

# **Degrees Closer**

Strategic Plan 2022 - 2024

## **Our Vision**

A local, safe space for lifelong learning, where individuals engage in higher education and gather to explore their interests, surrounded by people who support their learning and empower them to remain curious.

## **Our Purpose**

Empowering our communities to realise higher education aspirations by bringing degrees closer.

## **Our Objective**

To create a sustainable centre of success for all, enabling communities to grow and remain connected through a common purpose.

## The five goals we will pursue:



#### **Outcomes:**

- Increase in people commencing and remaining in higher education study.
- Individuals feel confident, valued, supported and empowered.
- A connected community of higher education learners.

- All staff support students to feel confident and supported and to develop their skills and knowledge.
- Foster a safe environment for students to work in and grow their knowledge.
- Develop a dedicated and welcoming physical environment that meets students space and study needs.
- Establish and improve systems to respond to individual student needs.



#### **Outcomes:**

- We are recognised the regional 'hub' for higher education study.
- We are seen as a platform for opportunity.
- Employers actively support attainment of higher education qualifications for their staff.
- We foster the development and retention of local talent.

- Create a bridge between CUC-OM students and local employers.
- Partner with Local Learning Employment Networks to 'grow our own' regional workforce.
- Build students' and partnered organisations knowledge of local emerging labour market opportunities.
- Raise students' aspirations and knowledge through locally designed outreach and collaboration with universities and schools.
- Raise employer aspirations for the future Ovens Murray workforce.



To become interconnected with, and central to, our communities

#### **Outcomes:**

- We are a valued and influential member of regional education, workforce and community development networks.
- Education partners are aligned and contributing to student's success in the Ovens Murray.
- CUC-OM is identified within participating Council plans.

- Effective marketing and engagement with our regional communities.
- Contribute to attractive local career pathways with our partners and CUC-OM students.
- Feedback loops contribute to positive student experiences and outcomes



To support and foster local knowledge in higher education

#### **Outcomes:**

- Local issues, needs, opportunities and aspirations inform the continued development of CUC-OM
- Assist students and employers to develop local career pathways.
- Local First Nations' ways of learning and knowing are incorporated in CUC-OM values, supports and aspirations.

- Collaborate with existing business, education and indigenous networks.
- Tailor our supports to address local needs and opportunities on an annual basis.
- Activate local knowledge through a local alumni and mentor network.



#### **Outcomes:**

- We have a sound governance model, led by a skilled and high performing board.
- We grow and sustain a robust collaborative network of champions, partnerships and funders.
- We have a culture of continuous improvement that drives a positive end to end student experience.
- We make a tangible difference to the communities we serve.

- Culture of continuous learning and improvement.
- Strong governance structure drives strategic and operational integrity and innovation.
- Practise sound financial management and reporting.
- Gather evidence to demonstrate the impact we make in the communities we serve.

