

12 October 2005

NURTURE THE CHILDREN - CHANGE THE FUTURE

Welcome to the 2004 / 2005 Activity Report for Opening the Doors Foundation!

The Opening the Doors Foundation is based on the ancient wisdom of Indigenous society: to nurture its children and educate them in an appropriate way so they can function successfully within their world. The Foundation takes this ancient wisdom into our society as it has become and is offering a way for Indigenous families to choose a path of education that will equip them to function equally with the rest of Australian society. Opening the Doors Foundation is a project and a strategy that emphasises self-management and self-empowerment.

For the past five years Opening the Doors Foundation has been working towards its long term goal of making a difference in the educational outcomes for those young Indigenous students and their families in their attempts to change the social indicators that continue to tell the story of entrenched disadvantage for Victorian Indigenous people, especially in the area of educational outcomes.

2005 VCE students are currently preparing for the end of their secondary education; among them are 9 young people who have been supported by the Foundation for most if not all of their secondary education. **THEY HAVE MADE IT** - what an achievement! The Foundation has not achieved it for them, but we have tried to nurture them and their families, to ease their pathways through to Year 12. 2006 will see some of the young people progress to tertiary, but **ALL** of them will have a successful and positive educational achievement to enhance their confidence and self-esteem.

Without the support of **YOU** and all who work in collaboration with us we could not continue to support these young students and, in turn change the future.

Thank you for your contribution to the work of Opening the Doors Foundation - we hope it continues!

Yours sincerely,

Carol Messer
Development Officer