

## SIEFA 2006 Index of Social Disadvantage

Regional Victoria	Ranking out of 49
• Benalla	13
• Wangaratta	28
• Alpine	29
• Mansfield	41

❖ Low score indicates greater disadvantage

# Objectives

Create a program that will:

- Appeal to disadvantaged youth
- Promote the library as an inviting and enjoyable destination for young people
- Encourage the use of the library as a resource for information
- Foster literacy and re-engagement with formal education
- Develop partnerships and relationships with other community groups and agencies

**The Life of Me**

@ Benalla Library  
A 5 week youth activity program  
Starting 26th February

Come along  
**build your brain**  
Every Thursday for 5 weeks  
12-3.00.

take photos  
make a collage  
free MySpace+ FacebookTIME  
Keep your brain working - borrow books + dvd's  
free food

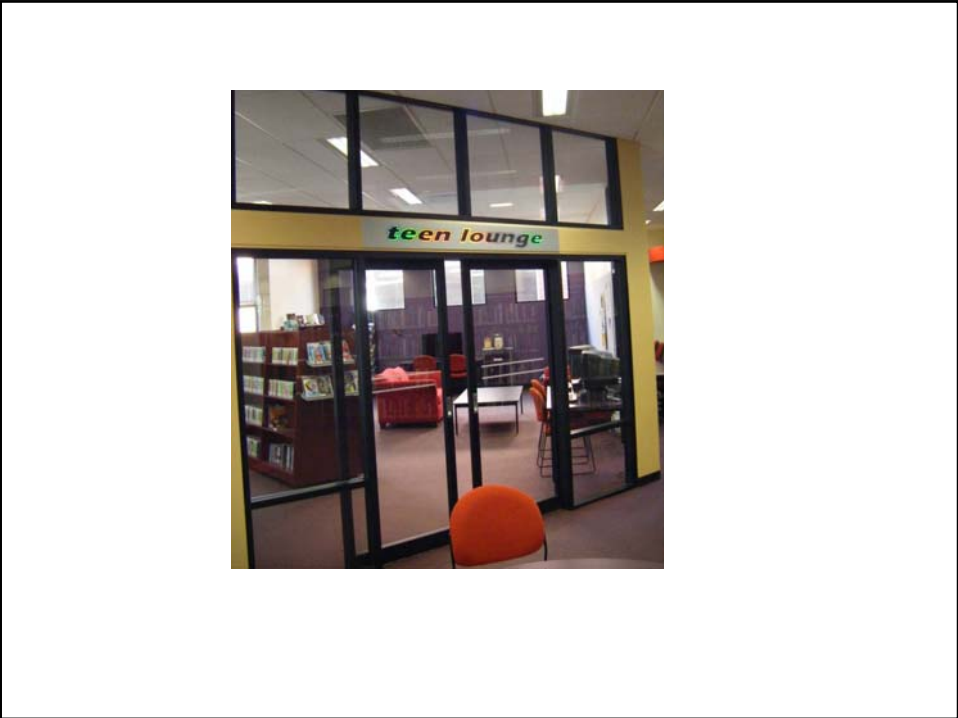
For more information contact Sue-Ellen at Benalla Library, Nunn Street, ph.57622069

High Country Library  
OVENS & KING  
State Library of Victoria  
NESAY



## Program design

- Disguise what we were really trying to do
- Set session times late (allow for a sleep in)
- Freebies (vouchers and give aways)
- Cool toys (IT)
- Food, food, more food...
- Guests (poets and health professionals)
- Don't make me read (avoid highlighting literacy problems)
- Games and quizzes (win something)



## Recruitment

- Were we filtered? Did our partners try to 'protect' us?
- Was there genuine 'buy-in' by case workers?
- What else got in the way?
  - Parental permissions
  - Transport
  - Code of conduct and rules in general
  - Duty of care

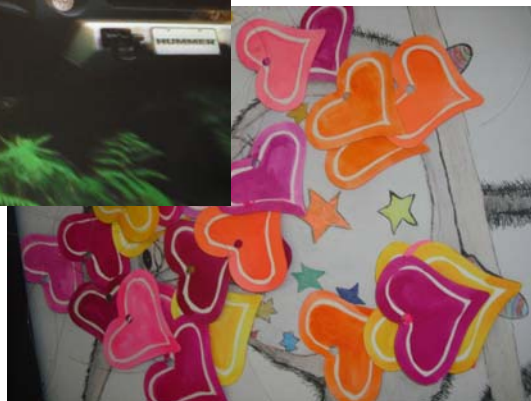


Coming together



## Who came?

- Wangaratta (Pilot program)
  - Older teenagers no longer at school
  - 5-7 kids, floating attendance
- Benalla
  - PreCAL TAFE students and Young Mothers group
  - 16 attended overall
- Mansfield
  - Young teens from secondary school
  - 6 regulars
- Myrtleford
  - Older 'At Risk' kids from secondary school
  - 5 regulars and 4 drifters





**reflection**