



## SUPPORT FOR CENTACARE'S 'CLEMENTE' PROGRAM

A large crowd attended the Regent Multiplex Ballarat to watch the movie, "I, Daniel Blake". The movie was organised as a fundraiser for the "Clemente" program on Thursday, February 23. All money raised went towards Clemente.

The Centacare program "Clemente" provides high support educational opportunities for people to find pathways out of the poverty cycle. This program is unfunded.

It is a transformative higher education program, to empower people through educational opportunities that builds self-esteem, confidence and the development of written, organisational and communication skills as a foundation for ongoing study and personal development.

Using a whole of community approach Centacare coordinate the program run through Australian Catholic University (ACU) in collaboration with The Smith Family, Federation University, United Way, Central Highlands Regional Library and City of Ballarat.

This partnership is a whole of community approach combining organisational capabilities and expertise to enhance community capacity, provide opportunities for people to participate in education, engage and contribute to the wellbeing of others and to help build a caring and cohesive Ballarat community.

Participants in this program work towards a certificate in Liberal Studies completing one unit of study per semester. Centacare staff attend the weekly lectures and sessions along with volunteer learning partners that assist participants with their studies and any issues that may arise from personal circumstances which may impact on participants' involvement in the program.

The philosophy of the program:

- Education can change lives
- When supported to achieve goals, a return to study can enable people to experience positive change
- Participation is the principal goal
- Successful completion of four units qualifies students for a non-Award Certificate of Liberal Arts from Federation University and Australian Catholic University (ACU) and is a pathway into a university degree.

"I, Daniel Blake" is a powerful story and well worth watching. Listen to a review from Fr Richard Leonard at the link below:

<http://www.abc.net.au/radio/programs/sundaynights/signpost-richard-leonard/8130850>

