

29 October 2020

To Whom It May Concern

REAP Marlborough introduced the Youth Employability Programme (YEP) to Marlborough and it has proven to be very successful in helping youth to attain employability skills and to go on and find employment.

The format of the programme ensures that youth learn about what employers are looking for and then they can practise these skills through voluntary work and work placement.

There has been a very good success rate of youth finding work – over 60%.

COMET in Auckland, who owns the YEP, provides excellent training, administration and record keeping. The Marlborough Youth Trust runs YEP in Blenheim and its youth workers are highly competent to support youth through the various activities. The Marlborough Youth Trust has established some excellent contacts with employers.

The Trust also works closely with MSD and supports at least three groups of youth through the programme every year.

Many youth the Trust works with come to them through word of mouth and this is seeing a surge in the number of youth who want to do YEP.

REAP Marlborough fully supports the Marlborough Youth Trust's application for funds for YEP. Although this is a nationally recognised youth training programme it does not come with any funding so any support the Council can offer would be hugely appreciated.

Yours faithfully

Ailsa Carey

Community Education Organiser