



Media Release

For immediate release

Graduation day for long-term unemployed

14 August 2007

GE Money leaders are today helping long-term jobseekers celebrate their graduation from the 'Passport to Work' job readiness program.

The 16-week Passport to Work program provides training and mentoring to jobseekers who have either been out of the workforce for a long time, or are entering the workforce. Training includes mock interviews, resume writing and job search techniques.

A total of 35 participants who commenced the program in March will graduate on Tuesday, 14 August at 6.30pm at the GE Imagination Centre in Richmond. The graduates will be recognised for their participation and successful completion of the program.

A key part of Passport to Work is the mentor program where, over a period of 13 weeks, participants receive one-on-one mentoring from senior leaders at GE Money.

As Tanya Southey, Vice President Human Resources, GE Money explained, mentoring was vital to the success of the program.

"GE Money took part in the mentoring program, with senior leaders spending an hour each week providing advice, motivation and encouragement to the jobseekers," Tanya Southey said.

"Through the mentoring program, jobseekers also had invaluable access to insight from an employer's perspective."

Importantly, participation in the program also helped develop the leadership skills of the GE Money managers who acted as mentors.

"One of the biggest challenges for leaders is having 'difficult conversations' with staff and colleagues.

"Passport to Work provides opportunity, and oftentimes necessity, for leaders to step up and give their protégés some really straight feedback about how they are presenting themselves, or how committed they are to following through on agreed actions."

Passport to Work is designed and facilitated by Juno Consulting, in consultation with the Department of Human Services.

Photo and interview opportunities are available at the Graduation Ceremony on Tuesday, 14 August at 6.30pm, or alternatively photos can be provided or arranged. Contact details for the graduates can also be provided upon request.

About GE Money Australia and New Zealand

GE Money is one of Australia's leading consumer finance companies offering a range of consumer lending products. The company has assets in excess of A\$30 billion and over three million customers across Australia and New Zealand. Their financial services are distributed through numerous sales channels including over 12,000 retailers, 700 auto dealers, 5,500 brokers, 400 branches and the internet. GE Money also includes the Australian Financial Investments Group (including Wizard Home Loans). GE Money has been voted Finance Company of the Year in 2005 and 2006 by Money Magazine.

For more information, contact:

Zed Ivankovic

Corporate Affairs

GE Money, Australia and New Zealand

(03) 9921 6851 or 0414 818 643



imagination at work