

**disability
connect.**

helping families

Vision

That people with disabilities and their families are able to lead the lives they want

Core Value

To respect and support choice

Mission

To lead change and influence change for people with disabilities and their families.

e-bulletin – week beginning 13 April 2015

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Parent & Family
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Trading as
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Please visit our Facebook page [here](#) and 'like' us. You can follow us on Twitter [here](#).

NEW!!!!

Have a look at our new Disability Support Guide in Mandarin AND we now have our new brochures. Call us to request a hard copy.

SEMINARS/TRAINING

Spark Centre Art programme term two:

Spark Centre is a creative space offering visual arts and art therapy programmes for children, teens and adults living with disability and diversity. They provide a professional service in person-centred visual arts learning, creative therapies and arts practice – and maintain an extensive exhibition calendar for our artists. [Click here](#) to view timetable. Contact: info@sparkcentre.org.nz, 09 845 5361 and www.sparkcentre.org.nz

Chinese Families Autism Support Group meeting on 21st April 9:30am -1pm at Te Tuhi (13 Reeves Road Pakuranga)

This seminar will focus on Taikura Trust service and eligibility for MOH funded disability support service for families raising a child with Autism and will be presented by Kate Williams. [Click here](#) for flyer in English and [here](#) in Chinese. This autism support group is delivered under our Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Disability Information and Advice service. Sanny Chan is our Cultural Disability Advisor and speaks Mandarin and Cantonese. Sanny is now situated at Disability Connect five days per week. **Please feel free to contact Sanny on 636-0351 for disability information and advice, she will happily speak with you in English, Mandarin or Cantonese.**

Indian Families with Children with Special Needs Support Group Meeting 5th May 2015 9:30am - 1pm

This is a new support group for Indian Families with Children with Special Needs and will be held at Nathan Homestead (70 Hill Road, Manurewa). Disability Connect will take the opportunity at this first Indian Families support group meeting to explain the free service that we offer at Disability Connect and how we can help your family. We would also like to hear from the Indian community of their needs and how they would they like the support group to run. Please [click here](#) to view flyer.

Transition Expo 2015

The 2015 Transition Expo will take place on Tuesday 4th August (9am till 2pm) at Fickling Convention Centre, 546 Mt. Albert Road, Three Kings. We invite all parents, caregivers, students with a disability and education staff to attend this important FREE event to learn about post schooling options. [Click here](#) to view the flier.

Work and Income seminars for individuals or families raising a child with a disability

Disability Connect is pleased to bring you our new FREE Work and Income support seminars for individuals with a disability or families raising a child with a disability. This seminar will be presented by two Work and Income Disability Advisors and will explain the types of support families may be eligible for, eligibility criteria, income thresholds. We are running two seminars at our central Penrose premises on Thursday 30th April (7 - 9pm) and Wednesday 6th May (12.30 - 2.30pm). [Click here](#) to view the flier. To book contact Disability Connect on 636-0351 or email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Parent to Parent invite to their IEP seminar Thursday 23rd April 7pm - 9.30pm

At Yarnton House, 14 Erson Ave, Royal Oak. The **IEP** (Individualised Education Plan) workshop is about knowing what your child is entitled to, and how you can ensure their **IEP** is going to get them the best they can. [Click here](#) to view email.

The Asian Network Inc. (TANI) - 13th Annual Asian Forum on "Women's health & wellbeing"

Tuesday, 21st April 9:00am - 3:30pm at Fickling Convention Centre, 546 Mt Albert Road, Three Kings. [Click here](#) for flyer and [click here](#) for registration form.

Individualised Funding including Respite - Disability Connect

Book now on our popular IF seminars to be held March/April 2015 - one more seminar left in this current round. [Click here](#) for the details.

Idea Services are offering free Autism, Behaviour and Communication Workshops

[Click here](#) for information.

Tilting the Seesaw Programme

Autism New Zealand is also offering this new programme which can provide support specifically for primary school teachers, teacher aides, RTLBs, and SENCOs. *Tilting the Seesaw* is a six-week programme where participating primary school staff come together to learn and try strategies on how to include a child with Autism more fully in everyday school activities. [Click here](#) to view flyer.

Muscular Dystrophy Association announces: The Life without Limits Neuromuscular Conference

This conference will be held 16-18th April 2015 at SKYCITY Auckland Convention Centre. It provides an opportunity for families affected by neuromuscular conditions, clinicians, researchers, and allied health professionals to get together, share progress and ideas and participate in informative breakout and training sessions. Please [click here](#) to see flyer. Also, [click here](#) to view their membership form.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FAST Family Collective: Saturday, Saturday 2nd May, 6pm

Invite you for a gathering at Disability Connect Centre, 3b Olive Road (up driveway), Penrose, Auckland. Its purpose is "to begin a journey to build a richer life for your family member with a disability", [click here](#) to view information.

