

A hand in rebuilding livelihood

CHRISTIE DOWNS |
ADAM HOLMES

STUDENTS from Marcellin Technical College at Christie Downs will put their construction skills to the test in a remote indigenous community in November.

Six students will be heading to Santa Teresa, 70km south-east of Alice Springs, to repair and rebuild two decaying shelters central to the 300-person community.

Extra tables and chairs also will be built and installed at the shelters.

Two of the students taking part came to study in Adelaide from Santa Teresa.

Program mentor Luke Harris said the trip would show the students the benefits of their technical skills.

"It lets them see how the rural communities live. I imagine it will be a real eye-opener," Mr Harris said.

"We eventually plan on expanding the program to other areas in Australia and take it overseas to places like East Timor and Papua New Guinea."

Mentor Andrew Dale said the program would benefit



BUILDING BRIDGES: Construction students Daniel Morgan, Daniel King and Teegan Telfer will travel to an Aboriginal community to work.

Picture: Stephen Laffer HF475627

the students and the community. "We went up there before to talk with the elders, to hear their concerns, and to make sure this isn't just a token gesture," Mr Dale said.

The program is part of the international Marist Solidarity campaign, which Marcellin entered this year.

Daniel Morgan, 16, was looking forward to the experience.

"It will be good to help them build their community," Daniel said.

They will be in Santa Teresa from November 19 to 25.

The students are raising funds for the trip and are looking for more sponsors.

If you want to help them out, contact Marcellin Technical College on 8186 9700