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Ten young adults to help improve community



ANTHONY Kypreos and his mentor Gav Irvine are participating in the Seagulls Club Max Potential Program, which hopes to make a difference in the Tweed community. PHOTO: SCOTT POWICK D129276a

Program helps turn youth into real leaders

By ELLISHA PUGLIA
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TEN young adults have their sights set on making the world a better place, starting with the Tweed.

These young, passionate and energetic people are determined to firstly change the perception the word 'youth' is attached to fear, gangs, graffiti, hoons and violence in the area.

They are all participating in the Seagulls Club Max Potential Program which is focused on turning them into leaders by pairing them up with a community or business coach who will support them through a project to change the Tweed community.

Anthony Kypreos is current-

ly hoping to set up a dodgeball program for Banora Point High School.

The project incorporates a variety of sports played after school.

"There is still such a big need for it," Mr Kypreos said.

"A lot of young kids don't want to go home after school, for many reasons."

Mr Kypreos also participated in For the Love of Tweed Community Clean-up Day which was held in August and involved removing graffiti around the Tweed.

"My youth pastor told me that we needed to make our presence known," Mr Kypreos said.

Gav Irvine is Mr Kypreos's mentor for the Seagulls com-

munity program.

"I'm an ex-youth pastor, and my heart wants to help people achieve," Mr Irvine said.

"The coaches make a difference on these guys (young adults) who make a difference in the community."

This is the first year the program has taken place and the plan is to have a few programs a year.

Seagulls Club chief operations officer Luke Simmons said the program sets up the young adults to have a healthy future.

"For the young leaders in the program, it gives them the opportunity to work with someone who genuinely cares about their future and will invest in it," he said.

"For the club, the Community Service Projects are one of the most exciting parts of the program. The young adults are given the opportunity to look at our community, see something that could be improved, and go out and do something about it."

"Each young adult chooses their own project, based on something that they are passionate about, and they get to lead it in their own unique way."

Community Service Projects will commence in September and run through until November.

For more details contact program coordinator Dean Williamson on 0401 459 115 or email dean@futureachievementaustralia.com.au.