

Lighthouse

Family News

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Information Sessions

Please refer to the attached flyer for details on two information sessions providing an update on the NDIS.

Charter of Expectations

It has become apparent that some families don't have good information about what services we provide to their loved ones or what funding has been allocated by Disability SA. We want to ensure that there are opportunities for everyone to be clear about what the funds are, and how they are used. The Charter of Expectations (still in draft form) aims to create an opportunity for discussion about what families can reasonably expect of us, and what we expect of you. We will have copies of this available at the information sessions (see above) and any comments you would care to make will be much appreciated. (We are working to a tight timeframe, so comments should be forwarded by July 14th.)

The Family Advisory Committee will be looking at this at the meeting on 9th June.

Business Case to Expand Respite for Children

Work is continuing on this topic, and we look forward to presenting a proposal to the Board at the next meeting. We currently provide centre based respite but do not provide 'in – home' or community based respite. Feedback suggests that there are many families who would value 'in-home' respite, and this is one way in which we aim to expand our program.

Positive Behaviour Support Program

We have developed an Implementation process to introduce Positive Behaviour Support Plans for each person where this is appropriate. There are several steps involved including the development of a Person Centred Plan, understanding what constitutes a restrictive practice and identifying how we can encourage positive behaviour. The plan will be introduced in August of this year and will take several months to roll out.

Sophia Way

Thanks to Judith Ferguson who, as a parent and Member of our Family Advisory Committee, made some afternoon tea which she shared with other families at Sophia Way recently. It provided a really good opportunity for families to meet each other, to swap information and identify questions/concerns for which questions/information will be sought. Judith will raise the issues at the next meeting of the Family Advisory Committee. Staff have commented that one of the things that make Sophia Way a nice place to work is the extensive involvement with families.



Students

We welcome students from various Universities who are required to undertake some practical work as part of attaining a qualification. At present, we have a Social Work student from Flinders University, and we have negotiated for a Developmental Educator student from the Disability and Community Inclusion Unit (also Flinders University) to join us soon. In addition, we regularly have Occupational Therapy students from UniSA.

National People-With-Disabilities Organisations

A number of national people-with-disability organisations, involved in peak advocacy and representation, lost their core funding as a result of an Australian Government decision at the end of 2014. Despite budget agility and funding scraps, these organisations are now at imminent risk of closing down.

Given the importance of the consumer voice in the rollout of the National Disability Strategy and the NDIS we think it makes compelling good sense for Australia to provide sustainable funding to these organisations. If they are left to close down, that will be bad.

JFA Purple Orange has published a paper setting out the importance of such organisations and why sustainable funding is important. We hope you will be interested in downloading and reading it, and that you find a way to add your support. <http://bit.ly/npwdo>

NDIS Nuts and Bolts: Day Session

People living with disability and families are invited to a **free event** to learn the nuts and bolts of the NDIS – what it's all about, how it works and how to make the most of it. You will come away with a better understanding of:

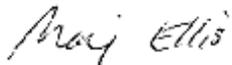
- What the NDIS is
 - Who is eligible and how to apply
 - How to plan for your planning meeting
 - What supports the NDIS can fund
 - How the funding works
 - How to choose providers and workers
- There will also be time for a Q&A session*

When: Wednesday 22nd June from 10 a.m. to 12 noon

Where: JFA Purple Orange, 104 Greenhill Road, Unley

How: Get your tickets online using the link below or call 8373 8333

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/ndis-nuts-and-bolts-day-session-tickets-25664124086>



Marj Ellis

