

Lighthouse News

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER *from* LIGHTHOUSE DISABILITY
Empowering people with disabilities



Welcome to our second edition of Lighthouse News, a quarterly update about us and our work.

Preparing for NDIS

The introduction of the NDIS is a landmark development for people with a disability and the disability sector. For the first time, people will have choice and control over what services they have and from whom they are provided. It means a huge shift from a welfare headset to one where people can purchase services in relation to their disability – just as we can in relation to other aspects of life. For the sector, it means that service providers will now compete for business and can no longer be assured of a clientele.

It is already clear that what people want is flexible services which, in some instances, provides challenges when demands for service clash with industrial conditions.

We are working hard to make required changes to our service delivery and administrative processes in readiness for the first rollout of adult services on 1st July next year.

A series of information sessions have been held for the families of people we support, which have all been well attended. As further information becomes available, we will set up some more sessions.

More detail about Lighthouse Disability

In our first Newsletter, we provided some general information about our business. Below find further details about Lighthouse Disability;

- At 30th June we had 202 staff and 174 of these are frontline workers
- The people we support live in 27 suburban houses scattered across the north/north-eastern suburbs of metropolitan Adelaide. These include houses for children's respite and the 24/7 care of two children
- As a rule, between 2 and 5 people live in each house, although there are 3 houses where there is only one person

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- The retention rate of our frontline workforce has improved significantly in the last financial year where voluntary turnover is 15%
- 35% of our workforce are people for whom English is a second language
- 64% of our workforce is female
- The ages of the workforce are spread fairly evenly between 18-69 years with fewest people aged 60-69 and most aged 40-49
- Most of our frontline staff are on permanent contracts of 50 hours/fortnight with the option of picking up extra shifts without invoking overtime
- Turnover of about \$20M expected this financial year.

New Board Members

- **Antonio Dottore** has expertise in strategic finance and higher education along with experience of working in both the public and private sectors. Antonio has done some pro bono work with Italian radio and aged care.
- **Corey Martin** is filling a casual vacancy behind Richard Dobek who has now resigned having taken a few months leave from the Board. Corey has a brother in one of our houses and brings a wide range of experience including HR and recruitment.
- **Lea Stevens** has an impressive range of experience; former Director of Northern Connections, former Minister for Health and other significant roles including Member for Elizabeth.
- **Tim Jackson** is currently Chair of the Board of Volunteering SA and NT and although now retired, most recently worked as CEO of Playford Council for 16 years.

Membership of Lighthouse Disability

As a Company Limited by Guarantee, Lighthouse Disability has members. If you would like to become a member, you are welcome to submit a Membership Application. Forms can be obtained by emailing Pat@lighthousedisability.org.au. The cost is \$10 and membership gives the right to vote for the appointment of Directors. All applications for membership must be accepted by the Board, in accordance with our Constitution. Please refer to our Constitution on our website where pages 3 - 10 provide information about the rights of members and obligations of Lighthouse Disability to members. Click here for the link <http://www.lighthousedisability.org.au/who-we-are/constitution>

Details for our first Annual General Meeting as a Company Limited by Guarantee are;

Date: Friday 11th November at 7 pm
Venue: Sfera's Convention Centre, 191 Reservoir Road, Modbury

National Disability Services (NDS)

The NDS South Australia is a State umbrella membership organization which links with a national executive. One of the many roles undertaken by the national executive of NDS is to raise issues with the NDIA concerning the rollout of the new system. Lighthouse Disability is represented on the 2016 NDS South Australian State Committee along with other various member agencies including; Minda, Barkuma, Royal Society for the Blind, Lutheran Disability Services, Community Living Australia, Disability Living, Cora Barclay Centre, ParaQuad South Australia and Bedford Phoenix.

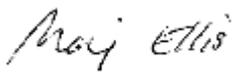
Volunteers

We are proud of our volunteer program which is another way in which we link the people we support with mainstream activities. Volunteers are recruited to have direct contact with people we support (taking them on outings, reading to them), gardening, house maintenance and assistance with administration projects. We currently have 69 volunteers.

Facebook

Please follow us on Facebook to learn more of our day to day highlights.

<https://www.facebook.com/Lighthouse-Disability-1017036594982139/>



Marj Ellis
CEO