ Teresa is much more confident and positive about her future
<p>Testimonials / quotes from participant (s)</p>	<p>“I feel like a weight has been lifted from me ,I don’t need to worry about the expense of going to Adelaide Children’s Hospital”</p> <p>“I can do things instead of reading about them “</p> <p>“I’m glad I came”</p>