



GLEN EIRA
CITY COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

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Expressions of interest now open for GROW Glen Eira training program

For young people with a disability, finding meaningful employment can be difficult.

Glen Eira City Council has launched *GROW Glen Eira*, a training program that will help six young people each year to develop the skills required for a future in the horticulture industry.

The program is open to young people with a disability aged 15 to 29, who live in the City of Glen Eira and have an interest in horticulture. Expressions of interest are now being accepted for *GROW Glen Eira*, which is expected to commence in August 2020.

Glen Eira Mayor Cr Margaret Esakoff said this exciting and innovative program forms part of Council's *A Community for All-Abilities Program*, which seeks to create stronger social, employment and support networks for people with a disability.

"Over a 12-month period, participants will undertake a customised, hands-on horticulture training program delivered by Kevin Heinze Grow's team of experienced and qualified staff," she said.

"Under the guidance of *GROW Glen Eira* Co-ordinator Chris Norris, participants will complete work placements, including ones with Council's Parks Services and Kevin Heinze Grow's mobile garden maintenance service *Grow on the Go*.

"Following the completion of the program, participants will be supported in their journey to find employment or volunteering opportunities in the Glen Eira community."

Mr Norris said *GROW Glen Eira* will focus on training participants in both the practical skills required to complete garden maintenance work and the communication skills necessary to work effectively in a team environment.

"Participants will be supported to learn a number of technical skills such as mowing, pruning, plant identification and garden design as well as interpersonal skills such as teamwork, punctuality and customer service," he said.

"These skills are equally important when it comes to finding and maintaining employment."

For further information, contact Isabella Fredheim at 9848 3695, email isabella@kevinheinzegrow.org.au or visit www.kevinheinzegrow.org.au/grow-glen-eira

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