



Mission Australia



Creating pathways through a successful youth

Established in 1989, **Triple Care Farm** is a unique and successful residential program for young people experiencing homelessness, substance abuse, mental illness or acute behavioural problems. Triple Care Farm covers 45 hectares of farmland and offers young people the chance to develop emotionally, socially and vocationally in a safe and secure environment.

Pathways through a successful youth

Mission Australia helps people in need by giving them support to get back on track, and transform their lives. Our community programs inspire self-confidence and hope, enabling people to tap into their own resources to pursue positive and independent futures.

Young people today face immense challenges. One in five young people live in single parent households, and nearly half (46%) of the 100,000 Australians who are homeless on any given night are young people aged 25 and under. This modern social context means that young Australians are more at risk of facing serious issues such as family breakdown, depression, mental illness and drug and alcohol abuse than ever before. The result is often that young people become trapped in a cycle of negative behaviours and crime.

Description of service

Students at Triple Care Farm receive one-on-one support, personal counselling, drug and alcohol counselling and group counselling sessions.

The young people also have the opportunity to participate in a range of programs including:

- Living skills – such as cooking, budgeting and social skills.
- Sports and recreation – including bush walking and canoeing.
- Vocational training – (both accredited and non-accredited courses) that focusses on developing practical skills including; literacy, numeracy, metalwork, woodwork, forklift truck driving and first aid.



- Music – based on Mission Australia's successful 'Sounds of the Streets' program enables students to write and record their own music and provides a new way to express themselves.
- Drama – focusing on film and creative arts, students learn skills such as scriptwriting and editing.

Stepping Out Program

At the end of an average three month stay, students continue to be supported for up to 18 months through our Stepping Out Program. During the program the students receive weekly contact and intensive support from an outreach worker, who helps them to re-establish their lives and access accommodation, family support, employment, training and education.

In supporting Triple Care Farm, your investment will go toward helping troubled young people work through their current circumstances and transform their lives. Triple Care farm helps young people find stable accommodation and gives them personal, educational and vocational skills and qualifications that help them reintegrate into their communities and obtain employment.

The project costs \$1.6 million a year to run and receives minimal government funding.

Case Study: David's Story



Pictured: David (with his mother Sonia), Triple Care Farm, NSW

At just 17, David was well liked by his peers and teachers, captain of his school and in line to represent Australia in water polo.

His life took a turn when he had a horrific head-on collision with a truck. David was left with severe swelling of the brain, and his shoulder was so badly dislocated that any hope he had of playing water polo again was gone.

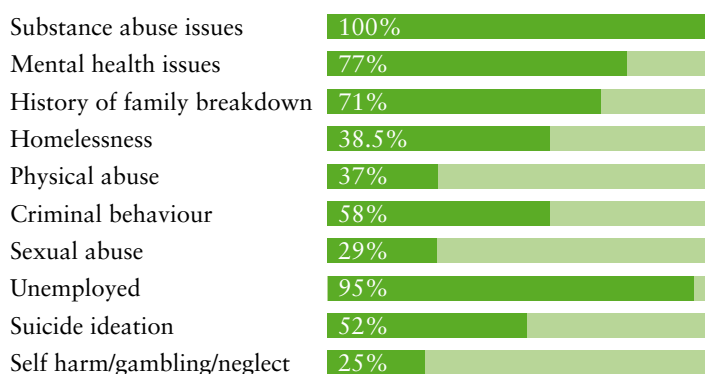
After the accident, David started to develop behavioural problems and shut his family out. He became addicted to marijuana, which he initially used to help with the pain and began talking of suicide. David reached his lowest point and realised he needed help. He was accepted into Mission Australia's Triple Care Farm rehab program immediately.

These days, David is no longer using drugs. He is enjoying spending time with his family, being motivated and actively pursuing a healthy lifestyle.

"Triple Care Farm changed my life completely. Without it, who knows where I would be. I might be dead"

Student outcomes

The following statistics provide an insight into the issues experienced by the young people at Triple Care Farm during 2007:



In 2006, 88 students commenced the Triple Care Farm program. Of these, 69% successfully graduated from the program.

Upon leaving Triple Care Farm:

- 89% of students found stable accommodation
- 14% were in training and education
- 19% found employment.

On completion of the Stepping Out Program (including clients from 2004-2006):

- 92% maintained stable accommodation
- 60% are in employment or further education or training.

Further information

To find out more about becoming a Mission Australia partner visit Corporate and Community Partnerships at www.missionaustralia.com.au or contact us on (02) 9217 1010.

