



# Standing Tall in Hamilton Inc

## School Based Mentoring

NEWSLETTER EDITION 36 | TERM 4 | DECEMBER 2020



### COVID-19 EDITION: TERM FOUR

Congratulations! We made it! What a year 2020 has been, with mentoring only operating in Term One and Four, our mentors and mentees have not had a lot of time together this year. Some took to old fashioned letters and phone calls to keep in touch, but everyone was so grateful to be able to get back together and catch up in the final few months. We haven't been allowed offsite to explore in the community, but our mentees and their mentors have enjoyed good conversations and games in the mentoring room.



inspiring mentors and mentees through both life's exciting and not-so-exciting adventures. I am always happy to run into previous participants in the community and see how they are doing in their lives, most credit their successes in life after school to lessons they learnt from their mentors. Standing Tall is such a great program, and I have seen the benefits time and time again. It has been such a joy to be a part of this community, and the extended community that have really embraced this program as the "Village" who are raising our children. I am in awe of the wonderful community spirit that surrounds this program. I am sad to leave, but excited to see what the future holds for Standing Tall in Hamilton. Thank you to everyone who has made this role such an amazing experience for me. I take away amazing lessons and memories.

I'm not saying "Goodbye", just "See you later" as I hope to keep hearing wonderful things about Standing Tall here in Hamilton.

### EXPANSION MODEL FOR 2021

Our Committee of Management have been working very hard behind the scenes this year to bring you exciting news for 2021. We have secured funding to expand the Standing Tall program across more schools in Hamilton. Mentoring is such a positive experience for students and mentors alike, and we aim to see such an opportunity available to all students across Hamilton, not only at Baimbridge College. Recruitment is currently underway for staff for the expansion, and we aim to be in all Hamilton schools by the end of Term 2, 2021.

### "SEE YOU LATER" FROM OUR COORDINATOR

As new and exciting doors are opening for Standing Tall in our community, other doors are closing. I have made the very bittersweet decision to resign as Coordinator of Standing Tall. I have loved each and every moment of my time here since commencing in 2012.

I have been so honoured and privileged to walk beside



Best wishes for the future,  
*Jane*

Wishing You a MERRY Christmas &  
a safe and happy holiday season...  
see You in the new Year!!!







## SHARING STORIES

We have continued to work with **Alexander & Vincent Media** to create two more videos in a series of



testimonial videos from Mentors and Mentees who have been involved in Standing Tall over the years.

It was exciting to see Amba and her mentor, Mark back together

again after they completed their mentoring journey with Standing Tall in 2015.

Also to hear about the journey that Margy and Georgina are on at the moment. The impact that mentors have on these mentees is awe-inspiring. You can find these videos on our Facebook page, head on over and take a look.



## END OF YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Like most things in 2020, COVID restrictions made our plans for our usual End-of-Year party very tricky to plan. So we made the difficult decision to cancel our party for 2020. We made a special effort to make our final mentoring week as festive as possible, with each mentor and mentee taking home a small little gift to celebrate making it through this especially tough year.



## 2020 GRADUATIONS

One of the key parts of our End-of-Year celebration is the graduation of students completing the program. Our two Year 12 graduates for 2020 missed that opportunity to graduate officially at an event, but we didn't want to let them slip away unnoticed.

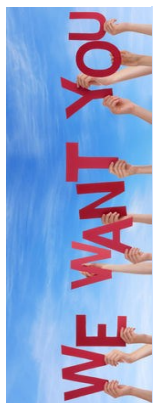
We instead took them out for a small celebratory lunch at Tosca Browns with their mentors, where they received their graduation certificates. Well done Nyah and Travis, and good luck for the future! A big thank you also goes to their mentors, Karen and Karyn, for all the support they have given them over the years.



*"Behind every successful person there is one elemental truth; somewhere, somehow, someone cared about their growth and development. This person was their mentor!"*

Dr Beverley Kaye





Do you have what it takes to mentor a young person? Have you had life experiences that you can share to help encourage a young person to reach their full potential, do you have one hour a week to invest in the youth of our community? If this is you, we would love to tell you more about it. As we look to expand within the community, we are looking for new mentors for our next intake. Please contact the Program Coordinator for more information.



## BIRTHDAYS

### October

13th - Doug Ward (Mentor)  
18th - Max Wareham (Mentee)  
27th - Jane Crowe (Coordinator)

### November

19th - Jesse Symes (Mentee)  
29th - Ben Garton (Mentee)

### December

21st - Nyah Vaughan (Mentee)  
23rd - Ben Brabham (Mentee)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## NATIONAL YOUTH MENTORING WEEK

We celebrated National Youth Mentoring Week at the end of October. A special way to recognise the dedication of our volunteer mentors and their mentees. THANK YOU!!



## THANKS TO OUR Supporters...

*The Standing Tall program in Hamilton is grateful for the generous financial support of the many generous local foundations, businesses and individuals that have taken ownership as a community of the Standing Tall program*  
**Strengthening our Community together...**



Geoff and Helen  
Handbury  
Foundation



St Andrew's  
Hamilton

## Community Donors

Rev Peter B Cook  
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**FOR FURTHER ENQUIRIES ABOUT STANDING TALL IN HAMILTON...**

**PLEASE CONTACT THE STANDING TALL OFFICE**

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