

MENTORING CENTRAL COAST SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

The Central Coast Mentoring Network program (CCMN) has received helpful funding assistance from Wyong Coal to support local high school students through their challenging phases.

The CCMN is a Not for Profit charity which facilitates the funding of approved projects for the benefit and welfare of the community. One of those programs, the Central Coast Secondary School Mentoring program currently assists 140 public school Year 10 students at seven local schools to improve their employability, educational engagement, results and life skills.

The students who volunteer to complete the program, come from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds and are more likely to leave school early or not achieve their potential. The program is designed to improve Year 12 retention rates which in 2015 for Wyong was only 49%, Gosford 62% compared to NSW of 70%.

It is not only the students that benefit from this program, the opportunity for all members of our community to be mentors ensures that the program supports the community's aim of diversity and inclusiveness. Community involvement provides a positive mental outlook, physical and mental activity for these 75 mentors which contributes to improve mental and physical health and a feeling of wellbeing and a sense of belonging, of being needed and appreciated and achieving a worthwhile goal.

The program has equipped many school leavers with the self-esteem and confidence to go on to further education to achieve their career goals and ultimately become responsible and productive members of the community.

“This is a fabulous program that we are proud to support for the fourth year. The grant funds go towards training the volunteer mentors and visiting the seven schools involved” says Peter Smith, Environment & Community Manager at Wyong Coal.



L-R: CCMN Secretary Graham Hosking, Coordinating Principal Carlie Wells, Wyong Coal Environment & Community Manager Peter Smith, CCMN President Richard Kennedy and Program Coordinator Cassie White in the Yarning Circle at Berkeley Vale High School Campus