

Options open up for women

By ROSLYN HUIZENGA

A NEW training course providing training opportunities solely for indigenous women has been embraced across the South West.

The 12-week Certificate I New Opportunities for Women course is being run for the first time this year at registered training organisation Jobs South West, with the first round of students nearing graduation.

Jobs South West project manager Angela Ansell said this was the first course the organisation had undertaken solely for indigenous women, with previous courses delivered to a mainstream audience.

"The course provides ladies with knowledge skills and support to make the important transition into employment or further education," she said.

With a total of 12 ladies enrolled in the inaugural course, Mrs Ansell said it had been well received.

"It's been really great in terms of increasing their confidence and awareness of education, employment and training options," she said.

"All are looking forward to finishing it in a couple of weeks and going on to further study or employment — it's been fantastic to work with them to see them grow within themselves."

Subjects including mathematics, effective communication, introduction to computing, personal management, exploring employment and education options, career development, return to study, first aid and work experience were covered.

Indigenous mentors from the community were also recruited to help the women through the course.

Mrs Ansell said it was hoped the course would be run annually, however, it relied on funding, with Jobs South West tendering through the Department of Education and Training through its Indigenous Funding Pool.

Jobs South West is also holding a six-day Certificate I in Work Preparation course for Indigenous people and a 15-day Certificate I in Retail course in May and July.

Anyone who is interested should contact Angela on 9721 5033



Raelene Nebro, Lesley Hill, Kristy Hill, with mentors Dr Julie Owens and Michelle Munns, left, and lecturers Terri Lewin and Diane Wills, celebrate the completion of an inaugural new training course at Jobs South West. PICTURE: HENRY LAM