

**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 28 September 2015

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Parent & Family
Resource Centre
Trading as
Disability Connect
www.disabilityconnect.org.nz
Phone: 09 636 0351
PO Box 13385, Onehunga
3B Olive Road,
Penrose

[Like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter!](#)

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

We would love to collect feedback and good news stories from our membership about how we have helped you at some point over the last few years. All feedback welcome, please email to admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz or ring Gabi on 636-0351.

SEMINARS/TRAINING

Education Legal Issues – LAST seminars this year

Families have often voiced questions regarding disability in the education sector. Nan Jensen, who has been running our Trust and Welfare Guardianship seminars and Legal Clinics, specializes in Disability Law and is now running a free seminar on legal issues in education. Questions on Section 9 and Section 10 appeals, stand downs and many more will be covered in this seminar. [Click here](#) to view flier and check on dates. To book phone 636-0351 or email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Work & Income Support Seminars 15 October (Henderson) and 21 October (Penrose)

These seminars have been hugely popular. These free seminars will explain the types of Work and Income supports which individuals may be eligible for if living with a disability or raising a child with a disability. We have 2 more during October 2015. [Click here](#) for more information.

Children's Autism Foundation - Hands On Autism workshop for parents & professionals

Strategies for behaviour, social & play skills, joint attention & communication. Presentations will be subdivided by age/skills to provide tailored info for your specific circumstances. Leave at the end of the day with tools and strategies that you can implement at home. The workshops are free for one person per family, and \$120/professional. Fully catered.

Thurs, 22 Oct, 9am-4pm
Wilson Home, 1 St Leonards St, Takapuna

Sat, 31 Oct, 9am-4pm
Manukau New Life Church, 12 Jellicoe Rd, Manurewa

Sat, 14 Nov, 9am-4pm
Wesley Community Centre, 740 Sandringham Road Extn., Mt Roskill

To register: enquiry@autism.org.nz

Trusts and Welfare Guardianship Seminar – 6.30-9.30pm, Yes Disability Resource Centre, Albany

LAST seminar for 2015! Anyone with a child with a disability will find this useful. The information is applicable to all disability (not only severe intellectual disability). [Click here](#) to view flyer. PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME FOR THIS SEMINAR.

Connecting with Courage practice forum October 6th: Last chance to register

People are very welcome to come, chill out, enjoy the collegiality, make new friends and go away with lots of strength-based ideas for interacting and working with children and young people. Please [click here](#) for information.

Chinese Families Autism Support Group meeting: 20 October 2015 9:30am-1:00pm, Te Tuhi, 13 Reeves Road, Pakuranga, Auckland – topic “Mainstream and Special School Education”

Parents of children with Autism may often worry of their education and the types of school appropriate for their children. The topic of this meeting will be on special schools, the enrolment process, access to different therapies and the differences between special schools and mainstream schools.

Colleen Smith, Deputy Principal from Oaklynn Special School will deliver this presentation starting promptly at 10am (presentation will be interpreted into Mandarin). Print copies of the presentation (in English) will be given to all attendees.

For catering purposes it is important to register for this meeting. You can register in English or Chinese by emailing Sanny at Disability Connect sanny@disabilityconnect.org.nz. You can also phone 636-0351 to book over the phone (English). [Click here](#) for a map link to the venue. [Click here](#) to view the flier in English or to view the flier in Chinese [click here](#).

IDEA Services - Auckland Specialist Services

They are offering a variety of workshops especially around (but not limited to) Autism. Have a look [here](#) for information.

Portal Workshops “Conversations, Connections and Futures: Community in Practice” Series

Portal is hosting a series of workshops for parents who have a child with a disability in or around the Franklin District. One workshop per month will be delivered to provide practical help and self-care for parents while leading them into a better prepared space to link with wider community support networks.

[Click here](#) to view flyer

Children’s Autism Foundation “Hands on” Workshops

To see the content and dates for these workshops, please [click here](#).

Children’s Autism Foundation ‘Dealing with Autism’ workshop

Will be held evening of 30th November at Manukau New Life Church, 12 Jellicoe Road, Manurewa. [Click here](#) for further details. Contact admin@autism.org.nz to book. Free to family members, \$20 for professionals.

