

Connecting Communities : St Johns Park Max Potential Relationship Profile

Participants in Max Potential, the region's newest and most energetic community program, are showing that leadership isn't a concept confined to one segment of the local population.

"Max Potential aims to grow and realise the leadership potential of the Fairfield community." CEO of St Johns Park Bowling Club, Greg Kearins says. "Young leaders are teamed up with a community or business coach, and as a partnership they work toward achieving both personal and community change."

Two participants in the program; community coach Fadia al Faris and young adult participant Latifa Hekmat, are both committed to contributing to their local community through their Max Potential experience.

Fadia, originally from Iraq, is a local youth worker with STARTTS (Service for the Treatment and Rehabilitation of Torture and Trauma Survivors). "I wanted to participate in Max Potential to learn and gain experience around my thoughts, beliefs and values, to help me work on myself and make a difference."

"Success for me (in the Program) means seeing and touching my 'real' self, and using this to make change around me."

Fadia's coachee in the Program, Latifa Hekmat, echoes similar sentiments for her involvement. "Success for me means having a positive attitude, and being hopeful and optimistic. It means having a healthy life and working for the welfare of humans."

Having only been in Australia for 9 months after being a teacher in a Pakistani refugee community, Latifa is committed to using her extending leadership capabilities to see her through university, and eventually for the welfare of the local community.

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For more information on Max Potential, go to www.sjpbowling.com.au or www.faaoundation.com.au.

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