

## MEDIA RELEASE

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Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2018

### LANDMARK BUILDING PROJECT ACHIEVEMENT MARKS SUCCESSFUL END TO 2018 FOR NORTHERN SUBURBS SECONDARY SCHOOL “TEAM”

A team of high school students will today (Thursday) celebrate a landmark achievement as part of completing their 2018 school year.

The Year 11 students, from secondary schools in Adelaide’s northern suburbs, will “return” a totally renovated home back to Housing SA.

The house – located at 36 Johnstone Road, Elizabeth Downs – has been restored inside and out after being provided by Housing SA under the state’s building and construction industry program, *doorways2construction*<sup>™</sup> (D2C).

An innovative alliance between South Australia’s Construction Industry Training Board (CITB), the Department for Education (DfE) and the Department for Industry and Skills (DIS) enables students to experience a wide range of trade skills including carpentry, painting & decorating, plumbing, electrical, tiling, plaster-boarding, concreting and bricklaying while participating in the program.

The program is based at Salisbury High School with students from seven other nearby secondary schools participated in the 2018 program.

The 58 Year 11 students refitted the three bedroom Housing SA home at Elizabeth Downs.

A highlight of the project includes modifications to accommodate disabled tenants, exposing students to the specialised area of purpose-built projects.

At today’s house “handover” event representing the SA Minister for Education, the Hon John Gardner will be Ms Clare Feszczak, Director Further Education and Pathways at the Department for Education.

Ms Feszczak said this year’s D2C program had seen the students completely transform a home and returned it to Housing SA ready for its new residents.

“This an amazing achievement that has enabled students to hone in on their trade skills while at the same time putting them into practice,” Ms Feszczak said.

“It is another milestone achievement - not only by the dedicated efforts of the students – but also by the D2C partners and their effective collaboration.”



CELEBRATING

25  
YEARS

1993 - 2018

The D2C program is South Australia's premier Vocational Education and Training (VET) in-schools program for the building and construction industry.

Its main objective is to create greater awareness of the building and construction industry among young people and teach them the skills necessary to successfully seek work in the industry.

CITB Chief Executive Officer, Ms Marie Paterson, said that the CITB's commitment in joining forces with DfE and DIS delivered an effective way of encouraging the next generation of construction industry workers, while delivering a fully renovated house back to the local community.

"The fact that Doorways will reach a milestone of 10,000 enrolments in 2019 is an opportunity to acknowledge the dedication of industry, education and government working together to produce employment and career pathways in the SA construction industry."

"Experience in the doorways2construction program provides students with real insights into what is expected in a trade and what they can achieve by gaining a trade qualification."

"Significantly, the success with this program also provides the construction industry with students who are apprenticeship ready," she said.

Students complete the course with "job ready" qualifications – a D2C™ Certificate I or II - Construction for Year 11 students and a partial Certificate III D2C™ Plus for Year 12 students.

Each student completes 15 days of work placement learning trade skills and carrying out work under the supervision of a licensed tradesperson while being mentored by CITB and government officials and obtaining career advice.

"Doorways has given me experience about what employers are looking for and this has helped me get a job offer with an electrical company where I will start an apprenticeship next year". said Paige Fewings, 16, a D2C student from Playford International College.

"Doorways has helped me stay at school and when I finish I'm looking forward to getting a job in construction - doing something I love," said Dieudonne Ndayisaba, 17, a D2C student from Playford International College.

"Learning about house renovations has given me training and experience that has helped me become more focused and organised and I think this will help me in the future with a job in construction," said Tyson Hughes, 16, a D2C student from Paralowie R-12 School.

Now in its 18<sup>th</sup> year, D2C is one of the largest and most successful programs of its kind in Australia.

D2C operates in 40 schools across the state with over 1000 students participating in the program each year.



This year's program at Salisbury High School involved students from Playford International College, Paralowie R-12 School, Mark Oliphant College, Craigmore High School, Parafield Gardens High School, Salisbury East High School and Northern Adelaide Senior College.

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**About the CITB**

The CITB is a whole-of-industry led organisation that brings together employers, unions and government representatives to support the South Australian building and construction industry by providing leadership in training and skills development for its workforce

The CITB collects a levy of 0.25% (1/400th) of the value of Building and Construction work in South Australia over \$40,000 and uses the fund to:

- Provide access to subsidised training for apprentices their employers and workers in the industry.
- Promote and support careers in construction.
- Advise the SA Government on industry training.
- Support training innovation research and planning.
- Attract our future workforce through vocational training in schools by supporting the doorways2construction program.