ASOS SYMPOSIUM 2016 - Inclusion & Participation 21-22 April 2016

“This symposium explores, at multiple levels, the social forces that shape participation and inclusion in contemporary western societies.” [Click here](#) to view flyer.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Have a go at Boccia and wheelchair tennis – 17 October 1-3pm, Mt Wellington tennis Club

This is another event organised by the Halberg Disability Sport Foundation. [Click here](#) for the flyer.

Counties Manukau Health - CONNECTING GENERATIONS PART 3 – 17 October 9.30am-12pm

This free seminar introduces parenting tips to Chinese parents to strengthen the connection between parents and children. Please RSVP by 14th of October 2015 as seminar is limited to 80 people. Please [click here](#) to view flyer in English and [here](#) in Mandarin.

World Cerebral Palsy Day , October 6th 2015, Trust Arena 10am – 3pm

This FREE fun filled day features Jamie McDell & Band, Jiggles the Clown, Touch Compass, Circability, Body Art and much much more. [Click here](#) to view flyer.

Imagine Better Discussion Assemblies 9 & 10 November in Auckland – 'Connections, Community, Citizenship'

[Click here](#) to find out who will lead those discussions.

Interact festival 2015 from 21-23 October 10-2pm daily, Corban Estate Art Centre

3 fun filled days with performers, artists, dancers, musician and much more. [Click here](#) to view the programme. They also offer a great gala event on Wednesday, 21 October at 7pm. [Click here](#) to view poster.

FREE West Auckland Health Expo: 1 October 1-4pm, Te Pai Place, Henderson

Free health checks, blood typing, mobile health units, resources for independent living, men's/women's/mental health... Every age group catered for. Playground & skate park for kids of all ages, prizes, face-painting, bubble machine, balloons, dancing, tai-chi...lots of activities! [Click here](#) to view flyer.

NOTICES

Accounting Services(Individualised Funding)

Vimlesh Nadan has an accounting qualifications and can provide accounting services to parents who use Individualised Funding to pay their support worker. He does payroll, PAYE and Kiwi-saver for his own daughter's support worker. Contact him on 0210574124 or email nadan2fj@yahoo.com for an appointment.

Support groups – Disability Connect

Disability Connect offers cultural special support groups to families with children of special needs as part of the CALD service (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Disability Information and Advisory Service) for different ethnic groups. We have a Chinese Families Autism Support Group that runs every third Tuesday of a month and an Indian Families with Children of Special Needs Support group which runs monthly. We welcome all families with special needs to join the relevant support group. It is a great opportunity for parents to share their experience and network with each other. Please contact Sanny at Disability Connect for more information or bookings, phone 09 526 1298 (DDI)/09 636 0351 or sanny@disabilityconnect.org.nz

The Pure Food Co - Smooth Puree Meals

The Pure Food Co produces texture modified foods that are delicious, nutritious, affordable, and effortless to prepare. Designed specifically for those who experience eating difficulties, The Pure Food Co provides a top quality selection of proteins, vegetables, and carbohydrates that cater to a wide range of needs. Through these smooth puree meals, The Pure Food Co aims to help people thrive when they are at their most vulnerable. Check them out on: <http://thepurefoodco.co.nz/>

Write to Parliament's Inquiry!

Parliament's Education and Science Select Committee is holding an inquiry into the identification and support for students with dyslexia, dyspraxia, and autism spectrum disorders in primary and secondary schools. Whether you're a parent or caregiver, or a teacher, or just someone who wants to see all our tamariki thrive, they want to hear from you! They want you to help them understand what attitudes or resources are barriers to helping kids with learning difficulties getting their needs met at school. They also want to know what negative impacts inequality has on helping every child reach their full potential. Submissions close on Friday October 2nd, 2015. Go to: <http://action.greens.org.nz/education> . [Click here](#) for poster.

StarJam – Singing and Dancing Workshops – places available

StarJam empowers young people with disabilities through music and performance. Have a look [here](#) for their poster.

Autism New Zealand Annual Appeal: Volunteers needed

On Friday 16 October and Saturday 17 October this year, Autism New Zealand will be holding their Annual Appeal to raise much needed funds to support individuals and families living with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The Annual Appeal also raises the awareness of ASD in our community and they need your help to make it a success. So if you, or someone you know, can volunteer for two hours on either Friday 16 October or Saturday 17 October, please contact the Annual Appeal Coordinator, Sharon at autism.appeal@outlook.co.nz.

MyCare – new service in the home care sector

MyCare is a new online space to connect Kiwis seeking or offering home-based services (paid or voluntary). It works closely with the national not for profit Carers New Zealand and other community organisations.

