



MEDIA RELEASE

10 August 2018

What future? The one you make!

Josephine Willcox is the winner of the National Employment Services Association (NESA) Achiever of the Year Award. Josephine joins 5 other people and organisations honoured in the NESA Awards for Excellence ceremony held Wednesday night at the Brisbane Hilton, as part of NESA's 2018 National Conference.

Josie experienced her fair share of personal challenges from childhood and decided she wanted to carve her own path. At the age of just 16, she set out on her own, graduated from college and completed a Certificate II in Kitchen Operations. After several roles and varied work environments, Josie found herself unemployed after being made redundant.

Not one to give up, Josie engaged with My Pathway as a job seeker in 2016 and discovered a new passion. The support she received from My Pathway made her realise that helping people was something that inspired her greatly. Just six months later, a job opening became available with My Pathway, and Josie began her new career in Employment Services.

"If I was asked two years ago what I saw for my future, it would have been a very difficult question to answer" Josie said when asked about her new career. "...but now after some sheer hard work and dedication along with incredible guidance and support I'm working towards goals I never imagined...".

Her life is now dedicated to providing the same kind of opportunity to others that was provided to her. "...I know that I can achieve anything with persistence and at least one person to believing in me. I want to be able to provide that belief for others in tough situations."

NESA CEO Sally Sinclair was touched by Josie's story, saying "Josie is a remarkable young woman whose positive experience with My Pathway has transformed into a dedication to Employment Services which is a credit to the sector, and to her own perseverance and positivity. Well done Josie! NESA is proud to be able to honour inspirational people like you."

The NESA Achiever of the Year Award is proudly supported by the Department of Jobs and Small Business.

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