

North Hobart

AN ADVERTISING FEATURE

NO BARRIERS TO WORK

Employment is a major factor in the quality of life for people with a disability.

ACCESS Employment helps people with disabilities to re-enter the workforce.

Manager Darryn Perry said they have successfully placed 33 people into work since June 2007.

Employment vacancies filled include government administration, bakery, traineeships, labouring, cleaning, retail, hospitality and maintenance.

"Our employment consultants have more than 20 years of client management or employment experience," Mr Perry said.

"We provide clients with excellent assistance to find suitable, sustainable employment."

The Access Employment team carefully match people to appropriate employment vacancies.

"We have developed long

standing relationships with successful employers, and continue to provide excellent, reliable services to new and existing employers.

"Currently there are 63 clients that we are engaged with. With the resources we have this enables us to provide quality service to both clients and employers."

Access Employment is a Disability Employment Network service funded by The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations and operated by Headway Rebuilding Lives.

Headway director of operations Debra Drew described employment as highly valued in our society.

"It's a major factor in the quality of life for people with a disability," she said.

"People wrongly assume that all people with disabili-

ties can't work at the same rate as the rest of a workforce — it's not the case.

"If this sort of issue arises, we could suggest two people to job share or help the employer design a job description that will allow their new employee to be successful.

"It's important to match the job to the person and the abilities."

Ms Drew said it is well documented that people with disabilities are reliable and productive workers.

"Typically they want to work. Getting back into the workforce becomes vital to them, which means they are highly motivated and even take less sick days than other workers."

Mr Perry said progressive businesses have recognised that diversity in the workplace is a benefit.

"It adds value and credibility to a workforce," he said.

Access Employment is located at Headway Rebuilding Lives office, 64 Burnett St.



REBUILDING LIVES: Access Employment manager Darryn Perry advises Katrina Fyfe of Glenorchy about different options.
Picture: CARMEL JOHNSON