

Lighthouse

Family News

22nd December 2015

Issue No: 25

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Season's Greetings to all!

We wish you a joyous festive season and a wonderful start to 2016.

Update from the Board

The Board has committed to recruiting two new Directors with expertise in finance and marketing. Advertisements attracted a strong field, and the Board is pleased to announce that Antonio Dottore and Sunita Miranda will commence as Directors of the Board in the New Year. These are unpaid positions and along with the rest of our volunteer workforce we thank them for their support of our organisation.

At the December Board meeting, Directors approved the introduction of a different Service Delivery model for houses where there are no Service Managers. This will be a pilot for 12 months and carefully evaluated. A Reference Group will be established with a representative from the Family Advisory Group, and staff drawn from different parts of the organisation. At this stage, taking account of the approaching holiday season, the need to formalize the position descriptions, advertise the positions and make appointments, it is not likely that the pilot will start until late February/early March next year.

Update re NDIS

On Friday 11th December, the Commonwealth and State Government signed a bi-lateral agreement which means that there is now agreement about how funding and transition will be managed in South Australia. There is a commitment to commence the rollout on 1st July 2016. However, the rollout will be staged and it is likely that most of the people we support will not be eligible for services until July 2017. In the meantime, the State Government will continue to fund services.

NDS has published 'State of the Disability Sector Report for 2015' which gives a snap shot of the views of disability service providers about how they are travelling in relation to the NDIS. This can be accessed by going to the NDS website. <http://disabilitysectorreport.nds.org.au/>

If you would like a hard copy, please contact Pat Netschitowsky on 8256 9800 and she will be happy to forward it to you.

Update from the Family Advisory Committee (FAC)

The membership of this group which meets once/month for 1.5 hours is changing with Julie Kalms stepping down, and Barb Davis (former Board member) joining in the New Year. The FAC is now a committee of the Board, and the Terms of Reference (TOR) have been reviewed to reflect the new status of the committee. The TOR will be submitted to the next Board meeting for endorsement.

The meeting time for the group is also changing and the new meeting date is the second Thursday of each month from 1-2.30 p.m. If you would like to join, or come as an observer, please don't hesitate to contact me. This committee is the 'voice' of parents and the Board is very aware of the importance of receiving information from it.

Christmas Breakfast

We had a great time at our Christmas Breakfast on 22nd November. Our volunteer choir entertained us with Christmas carols and everyone was very excited at Santa's arrival. A big thank you to the Lions Club of Tea Tree Gully for their ongoing support. And a huge thank you to our tireless volunteers who helped to make it a very special day for the people we support.



Fundraising Update

A big thank you to everyone who helped out at the last Bunnings BBQ at short notice. Michael C, Chris and Jake (Pauls Drive), Leigh (Cullford), Tim (Clearview), Jill Barlow, Kim Gray, Tad Gladys, Tess Miller, Gary Bhathal, Chris and Sue Andrews, along with volunteers Emma, Albert and Junior. They raised an impressive \$1478!!

The Fundraising Committee welcome requests for funding. Recently Pauls Drive successfully applied for funding for a new BBQ. Application forms are available from Reception.

Australia Day Picnic

The Fundraising Committee have organised a fabulous **Australia Day Picnic** for **Tuesday 26th January** with live music, barbecue and drinks supplied. There will be a special holiday voucher draw for your house to win a holiday voucher for \$500, \$300 or \$200. You must be there to enter and win!! *For details please refer to the attached flyer.*

Marj Ellis

Marj Ellis

