



# DRESS FOR SUCCESS<sup>®</sup>

## SYDNEY

### StreetSmart Community Small Grant 2013-2014 – Dress for Success Sydney Get Smart Program Progress Report



Marist Youth Centre, Blacktown

East Sydney Youth Off The Streets -November 2014



Ashcroft High – June 2014

PCYC NSW – September 14

Funding from Street Smart has enabled us to increase the number of job readiness and dressing and styling workshops for young people at risk of homelessness and disengagement. Over the past twelve months we have provided our Get Smart workshops to 81 women from:

- Weave Youth & Community Services
- CREATE Foundation – young people transitioning from the care system to independent living
- Key College, Redfern (Youth Off The Streets)
- MWLP (Macarthur Workplace Learning Centre)
- Marist Youth Centre, Blacktown
- Stepping Out Housing Program
- PCYC (Youth Off the Streets Group)
- Ashfield High School & South Sydney High School (referred by the Beacon Foundation)
- Department of Education – Elizabeth MacArthur High School
- South Eastern Sydney Outreach (Youth Off the Streets).

92% of our clients who attended the workshops felt that their level of confidence had increased. 81% felt increased knowledge in preparing for interviews.

### **Participant Quotes from Create Foundation, Beacon Foundation and Marist Youth Centre**

“I have learnt a lot about how to present myself and I have a little more confidence”

“It was very interesting and helped a lot with the presentation”

“This is a really cool workshop which has given me a different level of understanding of what to wear in an interview. It increased our confidence, I could see that and it is really impressive”.

“It was pretty amazing, learnt a lot of new things about the work environment”.

“The stylist were great to work with. Very friendly and helpful and made me feel confident, comfortable and happy with myself. Also the talk we had was very helpful because we learnt how to style ourselves for our body shape”.

“The workshop has helped me understand some tips about how to dress for my interview. I learnt a new acronym KISS, Keep it simple and stylish”.

In Summary, funding from StreetSmart Australia has provided 81 young women with the skills and interview appropriate clothing to be able to attend an interview with confidence and dignity with the hope of securing employment and achieving financial stability.

We have identified at least a further 10-15 organisations that we plan to partner with in 2015, subject to funding.

Thank you StreetSmart for believing in our work and the impact we are making on increasing the employability of women in need – we value and appreciate your support greatly.