

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 31 August 2015

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[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

Chinese Families Autism Support Group meeting, 15 September 9:30am till 1:00pm, Social Room, Te Tuhi, 13 Reeves Road, Pakuranga, Auckland

Parents of students with Autism who are approaching the year of leaving school may have concerns about the options available for their young person after the age of 21 years old. The topic of this meeting will be on process of transition. All Chinese and Asian families raising a child with Autism are welcome to this free meeting. This will be a great networking opportunity for parents.

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 or 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](#).

Education Legal Issues – seminars coming up in September!

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

Individualised Funding (IF) Including Respite Seminars

The Ministry of Health Disability Support Services now include access to Respite (including Carer Support) under Individualised Funding, for eligible families. This creates new, flexible ways of taking a break. This free seminar will explore all aspects of Individualised Funding including Respite. [Click here](#) to view dates/venues for our second series of Individualised Funding (IF) Including Respite seminars in 2015.

Work & Income Support Seminars 15 October and 21 October

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.

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.

Public Health Association conference 7-9 September 2015 Dunedin

[Click here](#) for information. The overarching theme of the conference is "Public Health is everybody's business". Meaning that only by working together across society can we achieve much more than the sum of our individual efforts. The Conference is meant to provide a window on what's currently happening across Aotearoa to improve the health of all New Zealanders and then to help everybody to think about how better to work together.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Te Pou "Let's get real disability" - consumer workshop invitation, Albany 9 October 10am to 1pm

[Let's get real - disability](#) is a framework that describes the essential values, attitudes, knowledge and skills for people working in disability. Have a look [here](#) for their flyer.

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

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

FREE Going Bananas Show "The Search for the Banana Thief" 23/24 September 6pm at Avondale College

Please [click here](#) for ticket request and information. You can also go to their website: www.thegoingbananasshow.co.nz

September! Raise funds for Cerebral Palsy Society

Step up to the challenge! Children and adults living with cerebral palsy take on physical challenges every single day. Join teams from around the world and challenge yourself to take 10,000 steps for 28 days and raise vital funds for people living with cerebral palsy - a condition that affects movement. [Click here](#) for more info.

Duchenne Awareness Day, 6 September from 10am, by café in Cornwall Park.

There will be a magic show, Batman and Helium Balloons, [click here](#) for Poster for a great day out.

JUMP North Shore - first sensory session 13 September 9am, 48 Arrenway Drive, Mairangi Bay.

For something different read their flyer [here](#).

NOTICES

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. [Click here](#) to view flyer.

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 you 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.

Disability Issues Minister, Nicky Wagner

Have a read of her publication in **TŪRANGAWAEWAE** [Human Rights Commission News, June 2015](#) on Employment.

People First NZ -Keeping Safe Feeling Safe (KSFS) inviting to a HUI 14 September

A hui about a Framework and workshop together around 'Safeguarding Adults With Disabilities from violence abuse and neglect who have care and support needs that may make it difficult for them to keep themselves safe. This is part of the Pilot that we are doing on the North Shore. [Click here](#) for their flyer.

Autism Action NZ survey

to gather information regarding early intervention provided to those with Autism Spectrum Disorder in New Zealand. The survey will not provide any identifiable information and will be used for the purpose of improving services in the area of early intervention. For survey go to: <https://surveyplanet.com/5597a8892c0a7e0413ea53b5> . For more information on Autism Action NZ please visit the website www.autismactionnz.co.nz

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.

Squoodles – “buddy tags”

Are offering a discounted price on the buddy tag system for \$45 for all special needs people. Go and visit their site: <http://squoodles.co.nz/product-category/buddy-tag-child-safety-alarm/>

Two support group meetings:

Counties Manukau Support Group - PACT building 311 Great South Road Papatoetoe – 8th September at 9.30am-12pm. Bring a plate to share for morning tea. There is a playground and activities for children so are all welcome.

East Auckland Special Needs Support Group – 22nd September 2/17 Butley Drive, Farm Cove. 7.30pm for coffee dessert evening. Please bring a plate to share

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](#).

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](#).

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.

Waitemata Health Board

Two messages for those interested: Free water competency program called Whanau Nui for both children and caregivers. Please register with www.watersafe.org.nz. And Health Excellence Awards 2015 in the Auckland District. See flyer [here](#).

Nike's Latest Shoe Is for People With Disabilities

Nike's new shoes are making headlines for more than just their flashy looks. The company's latest footwear, [the Zoom Soldier 8](#), is designed for people with disabilities. To read [click here](#).

THE ASIAN NETWORK INC.(TANI) Regional Network Meeting 26th August 10am-12pm, Western Springs

[Click here](#) to view 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, Ellerslie. 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.

Enabling Good Lives

Have you heard about this cross-government disability initiative in Waikato? [Click here](#) for information.

Parent to Parent - focus group 8th September, 14 Erson Ave, Royal Oak from 11am to 1pm.

They are looking to the future and how to become New Zealand's "go-to" not-for-profit for families who have children with disabilities. They are looking at the brand, logo, name, and what these mean to people who may, or may not know what they do. [Click here](#) to view flyer.

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:

["Booklet helps people with disabilities cope in a disaster"](#)
["Study Finds Link Between Autism, Creativity"](#)
["Update on the Save Disability Advisors Campaign"](#)
["Cystic Fibrosis community pays the price for lack of funding"](#)

Other articles of interest:

["Anger at Government Closure of high needs preschool"](#)
["A New Smart Watch that can detect seizures and emotional stress"](#)
["Inquiry aims to help students with special education needs"](#)
["Autistic boy's father fears for son under family violence review"](#)
["Daddy, are you autistic like me?"](#)
["City seen as ideal for disability centre"](#)
["Deaf brothers hear each other for the first time, share beautiful message"](#)
["Robotic legs to help children with cerebral palsy"](#)
["New Zealand is a world leader in educating those with disabilities"](#)
["Writing disability"](#)
["What are sensory issues? Helping to understand kids' behaviour"](#)
["help Jordon climb to new heights"](#)
["Have some compassion' - disbelief at treatment of disabled man by social agencies"](#)
["Damp houses have 'undeniable impact' on Kiwi kids"](#)
["Latest news from the Children's Commissioner"](#)
["Twelve Questions: Duncan Armstrong"](#)
["Nine-year-old boy was bullied for his disability... but now he has a brand-new bionic hand"](#)

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>

NEWSLETTERS

[Carers NZ](#) – latest newsletter

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

[Children’s Autism](#) – August 2015 newsletter

[Dance Therapy NZ](#) – June 2015

Deaf Aotearoa Community Weekly – [mid](#) August 2015 [end](#) of August [Announcement](#)

[Disability Support Network newsletter - June 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](#) – August 2015

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

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

[Numicon](#) – Winter 2015

[NZORD Newsletter](#) – June 2015

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

[Parent to Parent enews](#) – August 2015 and [late August](#)

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

[Recreate Newsletter](#) – June 2015

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

[Special Olympics Fanletter](#) – August 2015

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

[Tani Newsletter](#) – June 2015

[Waitemata DHB CALD CCW newsletter](#) - June 2015

[Wilson Home e-news](#) – August 2015

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



helping families

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

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