



Aspiring mechanic Melkie Kiflu, who came to Australia from a African refugee camp in 2008, has overcome great obstacles to achieve success.

Picture: MARK WILSON N05WB900

Refugee a recognised role model

A YOUNG man who has excelled since settling in Werribee from a refugee camp has been dubbed a role model to new arrivals.

Melkie Kiflu, 20, last week received a Wyndham Mayoral Youth Award recognising his achievements, against big odds.

The aspiring motor mechanic arrived from war-torn Sudan in 2008, sponsored by relatives. He was born in a refugee camp.

Melkie had to leave behind two older sisters and a brother. His relatives, who had also been at the camp, were unable to sponsor them all.

Melkie is working with the Red Cross tracing service to find them. His parents died in the camp.

While searching for his siblings, Melkie has excelled at Wyndham Community and Education Centre, where he is doing Year 12, and automotive studies.

He is looking for an automotive apprenticeship.

Melkie was named the most outstanding student achiever at the Western Region Industry and Education Awards this year.

He was presented with a certificate and \$500 last Monday by Mayor John Menegazzo.

Anyone interested in offering Melkie an automotive apprenticeship should phone Teresa Vizintin on 9742 4013.

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