Youth Week 2015 23-31 May

recognising the amazing contributions and achievement of young people in New Zealand. Have a look at the website for more information: <http://www.myd.govt.nz/young-people/youth-week/index.html> and also on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/AotearoaYouthVoices> and <https://www.facebook.com/ministryofyouthdevelopment>

Vagus Centre hosting Vagus Day -19th April 2015 10am - 2pm at Mt Albert Memorial Hall.

The aim is to promote family harmony through interactive games and exchanging ideas with the experts. Free admission. Language: English / Mandarin [Click here](#) to view flyer.

Also: "Traffic Lights" Parenting programs will resume from March till June 2015. The focus on parenting programs will be on specific age groups (preschool; school age; teenage) and single parents. [Click here](#) to view flyer in Chinese and [here](#) in English.

The Vagus Centre continues to provide a FREE counselling service to Chinese Individuals/ families having difficulties in relationships and parenting issues. For details contact Amy Wang at (09) 624 4639 or email info@cmh.org.nz
Website: www.cmh.org.nz

Boccia NZ 2015 Tournament

The dates are all finalised, so [click here](#) to view flyer.

Snow Sports Youth and Women Talent Identification Camp

(Snow Sports NZ in association with Paralympics) Mount Hutt June 2015. [Click here](#) for information.

NOTICES

Janet McVeagh Activity programmes

For the Anzac Weekend trip to Matakana [click here](#), and [here](#) for the information form to fill out.

Out-of-home care for disabled children consultation

The Government is now looking for public feedback, they want to hear from disabled children, their families/whānau, those who support them, and people with an interest in the review about how voluntary out-of-home placements can be improved. If you want your voice to be heard click on the website below:

<https://www.msd.govt.nz/about-msd-and-our-work/work-programmes/policy-development/disabled-children-project/in-home-support-and-voluntary-out-of-home-placement-review.html>

People can also call the Ministry on 029 650 0602 or (04) 931 2395 and ask them to mail out information. There are community consultation events taking place across the country. To receive regular updates about these events, contact the Ministry at dcp@msd.govt.nz. Feedback is due by 29th May 2015.

New autism support group Whangaparoa

Friday 17th April 2015, 9:30am - 12:00pm. Meeting will be in the Whangaparaoa Library - the room to the right of the main entrance. The days and times will change after this meeting as they learn what times will suit parents.

Contact: Jo-Anne on 09 428 0588 or mob: 021 026 51077

New ASD support group: 1st Tuesday monthly 10am-12pm New Life Church, 12 Jellicoe Rd Manurewa.

The family support group in Manukau is for families with a child who has or is suspected of having Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD). The focus is ASD however as a lot of issues overlap with other disorders families with children that have related disorders are also welcome. Any family, extended whanau are welcome. [Click here](#) to view flyer.

Contact Amanda Pierce on 09 2795524, 0211633021.

Health Passport feedback

Health Quality and Safety Commission Consumer Network is inviting feedback about the passport. The passport is a communication aid for people living with disabilities to use with their health care providers. It is to be filled out by a consumer or carer and outlines specific information about the person's disability or medical condition that will assist staff treating that person to provide the appropriate care. The passport has been used for a few years now and the consumer network is interested to hear from people who have used it, and to understand how effective it was in assisting staff to understand their needs. [Click here](#) to view questionnaire or visit their website:

<http://www.hqsc.govt.nz/our-programmes/consumer-engagement/news-and-events/news/1989/>

Dance Therapy NZ

Registration is now open for Term 2 STARS dance movement therapy groups. The groups are for children ages 4 through to teenagers who have ASD, physical disabilities or other special needs. There are groups in Onehunga, Mt Albert and Northcote and sessions start 2nd May. Contact Dance Therapy NZ for details or to schedule a free assessment: 09 636 3029 or admin@dancetherapy.co.nz

GlowKids - offering a free assessment for your child

GlowKids are an Auckland based charitable trust and Ministry of Health contracted service provider delivering intensive therapy for young children (from birth to 6 years) with neurological motor disorders such as Cerebral Palsy and Global Development Delay. If you are concerned about your child's development, then contact them for a free assessment or to join their parent support network: info@glowkids.org.nz. Ph 09 845 8070

Auckland Disability Law Incorporated's AGM, Tuesday 28th April 2015 10:30am – 1:00pm

Auckland Disability Law at Mangere Community Law Centre, Unit 9/Shop 27 Mangere Town Centre. [Click here](#) for more information.

