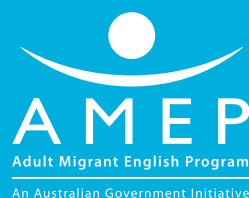




GROUP
AUSTRALIA



COMMUNITY NEWS

SPRING EDITION 2023

*better skills, better job
better life*

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We welcome new and returning students.
Get in touch today.

1300 585 868

Welcome to the first AMEP newsletter for 2023.

I would like to personally congratulate the students and educators across the region for their efforts and engagement over the past few months.

In June, we finalised our first Ready for Work for 2023 seeing an 85% completion rate, with 55% of students gaining employment after training.

In October we will be commencing a Ready for Work program at both Palmerston and Casuarina. Go in and see your site reception and ask how you can be involved.

All the STEPS sites in the Northern Territory will be holding Open Days throughout the month of September. Bring a friend and show them around your college.



Cassie Stanley
General Manager – STEPS SEE/AMEP

GET WORK-READY WITH OUR SHORT BUSINESS COURSE



Are you looking for work? AMEP students may be eligible to take part in STEPS' Ready for Work short course.

Commencing in October, the Ready for Work short course will help you learn:

- How to write a resume and job application
- How to find work
- How to prepare for a job interview
- The language used in Australian workplaces
- Workplace health and safety rules.

Most importantly, this course includes two to three weeks of work experience in a local workplace! Next course starting soon.

Speak to us today to find out if you're eligible.

Casuarina – 08 8925 5600
Palmerston – 08 7922 5700

STEPS Ready for Work SLPET Program (Settlement Language Pathways to Employment and Training) is a sub-program of the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) funded by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.

BRIGHT FUTURE FOR READY FOR WORK STUDENT

Originally from Malaysia, Yvonne Lim has been in Australia for nearly five years. Yvonne found out about AMEP and the Ready for Work course (SLPET) shortly after arriving in Australia.

"I appreciate STEPS and the teachers who taught me. They went out of their way to help and make my life easier," she said.

Yvonne improved her understanding of English through the AMEP program, which helped her gain long-term employment at Coles, where she has been working since 2021.

“Because of the SLPET work experience, I got an understanding of the Australian work environment, responsibilities and skills needed.”



STEPS STUDENT HONoured WITH PRESTIGIOUS AWARD

Amalynn Manlutac, a student in the Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP), recently received the Award for Excellence at the AMEP 75th Anniversary Awards for Excellence Dinner.

It was an incredible achievement for Amalynn who was offered the chance to fly with her husband to receive the award in Melbourne alongside STEPS Managing Director Carmel Crouch and CEO Luke Henderson.

Amalynn said she had experienced a whirlwind of emotions in the lead up to the ceremony.

"I don't even know to explain how I feel right now," she said.

“I haven't been able to sleep for the last week, I have so much gratitude for everyone that has been a part of my journey. This award means everything to me.”

Amalynn's journey in the AMEP has been nothing short of extraordinary, starting in 2021 at the Casuarina Level 2 class, she was determined to improve her English skills and communication abilities. Her dedication resulted in achieving 10728NAT Certificate II in Spoken and Written English and 10729NAT Certificate III in Spoken and Written English.

Recognising her potential, Amalynn enrolled in the SLPET Ready For Work course, where she completed a ten-week program and gained practical experience in a childcare setting. While discovering her true calling in caring for adults, she pursued the CHC33015

Certificate III in Individual Support, overcoming challenges and excelling in her coursework.

Amalynn's commitment paid off as she obtained her qualification in December 2022, followed by a successful 120-hour work placement with Territory Care and Support Services. Impressed by her abilities, they offered her a position as a Disability Support Worker within their Activities Hub.

Amalynn expressed her gratitude for the support she received and her passion for helping older Australians lead fulfilling lives.

Amalynn's Individual Support trainer, Tanya Mathews said it was an absolute privilege to support Amalynn throughout her studies.

"Her dedication has been outstanding, as she would reach out to me late at night and even on weekends. Her natural empathy and care for others make her a perfect fit for the disability and aged care industry," Tanya said.

The Adult Migrant English Program provides unlimited hours of free English language lessons to eligible migrants and humanitarian entrants.

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.

STEPS AMEP TEACHER PROFILE: CATHERINE BREWSTER



Where do you teach AMEP?

I teach AMEP at STEPS Casuarina in Darwin.

