



MEDIA RELEASE

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Vinnies' Bankstown men's centre garden to be made better by TAFE NSW

As a result of the TAFE NSW landscaping competition at the Royal Easter Show, the St Vincent de Paul Society's St Jude's Men's Centre in Bankstown is set for a 'Made by TAFE NSW' garden makeover.

By popular vote at the Royal Easter Show, TAFE NSW's South Western Sydney Institute's Landscape was deemed the 'winner' of the 2016 Landscape Challenge People's Choice.

TAFE NSW will donate \$10,000 towards a 'backyard blitz' of the Bankstown centre, to be completed by TAFE NSW Padstow's landscaping students in August.

"Landscaping grounds for the St Jude's Men's Centre will not only provide an improved environment for the local community, but will also provide another opportunity for real world learning for our Padstow students," said Peter Roberts, Institute Director of TAFE NSW South Western Sydney Institute.

St Jude's Men's Centre is a seven bedroom transitional accommodation facility for unaccompanied homeless men over the age of 18 years. These men are supported through a dedicated team of support workers, case workers and partnerships with other specialised and mainstream services with the aim of assisting them to find work and eventually move into more permanent long term accommodation.

"We are thrilled to receive such generosity from TAFE NSW," said Yolanda Saiz, General Manager of Fundraising and Communications for the St Vincent de Paul Society NSW.

"I'm sure that the new garden will have a hugely positive effect on everyone who uses and visits the facility."

"We are very excited to partner with the St Vincent de Paul Society to support the local community. Like Vinnies, we at TAFE NSW believe that providing pathways to overcome adversity through ongoing learning is crucial in creating better employment options and a better future for all," said Jim Griffiths, Brand Manager, TAFE NSW.

For more information about studying landscaping, visit tafensw.edu.au and search for 'landscaping' or 'horticulture' courses.

To donate or find more information about the St Vincent de Paul Society, visit vinnies.org.au

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