

Hotham Mission at Work: Renshaw Program

A course in Early Childhood Training is difficult enough. In lock-down, with home learning, it is even more challenging. And if you are an Asylum Seeker without the resources to purchase an electronic device needed for the course, it is almost impossible. Just such a person came to the notice of Hotham Mission recently.

The Renshaw Support Program was called upon. The necessary equipment was purchased, and the student is able to proceed with the course, and ultimately make a contribution to our community by employment in the very important early childhood sector.

The Renshaw Support Program began a few years ago, when Albert Renshaw left a considerable sum in his will to assist with the purchase of essential study materials for students who could not provide for themselves to enable achievement of their education goals. Over time, the nature of the support has seen a shift from text books to electronic tools, though there is still Renshaw support for text books too. Schools are increasingly digitising their programs, and devices are proliferating and becoming ever more sophisticated, and an essential tool for students to enable them to participate in their study programs. So far this year there have been 45 requests to Hotham Mission for electronic devices, and they have all been met.

Renshaw is a referral based system, with most referrals coming from our partner secondary schools.

Thank you for supporting this and other Hotham Mission projects.

