

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 6 JUNE 2019**

## **OPPORTUNITY PATHWAYS SUPPORTS ACCESS TO STUDY AND WORK**

Social Futures is offering a new program called Opportunity Pathways for Rent Choice recipients and social housing clients to help them access education, training and work in the Northern Rivers region.

The program offers flexible, personalised support to people who want to improve their employment options. Participants will have access to pre-employment training, employment support, post-employment support and housing independence services.

Social Futures Manager of Opportunity Pathways Jason McDonald said his team is excited to deliver the program.

“Opportunity Pathways supports participants in their education and employment goals,” Mr McDonald said. “This is an opportunity to explore careers that people may not even realise are available to them.”

The program is open to people who are aged 17 and older, living in social housing, approved social housing applicants or who are receiving a Rent Choice subsidy.

“We really encourage anyone who is curious to just give us a call so we can discuss how Opportunity Pathways can support them in making their career dreams a reality,” Mr McDonald said.

Anyone interested in the program can contact Jason McDonald on 0428 856 546 or by email at [opp@socialfutures.org.au](mailto:opp@socialfutures.org.au).

**- ENDS -**

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*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land where we live and work and their continuing connection to land, water, sea and community. We pay respects to Australia's First Peoples, to their unique and diverse cultures, and to Elders past, present and future.*

**Notes to editors:**

1. Social Futures is a social justice organisation based in Northern NSW. We have more than 40 years' experience as a regional leader, advocating with the communities we work in; working in partnership with others; and providing services that promote inclusion, fairness and social justice. Our work encompasses homelessness and housing supports, youth and family services, programs that promote genuine participation for people with disability, community sector support, professional development, and systemic advocacy.
2. Opportunity Pathways is a new NSW Government program initiative under Future Directions Social Housing.