

PORIRUA YOUTH 2 WORK MOVEMENT

WORKING TOGETHER TO HAVE
ALL PORIRUA YOUTH ENGAGED IN
EDUCATION, TRAINING OR EMPLOYMENT



*Finding the
perfect match at*
JOBfest 2017

JOBfest 2017

Thursday 17 August

10am–2.30pm

Pātaka Art + Museum

(corner of Norrie and
Parumoana Streets, Porirua)

JOBfest brings together employers who have genuine recruitment needs with local students and young job seekers who are eager to enter the workforce.

Last year JOBfest saw 32 businesses put real jobs in front of motivated young people, resulting in more than 75 full-time and part-time positions being filled.

This was a great result for everyone. Businesses found the employees they needed and young people had the opportunity to get in front of employers committed to helping young people into employment or training.

JOBfest 2017 is designed for businesses wanting to highlight job opportunities they have coming up before the end of this year. It's an easy way to promote a job to a ready and willing workforce – a chance to meet potential new employees on the spot.

The Porirua Youth 2 Work Movement is keen to hear from any businesses that would like to come along and be part of JOBfest 2017. Contact us for more information on 04 237 1097 or 027 539 0244.



*I've learnt
to have a
positive
attitude,
always be
smiling and
have fun!*

Haylee Hill, youth ambassador.

YOUTH AMBASSADORS STEP UP

Youth ambassadors from Mana College have been a great hit at Mitre 10 MEGA Porirua. Nine students gave up their weekends during May, June and early July 2017 to volunteer in the store and gain some hands-on experience.

Working with checkout operators, the students offered a friendly face to customers and helped with bagging up items and taking them to customers' vehicles, as well as doing anything else they were asked.

Store Manager Darren Milburn says Mitre 10 MEGA formalised its involvement with the Porirua Youth 2 Work Movement by becoming a partner late last year.

Darren says he then took his youth ambassador concept to the Youth 2 Work team.

"I had an idea that I thought would be of benefit to young people trying to get into the workforce; not everyone chooses or wants to go to uni. We have a lot of aspects to our business, from trade to retail, kitchen design and management and the list goes on. What better way to decide your career than seeing it in action? This programme brings our community together, as people from all walks of life interact over their purchase or work experiences at Mitre 10 MEGA.

Darren says the Youth 2 Work team loved the concept, and suggested pairing up with Mana College.

"We ran a full process with the students who were interested in becoming youth ambassadors. Each of them needed to put together a CV then come for a

job interview, and we gave them feedback. We took on everyone who was interested. We gave them the same induction and basic training package that we give all our employees. Then on the days they were working we paired them up with our team members."

*"Giving people a chance,
an opportunity, just that
foot in the door, is how you
build a great team, pleasant
atmosphere and loyalty
within our business."*

The Mitre 10 MEGA team is now doing a written reference for everyone who completed the programme and is offering two places at the store through Mana College's Gateway Programme. The two successful students will also be able to work towards a Level 2 Retail ITO qualification.

Darren says this will make the students even more employable. "If a role comes up with us they can apply for it, but they will also be more employable to other retailers."

He says the partnership with the Youth 2 Work team was critical to getting the programme off the ground. "To be honest the whole youth ambassador concept wouldn't have happened without the support of the Youth 2 Work team. I had the idea and they made it a reality."



For more information contact the team at:

(04) 2371097

www.partnersporirua.org.nz

info@partnersporirua.org.nz

porirua city



JACQUI'S JOB BENEFITS BUSINESSES

Jacqui Edwards recently joined Partners Porirua, and is focused on engaging with businesses so that they can benefit from being involved with the Porirua Youth 2 Work Movement.

First up Jacqui is coordinating JOBfest 2017, and she's looking forward to getting work-ready young people in the room with employers who have jobs available before the end of the year.

"I'm aiming to build on the success of last year's JOBfest and make it even better. Being involved in JOBfest really excites me; I like a challenge and the challenge laid down is to involve even more employers than last year."

Jacqui says JOBfest is all about jobs and relationships.

"Young people don't know what the workforce looks like and the workforce doesn't know what young people look like."

"We need to introduce them to each other in a setting where they can have a conversation."

Getting ready for JOBfest involves working with the local colleges and young job seekers to make sure they're well prepared, and making sure that local businesses are on board with actual job opportunities.

"For JOBfest we want active job seekers – they could be looking for part-time, casual or full-time employment, but they need to be serious about looking for a job."

Jacqui says the JOBfest employment opportunities come in all shapes and sizes from work experience to holiday work to full time employment.

Once JOBfest 2017 is over, Jacqui will be focusing on general workforce development, building on her relationships with local businesses to help them grow their workforce. Training up young people now will help to avoid skill gaps in the future and assist businesses to grow.

"Partners Porirua is in a really important position to make a difference and we're working hard to get into a situation that's ahead of the game, where young people are identifying early the skills they need and the employers they would like to work for."



Jacqui Edwards (right) talking to young employee Laupama Talifasia Tamali'i.

Skill shortage solution

The Porirua Youth 2 Work Movement offers the perfect solution for employers facing skill and labour shortages.

That's the view of Porirua City Councillor Dale Williams, Chair of the Porirua Youth 2 Work Movement Advisory Group.

"Youth 2 Work builds the bridge between schools and industry – we occupy that space and do whatever it takes to build and maintain those links."

Dale says that in the past five years the global skill shortage has moved to become a labour shortage, and Porirua is not immune to that.

"It's quickly gone from employers saying, 'We need qualified people' to what we are seeing now, which is that they want to start with suitable people and train them up."

The opportunities for Porirua and for our young people just keep coming, says Dale.

"With the Transmission Gully motorway opening in 2020, Porirua city is absolutely rocketing along. Properties are selling fast, and when the motorway opens the new owners will only be a few minutes from the motorway and less than 20 minutes from Wellington city. Porirua is on the cusp of huge growth and that's from the confidence that Transmission Gully is bringing."

The flow-on from this growth is that increasingly more businesses are choosing to locate in Porirua, he says.

"We want to take advantage of that, as well as strengthen existing businesses. This is providing opportunities for our young population and we need to make sure there is a ready labour force here to support these businesses."

Dale says that Porirua Youth 2 Work acts as the ringmaster by identifying partners, coordinating the schools and employers and helping to ensure that the experiences are positive.

"For employers, being involved in the Youth 2 Work Movement is a business proposition. Among other things it's a creative way to recruit and/or provide work experience for potential young employees."

Businesses wanting to benefit from the Youth 2 Work Movement can sign up as partners and get involved in numerous ways.



Staff from Mitre 10 MEGA Porirua welcome youth ambassadors from Mana College. Back row left to right: Matthew Smith from Mitre 10 MEGA, with youth ambassadors Dylan Winiata-Aiono and Tiana-Lily Tangaroa. Front row left to right: Mitre 10 MEGA staff Mahesh Surti and Hannah-Leigh Holford, with youth ambassador Haylee Hill.