

'The rigour of system and financial assessment is an unexpected benefit that SVA brought to the table. Our programs were therefore developed to meet sustainable and at times unexpected growth rates.'

Adrian Appo CEO
Ganbina



Shepparton, VIC

Focus Area Community Building for
Young Indigenous People

Web www.ganbina.com.au

Mission

To introduce young Indigenous people to a range of career possibilities and equip participants to pursue jobs in the private sector.

Model

Ganbina motivates Indigenous students to stay at school and seek a better future. It works from the ground up to improve the economic and social well-being of local Indigenous people. Ganbina is able to facilitate this outcome through a unique and powerful network it has developed over the past ten years with five schools and more than 60 businesses in the Shepparton region. The support Ganbina offers via its core program *Jobs4U2* is intensive and gives Indigenous students a real opportunity to overcome socio-economic barriers.

Growth

- Ganbina has been operating since 1996. In 2003, as the organisation's aims could not fit within the limits of government funding, Ganbina strategically moved from relying on government funding (then 70 per cent of total revenue) to partnering with philanthropic organisations and the private sector and commenced working under this new model with 25 students in two schools.

Ganbina

- Ganbina has grown to eight programs in 2008 from two programs in 2003. Over time, Ganbina has expanded the reach of its programs into all of the region's five public schools.
- In FY08, Ganbina increased participant numbers nearly two-fold with 235 young Indigenous people involved in Ganbina's programs. Principal engagement is in education programs in secondary school (126), primary school scholarships (70) and employment (20). Many of these participants access multiple programs, with total program usage at 315 participants.
- Between 2005 and 2007, more than 30 per cent of school participants in the *Jobs4U2* program were in the program for three consecutive years, with 14 per cent for two years and the balance for one year. Relocation was cited as the main cause for leaving the program.
- Many participants have become more engaged in education, which is reflected in improved school retention rates to Year 10 for Indigenous students, from approximately 24 per cent in 2004 to 34 per cent by 2007 (all state schools).
- Four out of every five *Jobs4U2* participants entered the program without birth certificates, a TFN or a bank account. A total of 81 per cent of the participants were in Year 9 or above, an age when many non-Indigenous young people might engage with banks and possibly the Australian Tax Office for the first time. Two-thirds of all participants were assisted by Ganbina to open a bank account and three quarters were helped to obtain a TFN.

Looking Ahead

Ganbina's goal is to have 250 young Indigenous people in its programs each year in the Shepparton region. This will assist in increasing Indigenous school retention rates and employment to match the wider local community. Ganbina is currently trialling a financial literacy program *My Moola* and developing programs in IT, cultural and environmental preservation and wealth creation. Ganbina is also undergoing a strategic review to explore how it can share its practice and support program replication in new communities beyond Shepparton.

Impact

- Since 1998, Ganbina has placed 372 young Indigenous people into full-time employment.
- In 2007, 127 out of 129 participants (98.4 per cent) achieved their goal of completing their principal program. Of all participants in *Jobs4U2* between 2005 and 2007, 91 per cent completed their principal program.

| | 2004 | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Initial SVA distribution | | | |
| Total distributions from SVA to date | | | \$1,036,200 |
| SVA in-kind support | | | \$200,000 |
| SVA brokered support | | | |
| – leveraged funding | | | \$60,000 |
| – cash and in-kind, SVA Future Builders Program evaluation framework & resource funding (2007-08) | | | \$135,000 |
| – Matrix on Board financial systems assessment (2006) | | | \$10,000 |
| – strategic consultations for board development (2005) | | | \$10,000 |
| – marketing training (2005) | | | \$5,000 |
| | FY05 | FY08 | CAGR |
| Revenue | \$337,048 | \$1,063,585 | 33.3% |
| Participants* | 40 | 235 | 55.7% |

* Unique participants only. Some participants involved in multiple programs



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