



NEWS RELEASE

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LOCAL KIDS GET INVOLVED IN CANDO4KIDS MODBURY MURAL PROJECT

On November 6 CanDo4Kids will unveil a specially designed tactile mural at the CanDo4Kids office in Modbury.

Designed and constructed by **nine local Deaf, Blind and sensory impaired kids** aged eight to 15 years, the mural is set around the theme of 'play' and will be mounted in the office.

Supported by the Richard Llewellyn Arts and Disability Trust Program the project allows CanDo4Kids clients to be actively involved in a meaningful project.

Project Manager and CanDo4Kids Family Support Worker Tabitha Coulter said children and young adults with vision and/or hearing impairments can often be sidelined in many activities in the wider community.

"The Modbury Mural Project encouraged and supported young children with a sensory impairment to express themselves through painting and ceramics," Ms Coulter said.

"At CanDo4Kids we run mentor programs providing sensory impaired children and young adults with support through mentors and role models, in addition to teaching the skills to assist them in reaching their goals.

"The project gave them the rare opportunity to work alongside two professional artists, empowering them to actively contribute to their community and express their individual ideas and creativity.

Ms Coulter said the mural will be on show for parents, children and visitors to enjoy. The mural not only is a representation of "play" but is a reflection of the importance of play.

"The mural encompasses the sheer innocence and captivation that play can bring into a child's life," Ms Coulter said.

“The young people involved formed a dynamic and interactive combination, this in turn resulted in the group developing an innovative and original artistic piece,” she said.

With the dedicated and experienced staff of CanDo4Kids and the creative skills of 2 artists the children had the very special experience of self expression through art, being part of a team and the creative process.

Tabitha said some of our clients have shown great potential of an artistic career, and we hope this mentor project will encourage them to further investigate the arts as a career option.

CanDo4Kids, established in 1874, is South Australia’s oldest charity and principle provider of charitable services to children and young adults who are Deaf, Blind or vision or hearing impaired.

The mission of CanDo4Kids is to help change the lives of SA kids by focusing on what kids ‘can do’ and helping them to reach their full potential.

All services provided by CanDo4Kids are provided free of charge to children and young adults (birth to 25 years) in both metropolitan and country South Australia.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Please contact Dalice Kennedy on 8100 8237 or 0409 820 183