

Media Release – For Immediate Release
Mario gives Achieve Employment a ‘green thumbs’ up

9 February 2012

Mario Anthony is thrilled that he has found his dream job as a gardener.

Working at Macquarie Community College (MCC) since September 2011, Mario is now happily embracing his passion for gardening and the outdoors as well as utilising his TAFE certificates in Horticulture.

However, this couldn't have occurred without the support of Achieve Australia and their newly acquired affiliation with MCC.

Located in Ryde, Achieve Employment, a branch of Achieve Australia, provides support to people with disability, injury or health condition to find and keep employment, as well as broaden their educational experiences and qualifications.

When Macquarie Community College CEO, Dr June Heinrich AM, approached Achieve Employment to find her a new gardener, Mario Anthony was quickly identified as one of the ideal candidates. As a jobseeker with Achieve Employment, Mario received assistance with his resume and interview preparation to help make a good first impression.

After successfully being appointed to the position, Mario now receives weekly visits from his Achieve Employment Consultant to monitor his progress and productivity at MCC. His Consultant also works collaboratively with Mario's employer to ensure that he makes a smooth transition into the role.

"Mario is a perfect example of the jobseekers we have on our books," said Achieve Australia CEO, Anne Bryce. "Like many others, he had the enthusiasm to get into the workplace but just needed that little bit of support to get his foot in the door."

Dr Heinrich is also positive about the partnership. "As a not-for-profit community organisation, we see real value in partnering with other organisations working within our local area," said Dr Heinrich. "We now have three staff members employed through Achieve Australia and to date we are very happy with their performance and feel that they are making a valuable contribution to our workplace."

Five months on, Mario is very happy working at Macquarie Community College, where he does weeding, mulching, garden maintenance and handyman work.

"It's a good place to work," said Mario. "I feel like I am part of the team and have made new friends."

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About Achieve Australia

Achieve Australia is a community based not-for-profit organisation operating across metropolitan Sydney. We support more than 550 people with disability across accommodation, employment and day programs throughout the community on the basis of achieving social inclusion.

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About Macquarie Community College

Macquarie Community College is a leading provider accredited VET training in NSW. The college has been offering Lifestyle and Leisure courses to the North West for over 60 years. Macquarie Community College offers over 400 courses across its campuses.

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