

Indigenous women set on course to success

By GREG ELLIS

A COURSE run in Wollongong this year for Aboriginal women was so successful its organisers are planning to start another one this week.

Wesley Vocational Institute regional training co-ordinator, Ian Walz, said seven names had already been taken for a Certificate III course in Home and Community Care and he is looking for another five participants.

It comes just weeks after the graduation of nine Aboriginal women, who underwent the same course at St Luke's Retirement Home in Dapto.

Ian said the self esteem of the nine women went through the roof after they committed two days a week to the course over three months.

Upon completion, they began trainee work while Illawarra ITeC's Aboriginal Employment officer Chez Honess helped them find employment.

Mr Honess hoped the graduates would encourage more Aboriginal women in the Illawarra to consider following their lead.

"We are starting a course this week along the same lines because of the success of the other one," he said.

Ian said anyone interested in participating in the new course, which starts today, could contact the Wesley Vocational Institute in Burelli St.



Graduates: Ian Walz (left), Robyn Moylan, Miriam Beale, Toni Price, Sally-Anne Hermes, Tracy Carlson and Shirley Rapmund. Picture: HANK van STUIVENBERG