

media release



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New 'Game Changer' Initiative to launch in Port Pirie

An exciting new leadership program will be launched in Port Pirie in early 2019, aimed at building community resilience, developing the region's new generation of leaders, and helping address major social issues.

The Game Changer program initiated and funded by EML, and with support from Port Pirie Regional Council, will be rolled out throughout sporting clubs across the community.

Port Pirie is the latest regional community to secure the program after a successful pilot in the Riverland earlier this year.

"Feedback from the Riverland program was tremendous, with the graduates providing a shining example of young leadership in the region" says Jodie Bischoff, EML Member Benefits and Business Partnerships Manager.

"It's about partnering and engaging with communities to facilitate development of the skills and leadership required to help build a prosperous future."

James Holyman Director Corporate and Community from Port Pirie Regional Council, which is a major partner in the initiative says, "This is a great opportunity to not only support all existing club members, but to grow the next generation of leaders within our community. It is everyone's responsibility to mentor and support our youth and to provide programs that keep them within our community".

The Game Changer offers three components – a leadership program, which will see participants between the ages of 18-35 years complete a Certificate IV in Leadership and Management through TAFE SA; an educational and mentoring program through 'Outside the Locker Room' and a Mental Health First Aid Certification.

"As well as providing participants with the educational support they need to become the future mentors, we're also upskilling young leaders to better deal with social issues such as drugs and alcohol, family violence, mental health and suicide prevention," says Ms Bischoff.

Sporting clubs throughout Port Pirie will be invited to nominate their club to participate in The Game Changer program, which will include all three components.

"Sporting clubs are often the heartbeat of rural communities and so they provide the perfect vehicle for upskilling through empowerment, education and leadership.

“The Game Changer program will provide our local sporting clubs with the opportunity to develop the next generation of leaders in their clubs, benefiting not only their club and community, but the individuals both on and off the field,” says Rhys Millington, Mid North STARCLUB Field Officer.

Clubs or individuals wanting to access more information on the Game Changer Program contact Jodie Bischoff on j.bischoff@eml.com.au or 8127 1100 or Mid North STARCLUB on starclub@pirie.sa.gov.au or 0488 101 783

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