



Media Release

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CENTACARE LAUNCHES THE INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT STRATEGY

The Indigenous Employment Strategy was officially launched last week to harness the skills and knowledge Indigenous Australians possess.

An initiative of Centacare: Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton, the Indigenous Employment Strategy (IES) aims to achieve meaningful and sustainable improvements in Indigenous employment, through understanding and embracing the skills, knowledge and culture of Indigenous Australians.

Held on Thursday 18 November, the IES launch was attended by over 40 people including The Most Reverend Bishop Heenan, Members of the Centacare Council, Catholic Education staff, members of the Sisters of Mercy, government and NGO personnel, friends of Centacare and Centacare staff.

Objectives of the IES are to ensure a work environment where cultural diversity enriches the activities of Centacare; to build a diverse workforce that is reflective of Australian society; to increase the number of indigenous personnel employed at Centacare; to be recognised as an employer of choice by Indigenous Australians; and to contribute to reconciliation with Indigenous Australians and communities.

“Centacare has a real commitment to promoting reconciliation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, guided by the principles of personal dignity and social justice as reflected in living the gospel message and according to the mission of the Church,” said Centacare: Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton Director Dr Ricki Jeffery.

“Our Indigenous Employment Strategy has been developed in consultation with Indigenous community members across our region and with all existing staff – indigenous and non-indigenous - and we believe that it is truly reflective of the needs of our staff and potential indigenous candidate for employment with Centacare. As we implement our actions for recruitment, retention, career progression, creating the right work environment and working with community we will grow together with new attitudes, new behaviours, new perspectives and new knowledge.”

The IES launch was a result of the culmination of a process Centacare had undertaken over the past 18 months, with the support and assistance from DEEWR and John Pearson Consulting.

For more information call the Centacare Diocesan Administration Office on 07 4937 4100

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