

Funding sought

Cindy Ngo

RACHEL Sugrim is eager to break stereotypes.

Through her work with Sydney-based disability-led theatre ensemble RUCKUS, the Revesby resident hopes to create change.

The group, made up of six members, currently relies on project grants and donations to operate.

They recently launched a crowd-funding campaign to keep the group together and realise their dream of travelling to Cambodia.

There they will take part in a cultural exchange with an inclusive arts centre, Epic Arts, in Kampot.

The funds will also go towards the group's next major production, *Speed of Life*, set to be staged next May. Based in Erskineville, RUCKUS aims to address inequality, social exclusion

and preconceptions about people with disability.

Ms Sugrim, 25, (pictured) has always been passionate about the arts, performing in musicals and theatre productions from an early age.

"I did performing arts and I never stopped because I loved it so much," she said.

She is most looking forward to making new friends and participating in drama workshops in Cambodia if the \$70,000 goal is reached.

The aspiring actress joined the group about four years ago and has since appeared in stage productions at Parramatta's Riverside Theatre including *See in Me*.

Having completed a business administration course at Bankstown TAFE, Ms Sugrim is now looking for a job alongside her acting career. The campaign ends this Saturday. To donate visit ruckus.org.au/donate.



CHULLORA

Bank to open new branch

THE bank which made a final withdrawal from Parramatta about 18 months ago will open a branch in Chullora.

Commonwealth Bank told *The Express* it was making a "significant investment" by opening a branch in Chullora Marketplace on November 30.

Four staff will help customers with their transactions and offer guidance on products and the use of technology in the branch.

BANKSTOWN

Positive work path for youth

YOUNG Bankstown people should look at their own council as being "a fantastic career opportunity", general manager Matthew Stewart says.

Bankstown Council was recognised when the council was named the Employer of Choice (Public Sector and Not-For-Profit) at the Australian HR Awards.

He said it was important the youth know there is a variety of jobs in local government which make a positive difference every day.