Currently MyCare has opened its website for pre-registrations of those offering services, and people who are seeking help of various kinds. [Click here](#) to view flyer.

Term 4 Registration for STARS dance movement therapy groups is now open.

STARS is a dance movement therapy group for school age children on the autism spectrum and other special needs. Starting in Term 4, they are offering two groups in Pakuranga, in addition to groups in Mt Albert, Onehunga and North Shore. For an initial free assessment/consultation to see if this is right for your child, please contact info@dancetherapy.co.nz, 096363029. [Click here](#) to view more information.

Be.'s first ever New Zealand Accessibility Survey!

Be.Accessible are conducting this survey to gather information that will help gauge the attitudes and experiences of Kiwis – and need YOUR help. To say thank you for participating, there is an iPhone 6 up for grabs! All you have to do is complete the survey and supply your email address, and you're in to win.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NewZealandAccessibilitySurvey>

New playgroup for pre-schoolers with ASD / Aspergers / ADHD - & Siblings

Every Wednesday during school term 12.30-2.30pm (BYO lunch). St Columba Presbyterian Church Pakuranga playgroup and crèche area. Cost \$2 per family. 480 Ti Rakau Drive next to the ice rink. Contact Talita De Lange 021 132 8697. Email: specialkids.families@gmail.com

Smallfield Holiday Programme for young adults and adolescents with special needs

This popular programme based at Sunnyside Special School will run again in the next break (September/October). [Click here](#) to view flyer.

Janet McVeagh - Term Three Holiday programme 2015

Have a look [here](#) for their programme. If you're interested, [click here](#) for enrolment form and [here](#) for their parental agreement.

Special Kids Care – new holiday programme on the North Shore

They offer holiday programmes, Respite Super Saturdays and camps and cater for all levels of disability and special needs. [Click here](#) to view flyer.

Holiday programme - support group for South Asian & other families of children with special needs/ disabilities

Lots of activities planned. This will be at Bhartiya Samaj, 13 May Road, Mt.Roskill. Have a look [here](#) for flyer.

Lifekidz after school and holiday programmes

Have a look at their website <http://lifekidz.org.nz/> you might like what you see. Or look [here](#).

Be.Leadership programme: 2016 Applications open

Be. Leadership is a one-of-a-kind programme in New Zealand, taking participants through a year of exploration of different perspectives, questioning, laughter, self-discovery and accessibility focused leadership. It is specifically crafted to suit the diversity of the access community. It advances a more accessible society and a dynamic community of leaders. To apply please visit: <http://www.beaccessible.org.nz/be-leadership>

Achieve 2B Survey

A new Charitable Trust known as Achieve 2B which is an inspiring intercultural exchange program for young people with disabilities. To help build Achieve 2B they have undertaken to carry out some market research. They would really appreciate it if parents of children with a disability could take 10 – 15 minutes to complete this Online Survey. To learn more about Achieve 2B, visit www.achieve2b.org.nz or join in on Facebook and Twitter conversations. To participate in the research then please click on the link for the online survey. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7P9LL6D>, It would be much appreciated if this survey could be completed by Wednesday 30th September.

GlowKids launching a Sensory Kindy

Have you heard about Glowkids? It is an Auckland based service providing assessment, advice, early childhood education and therapy for children. Have a look at their website www.glowkids.org.nz. They are now offering sensory Kindy sessions, [click here](#) to view flyer.

Residential vacancies at Creative Abilities

Creative Abilities have announced that they have added another house and have vacancies. Please contact Jey Balasundaram 09 964 0215 for any enquiries related to both residential and day programme vacancies.

NZSL Encounters at Auckland Zoo

Auckland Zoo has teamed up with New Zealand Sign Language interpreting students from AUT, who will interpret Auckland Zoo's animal encounters on 12 September, 10 October and 14 November. Have a look [here](#).

Kids Open Studio Pukekohe – Term 4

Art class with creative therapy for children 7 years+ . Spark Centre of Creative Development are beginning a new class for children in Pukekohe that will begin Wednesday 14th October. Please register now 09 845 5361 to ensure your child's place. [Click here](#) for flyer.

Asian Youth wanted for survey

Counties Manukau is running a project on stigma of mental health. Asians aged between 17-24 years with lived experience of mental health issues [Click](#) to view flyer. If you fill out the online survey you can even win a voucher!

