
YOUTH WORKERS REPORT TERM ONE 2014



MESIAH NGATUERE
Lunchtime mentoring sessions assist in the continuing engagement of boys in their learning and a reduction in truancy

The start of 2014 brought fresh excitement for the team of 24/7 Youth Workers at Shirley Boys - primarily because our team was increasing from 2 to 5 workers. We are grateful for the financial support from Red Cross Canterbury in enabling this across the 24/7 Network for Christchurch Schools.

Our increase in youth worker hours for Shirley Boys meant that we had the ability to assign one youth worker per house. This meant a streamlined approach in the pastoral care/information sharing process and cut out the 'middle-man' in this process whereby the

Keza and Jesse, collaboration between SBHS, SIS and 24/7 to see a mural painted on the Plunket fence in Shirley

youth workers had direct access to Deans and Guidance via their weekly meetings.



A key competency we work to achieve in our youth work is collaboration. 2014 has commenced with a big tick and step up in this area. Unfortunately due to other employment developments, Jeremy has pulled out from his position as youth worker for Blake House. While still team leader, overseeing the team of SBHS youth workers, we are yet to see a replacement fill the void left in Jeremy's moving on...

Youth Worker's Highlights:

KEZA WARDLAW

My highlights of term one have been:

- Painting with Jesse from Shirley boys doing the Plunket fence...this was a project that had been in the planning stage for a long time - was great to see it all completed!
- Dance - I love giving opportunities for boys to interact outside of school. Dance provides this space. a great group of boys meet to refine their craft

“...bringing the arts into what I have been doing has opened up so many doors with the boys.”

—KEZA WARDLAW

and learn something new every Wednesday, Moorhouse Dance Studio.

- Graffiti Programmes - It has been amazing getting a group of kids planing for current and future projects

This year I have already seen a massive improvement with the boys that I have been working with and leading with as well..bringing the arts into what I have been doing has opened up so many doors with the boys, it's been outstanding and I look forward to what the rest of the year has for us all.

TOM McKENNA

This term was basically finding my feet, where I was going to be most useful and creating a place where I felt like guys could approach me with the questions in a teenage life. I started off by making contact with new mentoring caseload and trying to figure out where my I felt most comfortable so it would make the boys more comfortable. The easy option was taking them to The Palms to eat, drink or just be distracted.

Once I realised I could use the school gym for my mentoring sessions I started taking guys

who wanted to train to the gym (I am trained as a personal trainer...)

This was a win environment for me and the boys because they get info that would normally cost them and also it makes them respect what I have to say a

lot more. Three key ingredients to building supportive relationships are t r u s t , connectedness and respect. So creating an environment that makes it easier for me to speak into their lives and i n d i v i d u a l situations was paramount.



Looking back at my first term, what I think I need to focus on more is my relationships with other staff. As I still feel like i hardly know any of them - please help me where you can in this.

But I definitely feel as if the gym and training side has been a success. Even if I was always present - say during lunch for the days I go in just to help out any guys who are struggling with things, for them to know where I'd be if they need me is cool. So this term for me has been a lot more to do with finding where I'll be most effective in what I have to offer and just getting to know the guys I'm mentoring.

Cheers

Tom

JOSIAH DAYO

I love the opportunity I have every time I am in at school to make meaningful connections and build positive relationships with the boys and young men of Shirley Boys' High.

Here are my highlights of term one:

- Mentoring up to 7 boys and getting to know the school
- Starting up lunch time jam sessions on Thursdays in the Music Room
- Teaching one of the mentoring boys drums
- Teaching one of the boys from mentoring barista skills and techniques
- Playing basket ball with some of the boys

- Helped out a few times in the school choir rehearsals
- Making new connections at lunchtimes



Jordan enjoying some one-on-one mentoring time with Josiah at The Palms Mall

“The art of teaching is the art of assisting discovery.”

Mark van Doren

RISHI PATEL

I enjoyed starting with the advantage of already knowing staff and the school environment. however I had to adjust to my new perspective as a youth worker rather than a student.

- I enjoyed making connections with new students
- I enjoyed putting my past experiences to use to encourage and support boys
- It was great to see evidence of improvement in the behaviour and attendance of the boys on my caseload
- I took the opportunity to assist at a classroom level with boys in 9R social studies with Mr Ambrose

Overall term one has been an enjoyable and meaningful time for me in my new role as youth worker.

Moving forward I hope to continue to develop relationships with my caseload of students and other students in other ways.

SHIRLEY BOYS YOUTH WORKER STATISTICS

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Average Weekly Hours | This Term |
| Keza Wardlaw | 10.9 |
| Tom McKenna | 9.5 |
| Josiah Dayo | 9.8 |
| Rishi Patel | 8.5 |
| Total | 38.3 |
| Contact with young people | Total This Term |
| Meaningful contact with individuals | 415 |
| Meaningful group contact | 215 |
| Attendance at events run by youth workers | 24 |

Term One Summary

So, 2014 has had a great start! The youth workers are really well settled in as are the students. Term Two brings the opportunity to refine our weaknesses and enhance our strengths as a team. Across the board our youth workers are determined to continue to build great professional relationships with teachers, support staff and the management of Shirley Boys. They have a number of great initiatives in the pipeline such as the reappearance of the 100% graduation pizza lunch for year 9/10s, some crazy fun lunch time initiatives and also some special guest performers during the winter months. Our youth workers receive constant support and opportunities for further training in their field. All our youth works have a Certificate of Completion of the *Code of Ethics Training* through the Canterbury Youth Workers Collective, of which they are all organisational members. At the end of this term, we all will be joining the other 150+ 24/7 youth



workers at our National Hui in the Bay of Islands/Paihia, themed “*Know the Story You are a Part of*” which will only but enhance our understanding and abilities when working alongside Maori students and staff at Shirley Boys. It is Winston Churchill who said, “*the farther backward you can look, the farther forward you can see*”. It’s all about *time* - an acknowledging of the past and committing to the future. This parallels to the end of the 24/7 mantra “**staying committed**”.

Your 24/7 Youth Workers are local, committed, passionate individuals who work hard and are investing into the lives of not only individuals, but helping create culture in a generation, which will impact families and their communities both now and into the future.



Rishi
Rutherford

Tom
Mullins

Jeremy
24/7 Team Leader

Josiah
Snell

Keza
Aoraki