



Media Release

PAYCE on Board as Major Sponsor of Windgap Foundation's Gala Ball Fundraiser

May 5th 2015,

Randwick Racecourse, Sydney.

Leading Australian property company PAYCE is on board as major sponsor of this year's annual Windgap Foundation Ball, which will raise funds for the Foundation's Youth Employment Program (YEP).

The Ball will be held at the Royal Randwick Racecourse Ballroom on Saturday, 9 May, 2015.

Introduced in 2005 and formerly known as the Transition to Work Program, the Youth Employment Program continues to successfully help people with intellectual disabilities gain meaningful employment skills, leading to work opportunities in retail, warehousing, hospitality and horticulture industries.

PAYCE Managing Director, Brian Boyd said: "PAYCE is proud to be associated with such a wonderful organisation as Windgap, which for more than 60 years has been helping young intellectually disabled people reach their full potential and realise their personal goals."

PAYCE donated \$10,000 to last year's Transition to Work program and has provided a further \$10,000 this year to support the 2015 Windgap Ball and its fundraising drive.

Brian Boyd said he was pleased to again contribute to the Foundation and support the quality training being provided to help young people gain confidence and places in the workforce.

"The Youth Employment Program is exceptional and I congratulate Windgap and its experienced staff for the outstanding work they do and the joy they bring to their clients and their families," he said.

PAYCE's General Manager, Dominic Sullivan said he was well-acquainted with the work of Windgap and for many years had admired their work and the tangible results they achieve.

"At PAYCE, we are very pleased to add our support for the second year and help build more awareness of the wonderful work of the organisation in empowering young people to live fulfilled lives in society," he said.

"As a not-for-profit organisation, Windgap provides a range of services, including accommodation, training, supported employment and community participation.

"The Youth Employment Program is a notable success, not only for placing young people in paid and meaningful work, but equally important, students choose the type of work and career path they want to pursue."

In the first year of the program, clients get a taste of the four categories before selecting a pathway to specialise in for the next two years.

In 2013, Windgap opened the Tukka Box café as part of its Eastlakes DSK Hospitality and Learning Centre where students learn a range of associated hospitality skills as a pre-cursor to undertaking courses at their local TAFE if they wish.

Last December, the Foundation launched NSW's first social enterprise café as part of the Transition to Work program and a number of Windgap's clients are learning coffee making skills and serving local customers.

Windgap CEO, Serhat Oguz said his organisation relied heavily on the community and its corporate sector partners to deliver its programs.

"We welcome the support of PAYCE and thank Brian Boyd and his company for their ongoing assistance," he said.

"PAYCE exhibits a high level of corporate responsibility through their involvement with many community and charity groups and their support for our fundraiser this year will help ensure the event is a great success," he said.

This year, the gala fundraiser goes Nashville with its Grand Ole Opry Ball, featuring a great lineup of entertainers led by well-known comedienne, Jean Kittson as MC and the popular Cash Only Band and Donella Waters paying tribute to such country and western greats as Johnny Cash and June Carter and Dolly Parton.

Dress is country theme black tie and tickets are \$195 per person, which includes dinner, entertainment and all drinks. Corporate packages are available for tables of 10 for \$3000. Tickets can be purchased at www.windgap.org.au.

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