What do you love about your job?

Without any hesitation, I would say that I absolutely LOVE the students. I have taught at STEPS for three years and they have never ceased to amaze me. They are so culturally diverse, so concerned about each other, so keen to learn and do better while at times so fragile and lost. At STEPS, I often feel like a psychologist or a social worker more than a teacher.

What is the most valuable thing that you have learned in your role?

The most valuable thing I have learned in my role is that migrants and refugees bring so much to our culture.

What do you enjoy teaching to your students?

I enjoy teaching current affairs and Australian culture, politics and history.

What do your students teach you?

I teach Level Three so we have fascinating discussions in class. My students teach me tolerance and humility.

What is something that helps new migrants feel a sense of belonging in the community?

The children of migrants are what bring their parents a sense of belonging. I am a migrant myself and my five children adopted and integrated the Australian culture with such ease and enthusiasm that I followed!

“Without the diverse and rich addition of migrant cultures and languages, Australia would be so dull and monocultural; they are the future of our nation and they have always been.”

YOUR COMMUNITY

CULTIVATING CONNECTIONS IN COMMUNITY GARDEN

Since January, the AMEP clients at Palmerston have been enjoying growing and harvesting activities in the Gray Harvest Corner Community Garden.

Although the garden is currently closed for renovations, the students continue to attend the Gray Community Hall each Thursday for other activities such as cooking and yoga. These activities break up the week for the students; they really enjoy practical activities at the wonderful Gray Community Hall.

STEPS is so grateful to Palmerston City Council for allowing us to use this amazing space at no cost.

Come and visit us at the Gray Community Hall. We love to see new faces.



Palmerston AMEP clients cooking up a storm after a morning gardening in Harvest Corner Community Garden (April 2023)



MEET NOI KHAMPHENGTHONG: STEPS AMEP STUDENT

Can you tell me about yourself?

My name is Souphaphone (Noi) Khamphengthong and I was born in Laos. I have two sisters and they are living in Laos. I came to Australia about 10 years ago. I started to learn English at STEPS this year and I really enjoy learning English here.

Where did you live before moving to Australia?

I lived in Laos before moving to Australia.

What was life like in your home country?

The life in Laos was totally different from that in Australia. We had a farm in my home country and my families were working on our farm.

What did you know about Australia before coming here?

I would say I didn't know anything about Australia before coming here.

What have been your biggest challenges in Australia?

English is the biggest challenge for me living in Australia. Thanks to AMEP, I could have the opportunity to learn English and meet a lot of good friends here.

What do you like about your new life in Australia?

I love my life in Australia, peaceful and safe. I don't need to worry about too much about bringing up our children.

What achievement are you most proud of?

Now, I have my own business, even it is a small stall at the market. I have a lot of customers saying they like my food very much.

What are your goals for the future?

Learning more English and running my business even better and bigger. Hope to teach cooking one day when my English is good enough.

What advice would you give someone who is new to Australia?

Don't give up and go forward. Have some plans for your future. Being proud of yourself. Come to learn English at STEPS.

“I enjoy the teaching style and like meeting with different cultured students and studying English with the kindest teachers.”

Former AMEP student,
Alice Springs

If you would like to know more about STEPS' Alice Springs classes, call 08 8950 7600.

OUR STUDENTS CASUARINA & PALMERSTON



IN THE CLASSROOM

KISS THE DRY WITH A FOOD EXPO

Students at STEPS Casuarina were thrilled with their awards and prizes for the Food Expo that recently took place.

STEPS Casuarina ran a three-week food competition during this past June/July school holidays where students demonstrated their excellent cooking skills and invited staff to taste and score their dishes. At the Food Expo, students got to taste cuisine from all over the world.



END OF TERM FEAST

Continuing with tradition, students at STEPS Casuarina shared their homemade cuisine in Week 10, to celebrate the hard work throughout the term and express gratitude for the teachers.

STEPS Casuarina is running an International Food Expo during this upcoming school holidays where our students will demonstrate their cooking skills and win awards.



Our classroom is more than just a space to learn; it's the centre of our AMEP community.

STEPS CASUARINA WELCOMES JOBS AUSTRALIA GUESTS

STEPS Casuarina AMEP students Jittra and Yuth welcomed guests from Jobs Australia with their warm hospitality and improved barista skills.

