

**In the lead up to NSW Youth Week, PCYC Celebrates 88 Years of Empowering Youth**

PCYC is proud to celebrate its 88th birthday, marking nearly nine decades of dedication to supporting young people and building stronger communities. PCYC is a youth charity made up of 88,059 members. The organisation provides young people with a safe and supportive environment where they can get active, build skills, and connect with their community.

PCYC NSW CEO, Ben Hobby said, “PCYC is a rare State treasure – Now, more than ever, our commitment to the rising generation is unwavering and focussed, we’re relentless in our pursuit to assist young people through the contemporary social challenges they are currently facing.”

PCYC youth programs have evolved over time to deliver life-changing outcomes across three key youth pathways: Employability, Wellbeing and Leadership, and Culture and Community.

One of PCYC’s Employability programs, Fit for Work, helps young people, aged 15-18 years, navigate personal and social challenges while preparing them for the workforce.

Last year PCYC delivered Fit for Work to 105 participants, of which 40 participants secured job outcomes, apprenticeships or decided to enroll in tertiary studies after completing the program.

A young participant of the program from the Hunter Region said, “When I came into the program, I had no idea what I wanted to do (...) Now, four months after completing the Fit for Work Program, I am still in the apprenticeship I gained during the course. This isn’t just a course, it is a way to help kids in need, like me, to figure out and help us achieve what we want to do in life.”

Professional educators can also see the positive difference that programs like Fit for Work are making. A Sydney secondary school teacher said, “Thanks to this program, (one of our students) now has the opportunity to enrol in a TAFE course in Interior Design, something she is really looking forward to – I can’t recommend or thank PCYC enough for giving teenagers these life changing opportunities.”

Supporters of PCYC, including legacy and corporate organisations, as well as PCYC’s 829 volunteers play a crucial role in supporting the organisation’s Mission.

Mr Hobby said, “In celebration of this milestone, we are honoured that the founding organisations – the NSW Police and Rotary, as well as the spirit of volunteering, remain as committed, active and highly valued today as they were 88 years ago.

“I am very excited and confident for the evolving impact that PCYC will make over the decades ahead - Happy 88<sup>th</sup> Birthday PCYC NSW!”

**So, this April please give \$88 to mark 88 Years of Empowering young people – donate today at:**

**[www.pcyctnswdonate.charity/88<sup>th</sup>-anniversary](http://www.pcyctnswdonate.charity/88th-anniversary)**

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**Video and Image Assets**

PCYC have collected a montage of photos and videos to support this story. Please contact Maria Benton to access these assets.

**Additional Survey Data - Re. Fit for Work program**

- From 2020 to 2024 PCYC has delivered a multitude of Fit for Work programs to more than 1,000 young people throughout NSW.
- Of survey data collected for the program, parents reported that upon completion of the program:
  - 92% of the participants were showing a more positive attitude toward their future,
  - 92% were demonstrating increased self-confidence, and
  - 75% were experiencing a better mood.

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**About PCYC NSW**

PCYC is a leading Australian youth charity dedicated to empowering young people and building stronger, healthier communities. Established in 1937, PCYC provides a wide range of youth programs, including sports, recreation, education, and personal development opportunities, with a focus on creating safe spaces where young people can thrive.