

Lighthouse

Family News

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News from the Board

At the last Board meeting, the following office bearers of the Board were appointed. We congratulate

- Brenton Wright; reappointed as Chairperson
- Dana Shen; reappointed as Deputy Chairperson, and
- Matthew King; appointed as Treasurer.

Other members of the Board are Tony Russo, Sarah Lindblom, Antonio Dottore, Corey Martin, Lea Stevens and Tim Jackson. Our Board has a vast range of skills and expertise and therefore is well equipped to lead us into the NDIS era.

Annual General Meeting

Our AGM on Nov 11th was well attended by many families.

Jane Hyde retired after 5 years as a Director of the Board. We thanked her for her commitment and the range of skills, knowledge and experience that she brought to our Board. We look forward to Jane's continuing contributions to Lighthouse Disability as a parent.

Sue Andrews who has been a long standing member of the Board and for most of those years, also Chair, was awarded Life Membership of Lighthouse Disability. We also welcome her continuing involvement with Lighthouse Disability as a parent.

Following the formalities of the meeting, Sam Paior gave information about what the NDIS can do for people with disabilities, and our clients really enjoyed live music provided by The JMG Band – and the supper! I'd like to acknowledge the generosity of Sfera's who provided the venue free of cost.

Christmas Breakfast

Held on Nov 20th the breakfast was really well attended and was regarded by many as 'the best yet'.

Thanks to the many families who attended and helped to make it a special day. Special thanks to the Tea Tree Gully Lions Club for providing the BBQ. Thanks also to the Fundraising Committee for generously providing the entertainer - Linda McCarthy.



Staff Survey

We have been invited to be part of a pilot workforce survey which will give us useful information from staff about what we are doing well and what they think we can do better. We will also be benchmarked against the other services who engaged in the survey which will give us some good comparative data with other disability service providers. We are one of 6 organisations that has participated in this and expect to receive the results before Christmas. We had over a 54% response rate which is very good.

Assessment of complexities

As a means of understanding how our clients compare with the complexity guides concerning NDIA funding, two staff have commenced assessments of people who are eligible for NDIA assessments on 1st July 2017. The information that is generated will be shared with families and it will assist in the preparation of the funding assessment information which will be needed when negotiating funding under NDIA.

Farewell

We farewell Paula Roberts, Manager Service Delivery, Children's Services, and wish her well in her promotional appointment to Community Living Australia. Her last day with us is Friday 23rd December.

Manager Service Delivery, Children's Services

We welcome Greg Hovhannisyan who commenced work with us on Thursday 15th December. Greg brings extensive international experience of working in the disability sector and we are looking forward to having the benefit of his expertise.

Service Delivery Coordinator

We welcome our second Service Delivery Coordinator, Sarah Wagnet, who commenced work with us on 28th November. She will be working with clients and families of Pauls Drive, Spruance, Mahood, Mayfield and Sophia Way. A letter has been sent to all families associated with these houses regarding the pilot of a new service delivery model. The first Service Delivery Coordinator was appointed in March this year (Helen Brennan) and she works with Mercedes, Salmon, Audley and Rome.

Australia Day Picnic

The Fundraising Committee have organised another fabulous Australia Day Picnic to be held on Thursday 26th January. Please note this date in your 2017 calendar. (Flyer attached)

Fundraising Committee

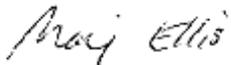
This small committee of volunteers (including a family and staff) has raised \$17,000 over the last 18 months. This money is made available to our clients and adds value to the services that we provide. The Fundraising Committee is seeking the involvement of more families as, without additional support; it is likely that it will not continue. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Chris Andrews on 8250 0754.

Park Tce Staff working over festive season

If you need to contact the office over the Christmas – New Year period, Reception has full details of Park Tce staff who will be working during this period.

Season's Greetings

On behalf of the Board and staff of Lighthouse Disability, we wish you a safe and happy festive season.



Marj Ellis
CEO