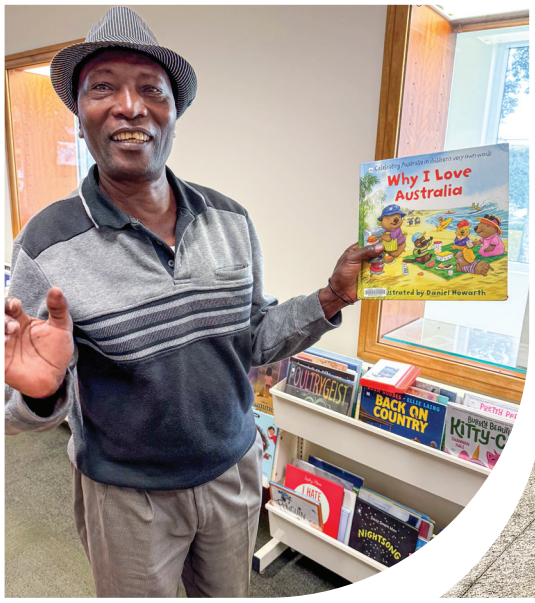
STEPS

Skills for Education and Employment Program

NEWSLETTER

Spring 2025







First library visit opens new doors for Cairns participants

For many participants in the Cairns Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program, a recent visit to the local library marked a meaningful first experience.

Led by STEPS Trainer Justyna, the excursion was designed to introduce the low-level language class to the library as a free and inclusive space for learning and community connection.

"For some of my participants, this was their very first time in a library," Justyna said. "A few have never been to school before, and their first experience with class-based education began right here at STEPS."

Participants filled out library membership forms as a practical language activity, explored the library's resources, and practised their digital literacy by borrowing books using the self-service kiosk.

A highlight for many of the participants was the discovery of 'talking books' – audiobooks that they used to support their English language learning.

Participants also explored books related to personal interests like cooking and gardening, helping them connect language skills with everyday life.

"The visit was more than just borrowing books," Justyna said. "I wanted to show the participants that the library is a safe and inclusive space where they can learn and grow for free."

STEP into a world of opportunity



Cassie Stanley

Welcome

Welcome to this new edition of the STEPS Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program newsletter!

This issue is full of the energy, growth and transformation that make the SEE Program so special. Across our sites, participants are achieving incredible things like building up their confidence, developing skills to meet their goals, and learning nationally recognised qualifications.

We're celebrating inspiring stories like Yusnita's, who recently completed her BSB30120 Certificate III in Business in Darwin. You'll also meet Danielle from Townsville, who joined the SEE Program to work on her self-confidence and take her life in a new direction. Further north in Cairns, we have participants who recently visited their local library for the first time, unlocking a whole new way of learning and connecting with community.

In exciting news, we've launched Decked Out, a new employability course designed to make learning fun and practical. We will also hold Employment Expos across Australia and are excited to offer so many amazing opportunities for our participants to reach their professional goals.

To our dedicated Trainers and Support Officers, and incredible participants, thank you. Your passion and commitment are what make the STEPS SEE Program so lifechanging.

Cassie Stanley
STEPS Group
Chief Executive Officer

Sunshine Coast jobseekers connect with employers at STEPS Employment Expo

STEPS recently hosted its first Employment Expo event, with our Caloundra site serving as the hub for the Sunshine Coast region.

The Employment Expo was a powerful opportunity for STEPS Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program participants and other local jobseekers to explore real pathways to employment.

For many, it was a chance to step outside the classroom and engage directly with employers in industries like aged care, manufacturing, disability support, and community services.



STEPS Employment Expo



SEE Program participants gained valuable insights into local job markets, practised their professional communication skills, and continued to develop their confidence in a supportive environment.

The event also helped them better understand the expectations of potential employers and identify roles that align with their training and interests.

"The atmosphere was fantastic," said Karissa Bultitude, a STEPS Community Development Officer based on the Sunshine Coast.

"We're proud to provide a space where people can connect, develop their professional confidence, and take the next step in their career journey."

With strong interest from both attendees and stallholders, STEPS is planning future Employment Expos in other regions to continue fostering inclusive employment opportunities for our participants.

Explore new opportunities

Looking to build your skills, improve your English or boost your confidence for work or study? The STEPS SEE Program is here to help.

Our free, government-funded training supports eligible participants and helps them develop essential skills, from maths and writing to using a computer.

Whether you're looking to take the next step in your career or know someone who could benefit, the SEE Program provides flexible and supportive learning tailored to each participant's needs.

Apply today or refer a friend!

Yusnita completes Business qualification

Congratulations to Yusnita from our Casuarina site in the Northern Territory, who has successfully completed the BSB30120 Certificate III in Business as part of the STEPS Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program.

Yusnita has shown exceptional dedication and perseverance throughout her studies, balancing her coursework with personal responsibilities while consistently delivering high-quality work.

Her passion for learning, strong attention to detail, and determination to build new skills have made a lasting impression on both her Trainers and peers.

During the course, Yusnita developed strong foundational skills in key business areas including communication, administration, and operational support.

These skills are already opening doors for her as she looks ahead to further opportunities in office management and customer service.

Yusnita's Trainers describe her as a motivated and focused learner who is always willing to go the extra mile, not just for her personal success but also to support and uplift everyone around her.

The entire STEPS Casuarina team is incredibly proud of Yusnita's achievements and are excited to see where her journey leads her next.

Well done, Yusnita! Your hard work and determination are inspiring.



Yusnita,
Casuarina STEPS SEE Participant

Participant Profile



Danielle

What was your main motivation for joining the SEE Program?