Kidspower

has developed a resource to help teach personal safety and violence prevention to teens and young adults with cognitive learning disabilities – *Healthy Relationships*. A trial version is available on their website

<http://www.kidpower.org.nz/healthyrelationships> and is available in either hardcopy or online formats. [Click here](#) to view flyer. All enquires please contact Kidspower 0800 KIDPOWER or email Fiona fionabryan@kidpower.org.nz.

Hapori Friendship Circle

Wanting to socialise during weekends and school holidays? A friendship circle for young people (age flexible) is starting in Whangaparaoa and planning weekend outings. Have a look at flyer [here](#).

WDHB

Healthy Babies Healthy Futures is a public health programme to improve nutrition and exercise for pregnant mothers and their babies with targeted approaches for Māori, Pasifika, Asian, and South Asian communities. Click [here](#) for the flyer for the Chinese New Settlers Service Trust (CNSST) (Asian), and [here](#) for The Asian Network Inc (TANI) (South Asian).

Idea Services Term 2 Social Connections Groups and Drum for Fun - Enrolling Now

IDEA Specialist Services in addition to their core funded Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Services are offering Social Connections Groups. Social Connections groups support young people with autism to join others and have fun. Supporting co-operation, emotional regulation, imagination, communication and problem solving. A child and youth centred approach is used where the age and stage of each group member is considered and individual goals are set. Cost is \$350 for a 9 week programme. Groups this term are:

Friendship Group: 7-8 years - Central Auckland - Wednesdays 4-5pm

Youth Programme: 11-13 years - North Shore - Thursdays 4-5:30pm

They are also running **Drum for Fun** Groups for young people using drumming, body percussion and rhythms that easily connect any group and unveil a natural sense of joy. Cost is \$180 for 8 weeks. Groups this term are:

Ages 10 – 14 yrs - New Lynn, Tuesdays 4-4:45pm

Ages 15 – 19 yrs - New Lynn, Tuesdays 5-5:45pm

Contact Robin Barnaby: 09 529 8755 or robin.barnaby@idea.org.nz

Website: <http://www.ihc.org.nz/our-services/asd-auckland-services/>

Networker Magazine – December 2014 – topic: 'Living Options for a Person with A Disability'

The December 2014 edition of the Networker magazine is available from Disability Connect – the topic is 'Living Options for a person with a disability' (information on Residential Care, Supported Living, Choice in Community Living and Family Governed Models). Please [click here](#) to view a PDF version of the magazine. If you prefer a print copy please contact us on phone 636-0351 or email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz Please forward this Networker magazine link to all who may be interested and include in E bulletins and websites. The magazine is also available on our website under the Resources 'Networker' tab. **Keep an eye out for our upcoming April Networker magazine on the topic of 'Transition – the move from school to community'**

Hopeworks Network:

The groundswell is growing for the Hopeworks Network with almost 3,000 professionals and individuals now connected. This network allows people from all walks of life to be part of the largest multi profession network supporting survivors of neurological conditions and brain injuries; and opens up greater opportunities for change by having a large collective voice, rather than sole voices fighting for change and not being heard.

Haven't signed up yet? You can join the social rising [here http://www.hopeworks.org.nz/contact-us](http://www.hopeworks.org.nz/contact-us)

EverydayOT offering a variety of services this year

Please [click here](#) to view their email.

Citizen Advocacy Auckland (INC)

Is seeking to recruit new advocates. Do you want to make a positive difference in the lives of people with a disability? [Click here](#) for information.

Short term accommodation/board and support needed

Young adult male with an intellectual disability who has been accepted into Touch Compass and is in Auckland for up to a fortnight in May, July, August, September and October is looking for somewhere to stay. He lives in Christchurch and doesn't know anyone in Auckland. Can anyone help or does anyone know of somewhere/someone we can contact. Please call Gabi 636 0351 or email gabi@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Accommodation needed:

31 year old male with Down syndrome moving to Auckland is looking to join others in a flatting situation. Preferably in the North Shore area as he works in Glenfield. He has already been flatting for 6 years with 10hrs/week Supported Living. Please contact Lisa or Gabi at Disability Connect (09) 636 0351 or email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz.

Health Click – health education specialists

Have wonderful resources for people with intellectual/learning disabilities aged 11+. [Click here](#) for details on their resources.

