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Bridging the Gap Foundation and SEDA launch Indigenous scholarship program

Bridging the Gap Foundation has partnered with applied learning education provider SEDA Group (SEDA) to create a new scholarship program for young Indigenous Australians.

The scholarships will offer students in Years 10 to 12 in the Northern Territory and Years 11 and 12 in New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria access to a fully funded position in a SEDA program, removing any financial barrier for interested families. Through the SEDA programs, recipients will have access to a pathways-focused senior secondary education which will be tailored to their own goals and aspirations.

Funding for the scholarships will be raised by Bridging the Gap Foundation's soon-to-be-launched Workplace Giving program and online through its donor portal.

The partnership will be launched at Parap Primary School at 11am on Tuesday 2 March. ABC Grandstand host and Bridging the Gap Foundation Ambassador Charlie King (OAM) will officiate at the event.

Bridging the Gap Foundation Deputy Chair Dean Rioli has been appointed to SEDA Group's National Indigenous Advisory Group.

"I am thrilled we are launching this partnership as it will provide a great opportunity for Indigenous secondary students," Rioli said. "It will unlock their potential by providing them with practical work experience, building their career and life skills and helping them transition into ongoing employment."

In addition to completing their secondary education, Indigenous students who receive the scholarship will participate in SEDA's National Indigenous Education and Leadership Program (NIELP). This program works closely with the sporting industry, education sector and Indigenous community partners to educate and empower Indigenous students.

SEDA Group National Indigenous Manager Jethro Calma-Holt said, "SEDA is committed to growing our Indigenous student numbers and expanding our reach into new communities. Partnering with like-minded organisations such as Bridging the Gap Foundation can make this a reality. Together we aim to engage, educate and empower the next generation of Indigenous youth."

To make a donation to support the partnership, visit btgfoundation.com.au/donate.php.

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Available for Interview

SEDA Group National Indigenous Manager Jethro Calma-Holt
Bridging the Gap Foundation Deputy Chair Dean Rioli
Bridging the Gap Foundation Director Joshua Gilbert

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About SEDA

SEDA is a leading provider of hands-on education which delivers an applied learning model in conjunction with Independent Senior Secondary Schools. It acknowledges that different students have different learning styles and uses real projects and real experiences as an extension to the classroom. Using sport as a vehicle for learning, SEDA enhances engagement levels and provides students with a deeper connection to their education.

About Bridging the Gap Foundation

Bridging the Gap Foundation has been established by Charles Darwin University and Menzies School of Health Research to address one of Australia's most important issues, the ten-year gap in life expectancy between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians. The foundation aims to improve health and education opportunities and outcomes for Indigenous Australians.