

Job Mentoring Service for Skilled Migrants from non-English speaking backgrounds looking for employment in Wellington, New Zealand

Background Information

English Language Partners Wellington has operated in Wellington since 1974 as a community-based not-for-profit organisation providing English language and social support for the effective resettlement of refugees and migrants.

The Job Mentoring Service was established in 2001 in response to a concern about the level of unemployment among our learners and in the migrant population as a whole.

Job Mentoring Service has established itself as a significant employment-support service in Wellington and has achieved an excellent record of supporting migrants into employment and further study and training opportunities.

The Mentoring Process

Volunteer job mentors share their knowledge of the New Zealand work environment with a job-seeking migrant: how to look for work, apply for jobs, build networks etc.

The mentor keeps in regular contact with a matched job seeker to work through a plan which may include some or all of the following: preparing for, training/re-training for, looking for, applying for and obtaining employment. The mentor is expected to provide support which will increase the chances of getting a job.

The Job Mentoring Service provides training, resources and support to the mentor. The six - hour training (which takes place generally from 9.30-3.30 on a Saturday) covers: the mentoring process, expectations of mentors and job seekers, support agencies and their programmes, and other resources available. We also discuss goal setting, identification of skills, job search strategies, the job application process, CV preparation, interview skills and overcoming barriers to employment. An M-Power Training Kit is provided to each mentor as a comprehensive reference manual to use while they are mentoring. Refresher workshops bring mentors together during the year to support each other and gain new insights.

Contact details for both prospective volunteer job mentors and job seekers:

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