

Lighthouse

Family News

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Happy New Year 2021

I hope everyone had a safe and happy Christmas and New Year period shared with loved ones. This year will be a busy one for Lighthouse Disability with the roll-out of some major projects. A primary focus will be the recruitment of Lighthouse Disability Community Support Workers to strengthen the continuity of support to clients and reduce use of agency staff. More will be shared about that initiative in the next newsletter.

Last October we commenced work on the Client and Family Engagement Project with external consultant Dana Shen. A reference group was established with client, family and staff representation and a number of workshops were held with separate groups in November and December 2020. There are more opportunities for participation in this project as further workshops for clients, families and staff are currently being arranged for the 24th, 25th and 26th February 2021.

If you are interested in being involved, please contact Micheál on 8256 9800 or micheal@lighthousedisability.org.au to let him know of your interest and availability. Workshop dates and times will be arranged to maximise everyone's availability to attend.

South Australian COVID-19 Vaccination Program

Lighthouse Disability has received some preliminary information about the roll-out of the South Australian COVID-19 vaccination program which is part of the national COVID-19 vaccination program.

Vaccinations will initially be provided to priority populations, of which aged care and disability care residents are the first priority, along with residential aged care and disability care workers.

It is anticipated that phase 1a of the program will commence in *mid-late February 2021*.

We will be guided by Commonwealth authorities and SA Health about how our clients will have the opportunity to receive a vaccination.

We are currently gathering information requested by the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission about each of our service locations, such as addresses, the number of clients living at each home and the total number of staff who routinely work at each location.

Internally, we are also preparing information about each client's individual circumstances, including consent to be vaccinated.

As such, plan nominees/guardians will be hearing from Managers, Service Delivery about consent, so we can be prepared ahead of the booking process.

We will keep you informed as more information about the roll-out of the program becomes available.

As we enter the New Year, we are hopeful that COVID-19 measures will continue to be eased and that the vaccination program rolls out as planned. We do however anticipate that there will be a lasting and necessary response to keep vulnerable people and the wider community safe and well. Here at Lighthouse Disability, we are continuing to closely monitor and respond to all State and Federal Government guidelines and directives in relation to COVID-19. The health and wellbeing of our clients and staff is our number one priority and we thank everyone involved in this, for their ongoing support and cooperation with the things that have helped keep us safe and well during the pandemic.

Under the Emergency Management (Public Activities No 16) (COVID-19) Direction 2020, from December 23, 2020, face masks are no longer mandatory at all times for people working in disability support services. While face masks do not need to be worn at all times, Lighthouse Disability is continuing to issue face masks and has directed workers to wear them at work during the following activities:

- Direct or personal support
- Mealtime support
- When physical distancing cannot be maintained (this may include driving clients in vehicles)

Family, friends and other visitors are welcome to voluntarily wear face masks when visiting clients in their homes, particularly when physical distancing cannot be maintained, or if they feel their health or someone else's health is at risk.

Clients do not need to wear face masks unless it is their choice and it is safe to do so.

QR Codes and COVID Safe Plans remain in place at all service locations and Park Terrace.

This means that COVID-Safe Check-In by scanning the QR Code remains a requirement for ALL people attending client homes and Park Terrace including:

- Workers
- Agency staff
- Family and friends
- Other visitors
- Volunteers
- Allied health / therapists
- Contractors

Health Status Declaration Forms also remain in place and must be completed upon entry to any Lighthouse Disability services (homes) and Park Terrace.

All of the COVID-19 measures we've become quite accustomed to throughout 2020 continue to be extremely important and must be kept in place.

To protect yourself and others and help stop the spread of COVID-19:

- Physical distance – stay 1.5 metres apart whenever and wherever you can
- Stay away from people who have respiratory infections
- Practice good hand hygiene at all times
- Cover coughs and sneezes – use tissues and dispose in the bin
- Frequently wipe down hard surfaces with disinfectant wipes
- Stay at home if you are unwell
- Get tested for COVID-19 as soon as symptoms appear, no matter how mild



Dave receiving a soccer award; Lucinda enjoying the new accessibility playground at Rymill Park; Pat helping to cook the Australia Day BBQ; Marko celebrating Christmas with his sister Borka.

Staffing update

We had 13 new Community Support Workers commence employment between October – December 2020, 10 of whom commenced in December.

A comprehensive recruitment program has commenced to significantly increase recruitment of Lighthouse Disability Community Support Workers in 2021.



*Krystal participating in Horse Therapy; Gerry and Nic at the Australia Day BBQ;
Lesley and Danielle playing bowling; Phil celebrating his birthday.*

Welcome to Chris Soteriou – General Manager, Finance

I am pleased to advise that on Monday 14 December 2020 Chris Soteriou joined Lighthouse Disability as General Manager Finance.

Chris comes with a wealth of experience as an Executive level finance manager across a range of industries, including the disability sector. Significantly, during his time working in the CFO role at Minda, Chris built a solid understanding of the NDIS and was instrumental in developing finance and IT systems in relation to SIL, and other NDIS requirements. Prior to working at Minda, Chris worked as an Associate Director in Business Planning and Analysis at the University of Adelaide. Chris has skill sets in the areas of financial management and IT, which will enable the organisation to move forward both strategically and operationally.

Michelle Holian
CEO



Lighthouse Disability



Annual Picnic

Sunday 14th March 2021

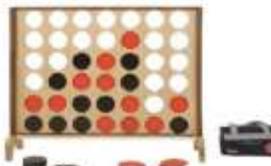
Where: Dunstone Grove Reserve,
Stepney enter from
Nelson road

Time: 11:00am till 2pm

Bring: Picnic, sunglasses, hat,
sunscreen, chair etc.

RSVP: rsvp@lighthouse disability.org.au
or Phone Reception 8256 9800

*Live Music,
Giant Games &
Fresh Coffee*



The Lions Club of
Tea Tree Gully are
generously providing a
Sausage Sizzle





Aussie Fun Disco

Greenwith Community Centre

Corner Golden Way & Golden Grove Road, Greenwith

7pm to 9:30pm | Admission \$6

(Support workers/carers free)

Friday 5th Feb 2021

NOTE: LIGHTHOUSE CLIENTS ONLY

