



# Rachel Nolan MP

Member for Ipswich



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## Ipswich jobseekers learn to care for kids

Thirty Ipswich jobseekers will receive training to help meet the demand for skilled child care workers in the city.

Member for Ipswich Rachel Nolan said the Community Support Agency has been awarded \$105,000 by the Bligh Government's Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative to deliver the training at no cost to participants.

"Despite the financial downturn, the caring industries continue to offer solid job opportunities due to a lack of skilled staff," Ms Nolan said.

"The project is being funded through the Federal Government's Productivity Places Program which is administered under the Skilling Queenslanders for Work initiative.

"The Federal and State Governments are joining forces to deliver Productivity Places, which will enable 46,000 Queensland jobseekers to enrol for formal qualifications in much needed skills areas, and 102,000 existing workers to gain or improve their qualifications."

Ms Nolan said the project will be primarily aimed at long-term unemployed people.

"Now, more than ever, it is important to invest in people who are disadvantaged in the labour market by giving them the skills that are in demand in local areas," Ms Nolan said.

"Thirty participants will undertake qualifications in children's services over 15 weeks."

Community Support Agency business development manager Kevin Davies said the project will start with individual assessments for each participant to identify their barriers to employment and develop strategies to overcome them.

"Participants will undertake 15 weeks of training and a five-week vocational placement to put their training into practice and build relationships with local employers," Mr Davies said.

"Participants will also receive a blue card and first aid certificate – both of which are necessary to secure work in the industry.

"There will be two intakes of 15 participants, with the first intake starting in October."

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