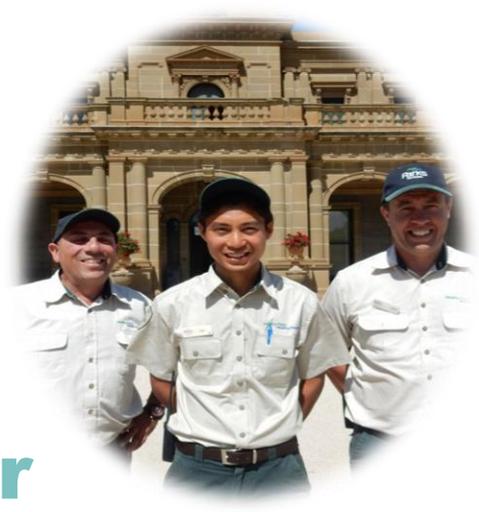


CASE STUDY: From refugee to Park Ranger



AMES promotes economic inclusion through fostering cooperation between providers of education, social support, training and employment services

AT A GLANCE



Target Participants

Migrant youths from a refugee background



Aim

To provide work experience, mentoring and access to education and training opportunities.



Organisations Involved

Foundation House; AMES Australia; Centre for Multicultural Youth, Parks Victoria, Brotherhood of St Laurence.



Location

Melbourne, Victoria



Funding

Ucan2 is funded through multiple sources

“Getting a full time job as a ranger is fantastic – it’s a dream come true”

A young refugee and former AMES Australia client has been appointed as a full-time Ranger with Parks Victoria.

Hsar Thein, originally from Burma, arrived in Australia eight years ago at the age of 16, after growing up in a refugee camp on the Thailand Burma border.

Through a partnership program with AMES Australia and Brotherhood of St Laurence, Hsar started a horticultural internship at Weribbee Park four years ago.

He excelled in both in his work and studies, as well as showing exceptional practical and leadership qualities. This led to Parks Victoria offering him a traineeship for the following three years.

After completing his traineeship, Hsar successfully applied for a ranger role.

“For a young man to come to a new country, learn a new language, keep up his studies and become a park ranger is an amazing journey. We’re very proud of him, and he’s a real inspiration to other young refugees.” said Area Chief Ranger at Werribee Park, James Brincat.

Hsar’s new role will focus on developing links between local communities and horticulture programs.

Program learnings:

Hsar’s appointment with Parks Victoria has encouraged others from refugee communities to volunteer and complete internships with Parks Victoria. More recently Somali and South Sudanese communities have begun regularly volunteering with Parks Victoria.

“Getting a full time job as a ranger is a dream come true. Working with nature – with plants and wild animals – is my passion and I’m very grateful for this opportunity,” Hsar said.

Hsar Ju

From Burma

For More Information Visit:

<http://amesnews.com.au/lead-story/refugee-park-ranger/>

