



INDUSTRY TO RECOVERY

Participants of Growing Towards Wellness' latest project 'Industry to Recovery' have taken ownership of a popular local area and named it "*the patch*".

Working in and around the Busselton Foreshore they have contributed to important rehabilitation work, planted over 1000 seedlings and tended to more than 3000 infant seedlings and plants battered from last years storms and surviving the hottest weather on record. These plants have grown and thrived from the dedicated planting and maintenance regime that each participant has delivered during this project.

Participants can identify with the importance of environmental rehabilitation and the devoted care needed for these plants as they themselves are in stages of recovery. 'Growing Towards Wellness – Industry to Recovery' is funded by the Department of Training & Workforce Development and the City of Busselton to provide adult learning for members of the mental health community, inpatients and outpatients of the South West Psychiatric Hospital.

Seedlings used on the project have been propagated at the South West Institute of Technology's (SWIT) nursery & Geographe Community Landcare nursery and visits to Leschenault Heritage Homestead have added to the groups practical skills in basic landscaping. This group was highly disengaged from employment but are now at a stage of work readiness with increased confidence and another step closer to their recovery. At this half way stage through the project a few of the participants have shown interest in enrolling in Cert I Conservation Land Management.



• Pre-vocational skills training in land management



• Working as a group developing team skills



• East Busselton Foreshore also known as 'the patch'



• Dedicated fertilising/watering regime ensures plant survival