

Report of D9800 Vocational Services Revitalisation Workshops May 2020

Background

As indicated in the District Revitalisation Strategic Plan, one of the key strategic priorities is to identify and recognise successful VS projects across the District. The plan was to run several workshops, based on demand. As the COVID-19 lockdown hit these workshops were transferred to online meetings – 17, 20 and 31 May.

Workshop Objectives

- To raise awareness of the District Vocational Services plan.
- To build enthusiasm for and momentum in revitalising VS in clubs.
- To start building connections in VS across the district.

Major Takeaways

- How clubs can start to build/expand their VS programs.
- Where clubs can go for support to expand their VS programs.

Agenda

1. **Welcome and overview of workshop structure and process.**
2. **Vocational Services Revitalisation Overview**
3. **Break into rooms to discuss three questions:**
 - a. What are you currently doing in your clubs in VS that is working well?
 - b. What else would you like to be doing?
 - c. What support would you need from District/other clubs?
4. **District Mentoring Programs Overview.**
(VicPol, Ambulance Victoria & SES)
5. **Other Mentoring/VS Opportunities.**
6. **Strategic Actions & Where to from here?**
7. **Tying it all together, questions and next steps.**
8. **Wrap up and thank you.**

Findings

Q.1. What are clubs doing in VS that is working?

17 May:

- Mentoring – (Salvation Army, Vic Pol etc.)
- Awards (business, TAFE)
- Vocational training PNG
- Business visits – internal & external
- Job search – self-help service. Write resumes and keep job (online)
- CEO circle social investment. Mentoring and support guidance to SME in post-COVID environment
- Business plan competition. Livewire opportunity for students to enter a business plan competition start-up or part of their studies
- RMIT structured mentoring program
- Industry or vocational speakers
- Structured interview process for people entering employment
- Ethics forum e.club
- Public speaking (schools)
- Maths, numeracy and literacy program. Somali children
- New mums

20 May:

- Mentoring – VicPol/AV etc. – Schools
- Community awards
- One on one mentoring of children – high risk students
- Interview program – high risk students
- First steps program (next steps program)
- Vocational visits
- Sponsoring pathways program in schools
- Resume development
- Assisting start-ups – competition developing business plan
- Vocational speakers
- Scout group (Kyneton)
- Hospitality promotion – sell booklets
- Mock job interviews
- Involving people outside of Rotary - Friends of Rotary
- L to P program (80 mentors)
- Literacy program (WA) Kero – “Young people achieving rather than giving”
- Shine on awards
- Connections outside of Rotary – Rotary as catalyst

31 May:

- Scholarship
- Business Awards
- Essay competition
- Vocational
- Mentoring NFP
- Pre-school (once a month)
- Vic Pol/AV/SES
- 5th week of month – industry visit
- Awards for teachers
- Traders working bees
- Transitional program – year 12
- Trades people work overseas (Rotary Project)
- Debating competition secondary students

Q.2. What would clubs like to be doing?

17 May:

- Many ideas included in responses to Q1.
- Business partnerships
- Satellite clubs
- Mentoring of International students
- Working with local council
- Corporate membership
- Zoom meetings with local businesses – providing help, speakers
- Educate own members in what VS means

20 May:

- New generations service exchange (NGSE)
- Pride of Business Awards
- Members becoming internal mentors
- Forming partnerships with other agencies (strategic) → working with councils/universities – learning online Rotarians 'mentoring' these students. Socialising
- Don't have to be doing everything ourselves 1+1=3

31 May:

- Workshops for young entrepreneurs
- Legal workshops
- Online learning environment
- 4-way test competition. "Living without Plastics"
- Improving websites
- Vocational visits – more structure, purpose etc
- Working with clusters – business awards
- Mentoring social entrepreneurs and NFP
- Debating service/club
- Toastmasters
- Debates internally within club – has the 4-way test reached its use-by date?
- Work experience program. Involve youth
- Sharing templates between clubs
- Disadvantaged youth – job-ready training (hospitality, in particular)
- Mentoring young corporates
- Mentoring immigrants who want to 're-establish' themselves in Australia
- International students mentoring

Q.3. What support would clubs like/need from District or other clubs?

17 May:

- Templates
- Develop plans
- Invite other (successful) clubs to speak
- District chairs to speak
- Promotional of VS
- Support and collaboration at cluster level
 - 'How to' guides
- Endorsement of the district plan
- Help others

20 May:

- Leadership from District – revitalisation
- A tool to record program – mentors and mentees

- Maintained by District
- Mentoring templates etc.
- District engaging with bigger organisations and filtering opportunities to clubs
- Club champions and collaboration between clubs
- "Guide Practice Guides" rather than "Guidelines"
- Opportunities out of COVID-19 e.g. Mentoring online

31 May:

- More information from clubs who are doing these things. 'How to' guides
- Structure
- Speakers

Conclusions

- The workshops, with over 70 attendees in total, were extremely well attended and this, as well as the energy in the workshops, indicated that there is considerable support, in our district, to revitalise vocational services. It is seen as a core part of Rotary.
- Many clubs in the district are very active in Vocational Services and see considerable opportunity to build on this.
- One of the key findings is that clubs are keen to learn from each other and for District to facilitate this and the development and sharing of best practice templates and tools.
- While there are a wide range of Vocational Projects being run by clubs the most common projects are mentoring projects. Clubs also indicated that they were keen to create more mentoring projects and to further develop their mentoring skills.

Next Steps

1. The next step is to work with the clubs who attended the workshops to:
 - a. Identify club champions.
 - b. Work with the club champions to gather more detail on what they are doing and what they would like to achieve.
 - c. Facilitate improved communication between clubs in Vocational Services.
 - d. Facilitate the development and sharing of best practice Vocational Service templates and 'how to' guides for the most popular VS projects.
 - e. Ask Clubs who are running successful VS programs/projects to write articles about their project for submission to relevant District publications.
 - f. Seek the support of all Assistant Governors to facilitate discussion and the sharing of information of successful vocational service opportunities and programs at the Cluster level, with support and encouragement provided to Clubs to establish VS programs.
2. Vocational Service Chair to establish a work group to develop a plan on how Clubs can promote ethics and integrity in business and in peoples' everyday lives
3. Follow up with clubs who weren't in attendance and gauge their level of interest.