Trust Life's Journey - new book

Nicola Clark has written an honest and at times raw and emotional account of her journey with her son Thomas. Nicola shares the highs and lows of living with a boy with disabilities. This inspiring book will invoke many different emotions. [Click here](#) to view front cover of book and [click here](#) to view back cover. If you would like to order a copy of the book you can do so via Disability Connect - please [click here](#) to access the order form - email your order form to admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz.

Counselling Service – South

Kim Gregory is a counsellor who has had personal experience with disability. She has a son who is on the Autism Spectrum and has worked in the Disability Sector in various capacities over the past few years. [Click here](#) for more information about Kim, or contact her on 09 296 7587 or email her on ian.kimg@orcon.net.nz.

Free Counselling – Raeburn House

Raeburn House is pleased to offer a no-cost counselling opportunity to members of the Auckland North community. Sandra Hill is a Raeburn House staff member with an extensive background in working with diverse people and communities, and is currently studying towards her Post-Graduate Diploma in Counselling. Sandra is supervised by a registered professional and is offering free counselling at Raeburn House as a part of her study programme. [Click here](#) for more information.

Affordable Counselling Service

Trisha Glover is in the process of acquiring her counselling certificate and is offering counselling services for individual family members living with a person with a disability at a (flexible) rate of \$25 per session. She will be holding clinics in Marua Road, Ellerslie, as well as some sessions at the DISABILITY CONNECT office, 3B Olive Road, Penrose. For more information, [click here](#). Please contact Trisha on 021 142 3851 or email her on tglover@ihug.co.nz for more information or to book a session.

Caregiver Needed – North Shore

Do you know somebody who can help this family: 4 year old (ASD, non-verbal) and 2 neuro-typical children 6 and 2yo. Help is needed 3:30-6:30pm Monday-Friday, with duties such as child-minding, helping with housework (vacuuming, fold washing, light cleaning etc) and sole charge of the child before the bedtime routine. An understanding of Autism and experience with children on the spectrum is helpful. If you're interested, please contact Gabi on gabi@disabilityconnect.org.nz for more information.

Therapy 4 Children Service

Quality Rehabilitation Services Ltd are a Paediatric Team of Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Therapists and Physiotherapists that provide services Auckland-wide. To view the information flyer, [click here](#). You can also visit their website on www.qualityrehab.co.nz or contact 0800 557 556.

English for Everyday Life/English for Work – Auckland Wide

[Click here](#) for more information on English classes for (new) migrants being run by English Language Partners New Zealand. Alternatively you may contact Estelle Swan on estelle.swan@englishlanguage.org.nz or via phone on 523 0071.

Parent to Parent matching database

Parent to Parent has a database matching families with similar conditions, sometimes they find it difficult to find matches. If you are interested please contact them: ph 07 853 8491 or Toll Free 0508 236 236, email: matchingandinfo@parent2parent.org.nz. Also [click here](#) to view their Family Video Stories.

NEWSLETTERS

[ADSA – latest newsletter](#)

[Boccia Get Rolling Newsletter](#)

[Carers NZ](#) – latest news

[Dance Therapy NZ](#) – March 2015

[Deaf Aotearoa](#) – March 2015

[Disability Information Service Fortnightly Sector Up-Date](#) – 19 March 2015

[Disability Information Service Quarterly Newsletter – Summer Digest](#)

[Disability Support Network Regional](#) – March 2015 and [normal newsletter March 2015](#)

[Enable NZ](#) – Issue 1 March 2015

[Everyday OT](#) – March 2015

[Expressions](#) – Autumn 2015

[Halberg Disability Sport Foundation – Junior Disability Games Newsletter](#) – January 2015

[Health Click](#) – December 2014

[Health Quality & Safety Commission E-update](#) – February/March 2015

[Ministry of Health NGO newsletter](#) – March 2015 [Chair update](#) – February 2015

[Muscular Dystrophy Northern](#) – February 2015

[National Health IT Board](#) – April 2015

[News from the land of Be](#) – March 2015

[Numicon](#) – January 2015

[NZORD Newsletter](#) – April 2015

[Open for better care E-update](#) – Issue 16 March 2015

[Parent to Parent enews](#) – March 2015

[Expressivo – Raukauri Music therapy](#) – Newsletter January 2015

[Recreate Newsletter](#) – Term 2

[Special Olympics Fanletter](#) – March 2015

[Wilson Home e-news](#) – March 2015



helping families

From the Disability Connect Team
Lisa, Virginia, Sanny, Gabi and Nicola
www.disabilityconnect.org.nz

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