MELBOURNE POLYTECHNIC RESICARE

A key priority for the Victorian Government has been to reduce the prevalence of family violence. Under its Roadmap for Reform: strong families, safe children initiative, the Government created the $8 million Resicare initiative to ensure the overnight safety and support of young people recovering from the effects of trauma, abuse and neglect.

Training to achieve mandatory qualifications for all workers who provide direct care to children and young people in residential care by 1 January 2018 is being delivered in TAFEs across metropolitan, rural and regional areas - in partnership with the Australian Childhood Foundation.

Melbourne Polytechnic is leading the statewide training consortium to ensure the new minimum qualification requirements are met for residential care workers within the child and family sectors.

There are two Resicare training schemes. The first is designed for unqualified workers who undertake the Certificate IV Child, Youth and Family Intervention, with a specialisation in residential and out of home care.

The second is for the workforce with an existing relevant qualification who will undertake training to develop specific skills in residential care and trauma informed care.

A total of 1400 students will undertake training, with 400 participating in Certificate IV and 1000 updating their skills, with most of the training occurring in 2017 and the first half of 2018.

"We're pleased to be spearheading this important initiative," said Melbourne Polytechnic Program Manager Nicole Amsing. "This training is so important to improving the residential care we offer vulnerable Victorian children."

Melbourne Polytechnic students Richard Peters (front), Bianca Pranic, Lizetta Anderson, Cybelle Motherwell and Toby Waters recently started Resicare training to help young vulnerable Victorians.

The Melbourne Innovation Centre, an internationally ac-claimed business incubator, has opened new facilities at Melbourne Polytechnic's Greensborough campus.

Education and Training

To find out more about how *Skills First* is helping students, visit www.skillsfirst.vic.gov.au

Skills First Update