I wanted to build more self-confidence and develop the skills I need to get my life back on track. My goal is to create a more stable and fulfilling future by taking positive steps forward, both personally and professionally.

What are some of your favourite parts of the SEE Program?

Gaining computer and phone skills, because I've never really had the opportunity to learn either. I'm eager to learn how to use them properly so I can feel more confident and capable, both with work and my own personal use.

What are some valuable lessons or skills you have learnt during your time in the SEE Program?

I've gained valuable skills and knowledge that have helped me grow both personally and professionally, especially computer skills. I have also developed better time management and organisation skills, which have helped me bring more structure into my daily life.

What are your professional goals?

I want to pursue a career in Individual Support, and I hope to begin training with STEPS soon. I'm passionate about making a positive difference in the lives of others and feel ready to take the next step toward a meaningful and rewarding career.

What are your personal goals?

When I first came to STEPS, I didn't have stable housing, and securing a safe place to live was one of my top goals. With the help of my Trainer and support person, I've been able to achieve that, which has made a big difference in my life.

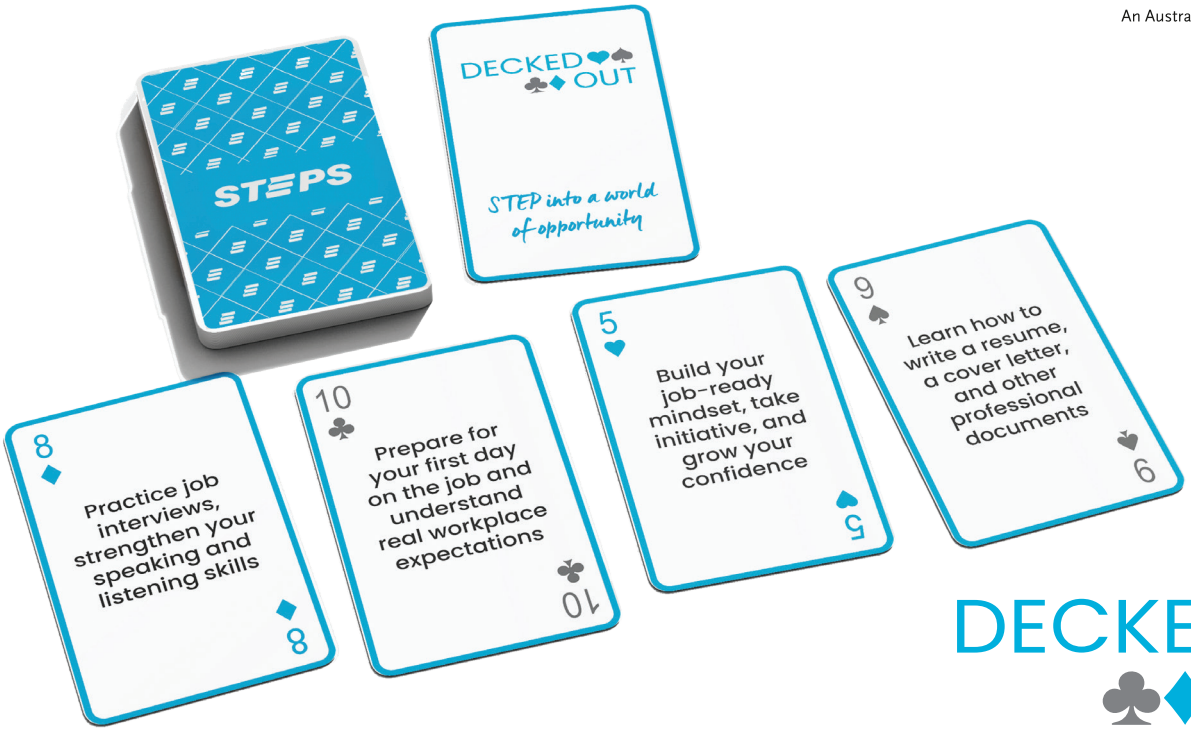
What advice would you give to someone who is thinking about joining the SEE Program?

You'll gain valuable skills and knowledge that can truly make a difference in your life. If you're willing to put in the time and effort, you'll be surprised at what you can achieve. The more you commit, the more confident and capable you'll become. It's a great opportunity to grow and learn.

STEPS

see skills for education and employment

An Australian Government Initiative



DECKED OUT

Get Decked Out for professional success

A fresh new course is helping participants develop their confidence and job-ready skills, all with the help of a unique deck of cards.

Delivered through the STEPS SEE Program, Decked Out is a three-month course focused on helping participants expand their employability and communication skillset through practical and hands-on learning.

Each suit in the Decked Out cards represents a different learning area, guiding jobseekers and upskillers through activities like writing a cover letter, preparing for interviews, and navigating the first day of a new job.

Participants also develop a personal journal and job-ready portfolio while being supported by STEPS Trainers.

STEPS CEO Cassie Stanley said that she is excited about the launch of Decked Out and the ways it can help people achieve their professional goals.

"We created Decked Out to be fun, effective and easily accessible," she said.

"It's about helping people feel confident in themselves by giving them the practical tools and strategies they need to step into the workforce and find fulfilling work."

SEE what's next...

Employment Expos - Alice Springs, Bundaberg, Cairns, Darwin, Gympie, Hervey Bay and Townsville

Connect with employers and workplace training providers in your region and find exciting new opportunities for your career. Check stepsgroup.com.au to find more details about the Employment Expo event closest to you!

Contact us

1300 131 965

see@stepsgroup.com.au

stepsgroup.com.au/SEE

Scan for more information and to apply

Nationally Recognised Training

The Skills for Education and Employment (SEE) Program is funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.

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