



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **For release**

11 July, 2016

### **Youth Transition to Work**

Bundaberg Sugar and Impact are working together to help the region's youth gain extra skills for their transition into the workforce.

Impact Youth Transition Worker, Samantha Petersen said the Transition to Work Youth Program is designed specifically for 15 – 21 year olds on their way to furthering their education and entering the workforce.

"We offer intensive support and assistance, providing guidance to our region's young people in their quest for long term sustainable employment. We strive to instil values and practices that are both relevant in the workplace and in building a stronger community," Ms Petersen said.

"Bundaberg Sugar was identified by many of the program participants as being an industry leader and a business with strong roots in the community."

Bundaberg Sugar's HR Manager Sarah Curtis and Packaging Operations Co-ordinator Justin Cittadella recently spoke to participants sharing valuable knowledge and experience of what workplace expectations are and how they can prepare themselves when seeking work.

"Given the high rate of youth unemployment in Bundaberg, we were very happy to take this opportunity to share Bundaberg Sugar's expectations as an employer, the characteristics of a valuable employee, relevant skilling and training, attitude and reliability and how to engage with an employer," Ms Curtis said.

"We were able to explain in detail the needs of Bundaberg Sugar in real terms and discussed interview techniques and behaviours that may benefit the youth in gaining meaningful and rewarding employment.

"We are now extending that knowledge by inviting the program participants to come on site for a tour through our packaging plant to help them gain a better understanding of employment in action," she said.

Bundaberg Sugar's Refinery Manager, Giuseppe Barazza said the Transition to Work Program is valuable to employers as well as prospective employees.

"The program is beneficial to us as an employer as it provides us with better prepared, job ready applicants and makes our recruitment process easier," he said.

(ends)

**For further information and a photo opportunity with program participants at the Bundaberg Refinery please contact:**

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