



MEDIA RELEASE

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Working Together to Build Better Employment Opportunities

Sodexo, South Metropolitan (SM) TAFE and atWork Australia are the 2018 National Employment Services Association (NESA) Excellence in Collaboration award winners. They join 5 other people and organisations honoured in the NESA Awards for Excellence ceremony held last night at the Brisbane Hilton, as part of NESA's 2018 National Conference.

Barriers to employment – particularly in remote Australia and for Indigenous job seekers – are typically complex, involving skill and experience gaps, inadequate transport, housing or access to communication, as well as complex health issues. Overcoming these barriers requires innovative solutions, and collaborative efforts.

Employment services provider atWork Australia has been working closely with remote services employer Sodexo and South Metropolitan TAFE to provide multi-faceted up-skilling and employment opportunities for Indigenous Australians. With the creation of the Commonwealth Government's Vocational Training and Employment Centre (VTEC) program, this collaboration has now risen to a new level of success.

The collaborative initiative is designed for Indigenous Australians with multiple barriers to employment, and includes not only relevant upskilling, but also a health, fitness and well-being program which has proven itself as an effective and life-changing experience for participants.

“One of the reasons NESA offers annual Awards for Excellence,” said NESA CEO Sally Sinclair, “is to draw attention to the outstanding innovation and projects that are being run throughout the country, and the collaboration between atWork, Sodexo and South Metropolitan TAFE is a superb example. This project is going from strength to strength and has already become a model for similar collaborations elsewhere in remote Australia. NESA is proud to acknowledge such imaginative and effective collaboration.”

The NESA Excellence in Collaboration Award is proudly supported by Sunsuper.

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