STEPS Casuarina successfully organised the training workshop for guests from Jobs Australia in June when the staff and students collaborated on providing a special experience for the guests.

They organised catering service for the training, set up the digital literacy room in a professional setting and STEPS staff member Jamie gave an acknowledgement speech and made dinner reservation for the guests.

The guests expressed their gratitude for STEPS' support and professionalism.

STEPS Casuarina runs short barista courses during school holidays for AMEP clients.

To learn more about our courses, call us today.

Casuarina – 08 8925 5600
Palmerston – 08 7922 5700

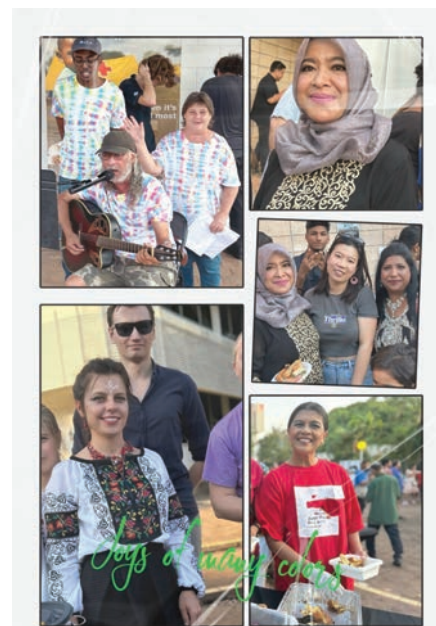


JOY OF MANY COLOURS

STEPS Casuarina Students joined the local multicultural event - Joy of Many Colours on Sunday 18 June 2023.

Students from Ukraine, Pakistan, Indonesia, and Australia etc celebrated culture diversity in the Northern Territory by sharing their delicious cuisine, presenting traditional costumes in a fashion parade, and a singing performance.

Students from STEPS Casuarina are always active in local events to promote their culture and bond with the communities.



SCHOOL HOLIDAY WORKSHOPS

STEPS Casuarina and Palmerston offer various fun and skill-oriented workshops during each school holiday throughout the year, including barista, RSA, first aid and yoga.

To learn more about our workshops, call us today.

Casuarina – 08 8925 5600
Ground Floor Stage 3 Cascom Building, 13-17 Scaturchio Street
Palmerston – 08 7922 5700
14 Palmerston Circuit

EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023

STEPS AMEP students recently celebrated International Women's Day with the IWD Cultural Fusion of Fashion and Food. The colourful event was hosted by STEPS in Palmerston, and sponsored by the Northern Territory Government and City of Palmerston – it was amazing!



SEWING WITH HEART: STEPS CASUARINA AND PALMERSTON'S COMPASSIONATE COMMUNITY

The STEPS Casuarina and Palmerston sewing groups are crafting a meaningful impact. With four key focuses, they seamlessly blend creativity with charity.

- 1 Personal creations: these skilled individuals fashion items for personal use, celebrating individuality.
- 2 Mending matters: mending isn't just about repairs—it generates donations that sustain their resources.
- 3 Stitching for good: their talents shine through charity projects, benefiting "Uniform 4 Kids" and orphaned wildlife.
- 4 Spreading joy: they sew for community events, spreading harmony and appreciation.

In a relaxed space, the sewing group chat, enhancing language skills and numerical proficiency—a side benefit of sewing. The group also learn about native Australian wildlife, crafting pouches for orphaned joeys. Wildcare's Lesley White's annual visit brings this cause to life.

Sewing here isn't just about fabric and thread; it's about creating connections, nurturing skills, and making a difference that stretches far beyond their stitches.

Come and join us – beginners are very welcome.



CELEBRATING REFUGEE WEEK 2023

Palmerston students celebrated Refugee Week in June with Palmerston City Council at the Palmerston Library.

The morning was celebrated with AMEP student reading at Bilingual Storytime, our student Divya's story about moving to Australia from Qatar, a fantastic morning tea prepared by STEPS AMEP Palmerston students, and music provided by STEPS Casuarina SEE students.

A fabulous morning was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Palmerston City Council for hosting this event with STEPS.



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Connect with us on Facebook for
up to date AMEP news and events
www.facebook.com/STEPSGroup

We welcome new and returning
students. Get in touch today.

1300 585 868 | stepsamep.com.au

The Adult Migrant English Program (AMEP) is funded by the Australian Government Department of Home Affairs.



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