## Shire of Goomalling

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## MEDIA RELEASE

## BIKERESCUE PROGRAM EMPOWERS LOCAL YOUTH

Local youth were challenged and enthralled during Dismantle's BikeRescue program during the school holidays, with ten young people rebuilding seven bikes over the course of the three-day workshop.

During this intensive three-day program, the young people worked alongside bike mechanic Pat to fully restore bicycles in a mentored workshop environment. Dismantle have designed the program to provide a unique opportunity for participants to connect with



peers, mentors and Council staff all whilst developing knowledge of bike mechanics resulting in enhanced self-confidence and self-awareness.

The atmosphere in the workshop was super chilled, with Bob Marley tunes in the background setting the scene for productive sessions. Council was impressed to see the program's capacity for engagement, an outcome underpinned by mentoring principles which have lead to the program's success with young people from various backgrounds, including those who may be at risk or disengaged.

The young people involved were able to attain a great sense of achievement after completely deconstructing second-hand bikes, painting and rebuilding the bikes with new brakes and handles, some even had to handle the complexity of rebuilding shock absorption mechanisms.

Each participant was presented with a certificate acknowledging their participation achievement.



Media Contact Authorising Officer Date Tahnee Bird, Community Development Officer Clem Kerp, Chief Executive Officer 15 May 2017