Teacher Aide wanted

A Chinese parent is urgently looking for a teacher aide for her child who aged 6 years with Autism living in Flat Bush. Fluent in both English and Mandarin. Prefer background in early childhood and behavior management experience with children have Autism. Mon-Fri 8.50-17.50 incl Saturday. Ph Jenny Huang 021781518 or email dingzhih0287@hotmail.com

Edith's Garden Sanctuary

Edith's Garden is a quiet, peaceful oasis in the heart of Auckland's suburbia (at the base of Mt. Wellington). Families and individuals are welcome to visit and enjoy being outdoors in a safe environment. Elevated planter boxes are wheelchair accessible and are available for a small weekly donation. There is also the 'Hub' – an indoor area suited to craft work which can get messy. [Click here](#) for more info or contact Rosie Elder on 021 162 5124 or email edithsgarden@outlook.com or website www.edithsgarden.org.nz

Massey University

Massey University are currently recruiting children with ASD aged between 3 and less than 8 years old take part in the world's first randomly controlled research study with vitamin D and Omega-3 supplementation. To be part of this pioneering research register your interest at www.massey.ac.nz/vidoma. More information on the study along with contact details are available on the website. View flyer [here](#).

Affordable Counselling Service

Trisha Glover is in the final stages of completing her Diploma in Psychosynthesis Counselling and is offering counselling services for individual family members living with a person with a disability at a sliding scale rate of \$30 - \$50 per session. She holds clinics in Marua Road, Eilerslie. 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.

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.

Health Click – health education specialists

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

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.

Boccia NZ

Remember to sign up for their Rolling Newsletter. Go to: <http://www.boccia.org.nz/>

Auckland Down Syndrome Association

All information and their current news can be found at <http://www.adsa.org.nz/How+we+help>

Scoop articles this fortnight:

[*"Disability sector welcomes Productivity Commission report"*](#)

[*"IHC welcomes Productivity Commission Report"*](#)

[*"Tinkering with the system won't help the most needy"*](#)

[*"CCS supports the Productivity Commission's report"*](#)

[*"Selwyn bikes his way to new life"*](#)

[*"Major Disability Arts Festival Set to Engage And Inspire!"*](#)

Other articles of interest:

[*"Paid parental leave 'watered down'"*](#)

[*"Hearing aids may benefit autistic kids"*](#)

[*"New agencies proposed for NZ's neediest 10,000"*](#)

[*"Jordon's Courageous Climb"*](#)

[*"National disability organisations call for an overhaul"*](#)

[*"Rod Haines: Armless, not brainless"*](#)

Have a look at these reports:

[Demonstrating changes to disability support](#) – Evaluation report 07 April 2015

[Evaluation of Funded Family Care](#) – Ministry of Health Website

Other disability publications on the Ministry of Health website go to: <http://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/disability-services/disability-publications>

Have your say on the update of the Disability Action Plan 2014-2018 and [here](#) in Word format

NEWSLETTERS

[Carers NZ](#) – latest newsletter

[CCS disability action “what’s new in the library”](#) – September 2015

[Children’s Autism](#) – Mid-September 2015 newsletter

[Dance Therapy NZ](#) – June 2015

[Deaf Aotearoa Community Weekly](#) – September 2015 [Announcement](#)

[Disability Support Network newsletter](#) - September 2015

[Enable NZ](#) – Issue 3 August 2015

[Expressions](#) – Spring 2015

[Health Quality & Safety Commission E-update](#) – August 2015

[IHC “Hot Issues” newsletter](#) – August 2015

[Ministry of Health NGO newsletter](#) – September 2015

[National Health IT Board newsletter](#) - August 2015

[News from the land of Be](#) -August 2015

[Numicon](#) – Winter 2015

[NZORD Newsletter](#) – June 2015

[Open for better care E-update](#) – August-September 2015

[Parent to Parent enews](#) –and [spring magazine](#)

[Raukauri Music Therapy Newsletter](#) – Winter edition

[Recreate Newsletter](#) – Term 4 2015

[Spark Centre](#) – Quarterly Newsletter September 2015

[Special Olympics Fanletter](#) – September 2015

[StarJam Spread Winter edition – e-chat](#)

[Tani Newsletter](#) – Spring 2015

[Tūrangawaewae: Human Rights Commission News](#) – September 2015

[Vidoma Newsletter](#) - Spring 2015

[Wilson Home e-news](#) – 23 September 2015

[YES disability e-news](#) – July 2015



From the Disability Connect Team
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