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## **SKILLS INSTITUTE INTRODUCES UNIQUE APPRENTICE SUPPORT PROGRAM**

The Skills Institute will partner with the OzHelp Tasmania Foundation to deliver a newly developed Skills for Life support program to apprentices and trainees.

The program provides an umbrella of support that stretches across the Institute and the apprentice's workplace.

"The Skills for Life program is unique because it is not just about offering counselling services, but also programs to help apprentices and trainees learn how to communicate effectively in the work place, teach them life management skills and how to manage their finances," Skills Institute CEO Malcolm White said.

"This program will be integrated into the training conducted by the Skills Institute, and can be customised for individuals and groups.

"It will support apprentices and trainees from their first day of training through to completion of their apprenticeship or traineeship.

"The big picture is supporting young Tasmanians to complete and succeed in their apprenticeships and traineeships and fulfil their ambitions to become fully fledged tradespeople. The flow-on to industry and society will be more highly skilled people."

OzHelp Tasmania CEO Doug Vautier said the Skills for Life program would provide apprentices with an opportunity to transition smoothly into the workplace.

"OzHelp offers a Life Skills Toolbox which is the only one of its kind in Australia, helping apprentices develop resilience and personal wellbeing and enabling them to take more effective control of their lives," he said.

The Skills for Life Program will also offer personal and career pathway counselling and disability support programs.

Included within the program will be two-day workshops for Skills Institute staff and industry trainers, mentors and supervisors of young apprentices and trainees to assist them to develop the practical skills to support the transition of their apprentices and trainees into the workplace.

**ENDS**

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