



WISE UP

A program by WISE Employment

WISE UP (Unleash Potential) is an innovative program, and widely recognised as a leader in vocational support for individuals with justice system involvement.

The Program

Our comprehensive, wrap-around program spans 28 days and aims to break down barriers commonly faced by people with justice system involvement, empowering them to overcome challenges related to employment, mental health and addiction.

Operating across WISE Employment sites in the Western Suburbs and South East of Melbourne, we aim to make it as easy as possible for participants to take part.

WISE UP is delivered by people with employment expertise and lived experience of the justice system, making it a unique and highly effective program in supporting this cohort.

WISE UP offers a range of services and support to participants, addressing various aspects of their reintegration journey.



Volunteering

Volunteering opportunities through our key partner, [Green Collar Brigade](#), provide practical experience to help individuals develop new skills. This hands-on approach not only enhances employability and adds to their resume with current work experience, but also fosters a sense of purpose and community engagement.



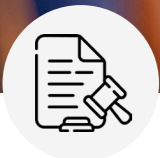
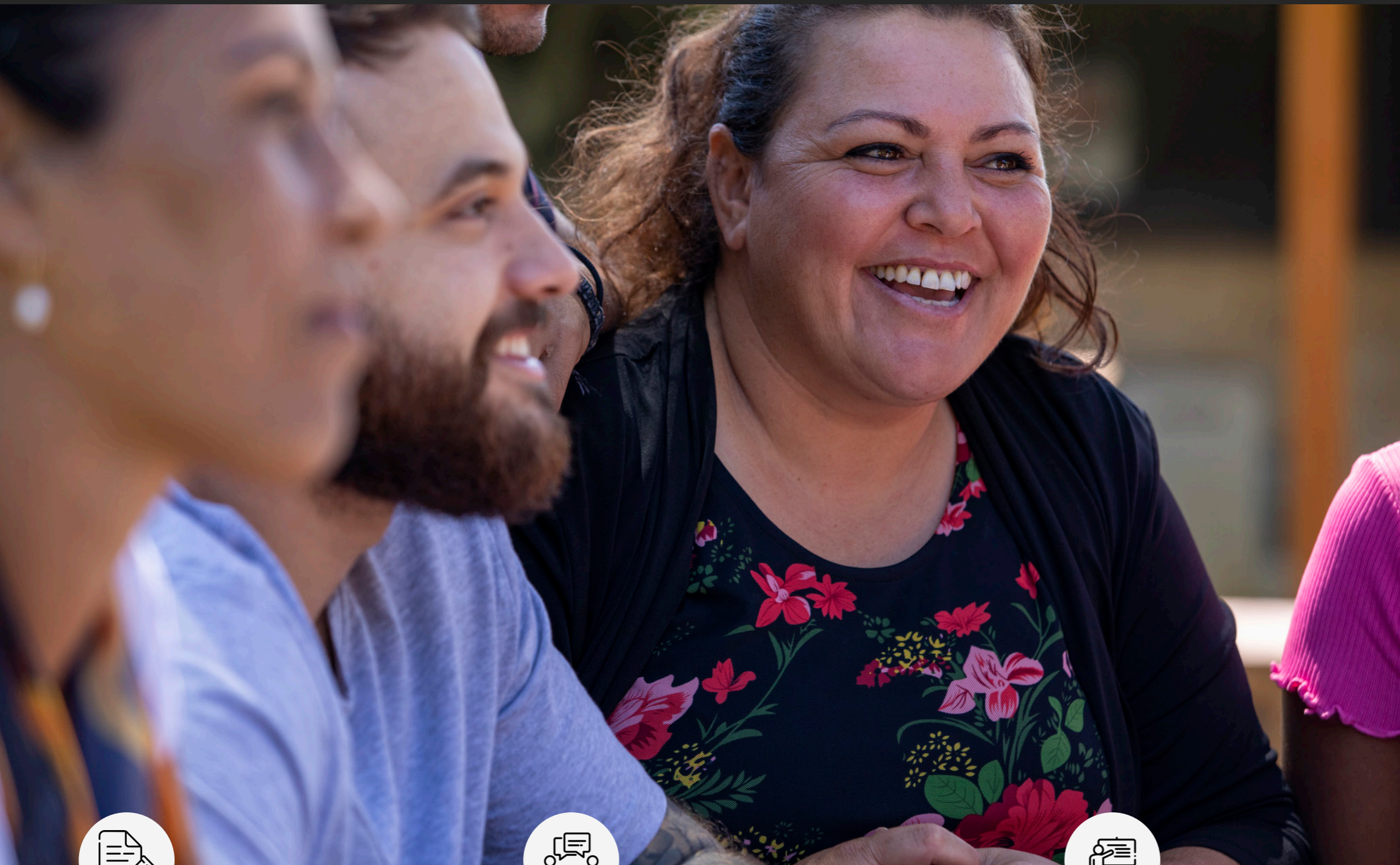
Engagement

Online meetings serve as a platform for peer support, allowing participants to share experiences, offer encouragement, and build a strong support network. This sense of camaraderie is crucial in overcoming the isolation and stigma often associated with having a criminal background.



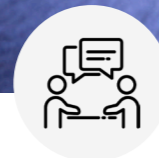
Employability

The program also provides comprehensive assistance with resume writing and interview skills, ensuring that participants are well-prepared for job applications and interviews. By equipping them with the necessary tools and techniques, WISE UP increases their chances of securing meaningful employment.



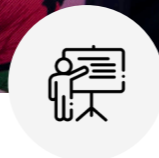
Navigating the legal system

Recognising the legal challenges that people with justice system involvement may face, WISE UP offers legal letters and representation in court when necessary. This support helps individuals navigate any legal hurdles that may arise during their reintegration process, providing them with peace of mind and a sense of security.



Counselling and support

Counselling and AOD support services are an integral part of the program, addressing mental health issues (including drug or addiction problems) and providing emotional support. Services are tailored to the individual's unique needs, recognising that every person is different. We encourage all participants to take these up to develop coping strategies and resilience.



Training

Vocational training programs are also available, equipping participants with industry-specific skills that enhance their employability. By providing access to training opportunities, WISE UP ensures that individuals have the necessary qualifications and knowledge to succeed in their chosen fields.



Wellbeing

Physical well-being is not overlooked in the program. Sessions are offered, promoting fitness, stress relief, and a positive outlet for energy. This holistic approach recognises the importance of overall wellbeing in achieving long-term success.



Mentoring

Mentorship is a key component of WISE UP, with mentors who have both employment expertise and lived experience in prison, with mental health issues and addiction. These mentors offer guidance, share personal experiences and provide valuable insights to help participants navigate their journey towards employment and personal growth.



24-hour support

To ensure round-the-clock support, a 24-hour support line is available for participants to access assistance whenever they need it. This provides a safety net and reinforces the program's commitment to supporting individuals throughout their reintegration process.

To learn more about our
exciting program, please
reach out to our team on
1300 804 855

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