

Challenger Cares about corporate social responsibility

Challenger Institute has committed to local and global community engagement with the launch of its Corporate Social Responsibility program *Challenger Cares*.

“A range of new initiatives have been launched including scholarships assisting Challenger staff to volunteer abroad and the establishment of international projects in Cambodia and India,” Challenger President and Chief Executive Officer Liz Harris said.

This year, in conjunction with the India Study Abroad Centre in India, nine of Challenger’s Children’s Services students and two lecturers spent time working at the Shikshan Gram Shelter for Homeless Children and the Modern English School in Malavli, a village 100 kilometres from Mumbai.

The shelter provides food, accommodation, clothing, medicine and education to more than 100 children.

Challenger’s students worked with local teachers at the shelter to develop their curriculum and helped assist children with special needs.

In Cambodia, Challenger worked on a number of projects with non-profit organisation, One2One Charitable Trust.

One project involved health and fitness students and a lecturer training more than 20 Cambodian teachers in anatomy, strength training, cardio fitness and children’s nutrition. The Cambodian teachers took their new skills back to their schools to educate their students.

Additionally, Challenger IT students and a lecturer spent three weeks in Cambodia assisting One2One in website security, Microsoft programs and IT networking.

Digital strategy manager Adam Quigley was the first Challenger staff member to undertake a charitable overseas experience as part of the *Challenger Cares* program.

In 2013, Mr Quigley took part in *The Rickshaw Run*, an event that saw competitors from more than 70 countries travel 4,500km of India, from Cochin to Shillong, in a 7 horsepower tuktuk.

Mr Quigley’s team spent 12 hours per day for two weeks navigating some of the world’s worst roads to raise money for FRANK Water, a UK-based charity that provides clean drinking water to underprivileged children.

Another Challenger employee, Sarah Furness, visited Kenya and spent a week at the Limuru Children’s Centre.

“I helped teach the children basic maths and English, distributed food for their feeding program and spent time with the kids making them feel special,” said Sarah, an executive assistant at Challenger.

Challenger’s CEO Liz Harris said the institute had wholeheartedly embraced contributing to the local and global community through the *Challenger Cares* program.

“I’m delighted with the passion and commitment that our staff and students have shown towards this worthwhile initiative,” Ms Harris said.