

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 16 January 2017

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

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Embedded in the text of this E-bulletin are links which open up to pages of more information. Any blue underlined text is a link and can be clicked on for fuller information. We do this in order to provide you with as much information as possible in our E bulletin.

Please note that going forward due to increasing costs, it is necessary for us to charge professionals \$50 including GST each per seminar. There is no charge for parents. We hope that you will continue to attend our robust and informative seminars.

Disability Connect news

Support groups – Disability Connect

Disability Connect offers culturally appropriate support (including three support groups) to families with children of special needs as part of the CALD service (Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Disability Information and Advisory Service):

Chinese Families Autism Support Group

Runs every third Tuesday of the month. This month our meeting is on the 21st February, 9.30am-1pm. Topic will be after school and holiday programmes presented by Lisa Martin, CEO Disability Connect. Please contact Sanny Chan at Disability Connect for more information on our meetings. Our [English](#) flier and [Chinese](#) Flier 09 526 1298 (DDI) or 09 636 0351 or sanny@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Culturally Diverse Support Group (Otahuhu)

This support group runs monthly at Mt Richmond School, 30 Albion Road, Otahuhu, 5.30-8pm. 16th February. All families with special needs are welcome to join this group – we welcome everyone from any culture and any disability. It is a great opportunity for

parents to share their experience and network with each other. Please contact Asoka at Disability Connect for more information or bookings – phone 09 636 0351 or 027 457 8571 or email asoka@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Indian and South Asian Families Support Group (Clover Park)

This is held at Clover Park Community House. Indian and South Asian families raising a child or supporting a person with a disability are very welcome to this meeting. It will follow a relaxed 'conversational' environment. Everyone is free to talk amongst themselves, make new friends, connect for support or just ask any questions you may be interested in. Please email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz or asoka@disabilityconnect.org.nz or phone 09 636 0351 or text/phone 027 457 8571 to book.

Disability Connect has a Social Worker

This [social worker role](#) is to provide advocacy, support and practical help to families and individuals with a disability. Click on the link to find out more about this service which is free to families. We welcome new referrals either directly from families or from professionals. Referral forms are available on our website.

SEMINARS/TRAINING/ CONFERENCES



2017 Seminars by Disability Connect

Education Legal Issues

Central Auckland – Tuesday 14th March, 12-2pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

North Auckland – Tuesday 28th March 7-9pm

Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Pl,
Albany

South Auckland – Tuesday 9th May, 7-9pm

Clover Park Community House, 16 Israel Ave, Clover
Park

Central Auckland – Thursday 25th May, 12-2pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

West Auckland – Wednesday 7th June 7-9pm

Hubwest, 27 Corban Ave, Henderson

Individualised Funding

Central Auckland – Monday 3rd April, 12-2pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

Central Auckland – Monday 12th June, 7-9pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

Living Options

Central Auckland – Tuesday 2nd March, 12-2pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

South Auckland – Tuesday 30th March, 7-9pm

Clover Park Community House, 16 Israel Ave, Clover
Park

West Auckland – Wednesday 2nd May 7-9pm

Hubwest, 27 Corban Ave, Henderson

Central Auckland – Monday 8th May, 12-2pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

Central Auckland – Wednesday 24th May, 7-9pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

East Auckland – Thursday 1st June, 7-9pm

Highland Park Community Centre, 47 Aviemore Dr,
Highland Park

North Auckland – Thursday 22nd June 7-9pm

Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Pl,
Albany

Planning for Adulthood

West Auckland – Wednesday 15th March, 6.30-9.30pm

Hubwest, 27 Corban Ave, Henderson

Central Auckland – Wednesday 29th March, 12-3pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

North Auckland – Wednesday 3rd May, 6.30-9.30pm

Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Pl,
Albany

South Auckland – Thursday 25th May 6.30-9.30pm

Clover Park Community House, 16 Israel Ave, Clover
Park

“Transition”

Central Auckland – Wednesday 21st June, 12-2pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

South Auckland – Wednesday 5th July 7-9pm,

Mt Richmond School, 30 Albion Road, Otahuhu

“Work and Income”

East Auckland – Wednesday 8th March, 7-9pm

Highland Park Community Centre, 47 Aviemore Dr,
Highland Park

West Auckland – Tuesday 21st March, 7-9pm

Hubwest, 27 Corban Ave, Henderson

South Auckland – Wednesday 5th April, 7-9pm

Clover Park Community House, 16 Israel Ave, Clover
Park

Central Auckland – Wednesday 17th May, 12-2pm,

Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

North Auckland – Tuesday 27th June, 7-9pm

Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Pl,
Albany

“Building a Richer Life though Family Governance”

The two day workshop enables families to envision a richer future for sons and daughters who have a disability. Facilitator, Lawrence Chok shares his own journey as a parent and those of others who have journeyed with him. Over the past nine years, they have guided their sons and daughters with disabilities, to lead more meaningful, independent and sustainable lives in their communities. Supporting one another they have worked together to build on their gifts, passions, interests and dreams. To overcome the disadvantages they faced they used intentional planning to grow lives full of purpose, with a sense of belonging to their communities. Then, afraid that these could not be sustained “*when we are no longer around*”, they explored succession planning and ways to build long term sustainability into their work. The results astounded them, in many ways exceeding their dreams. Yet all journeys have their hard times and they found that the support of other like-minded families in their collective was vital. This is the power of working in a collective based on shared goals and values. Lawrence having emulated and based on the Queensland family governance model, the following video link shows a brief of the 3 Australian family groups who have been operating together over the past 28 years:- <https://vimeo.com/112461517>. For those interested to attend the 2 Day workshop, email to lawrencechokia@gmail.com or text 027 872 3968 for further information.

Hands on Autism

Saturday 11th February, 9am-4pm. Hubwest, 27 Corban Ave, Henderson and Saturday 25th March . Are you living or working with a child with autism? Our goal is for you to leave at the end of the day with tools and strategies that can be easily implemented in the home, school and community. Topics include: Guide to Autism and strategies for behaviour. Dealing with anxiety and sensory issues. Cost: sponsored for family and caregivers who register or \$140 for professionals. Speakers and facilitators – Arletta van den Bosch (Family and Child Counselling), Elisa Slaat (Children’s Autism Manager and Behaviour Therapist) Christine Farquharson (Occupational Therapist) Lisa Martin (Disability Connect). Please register online: www.autism.org.nz

“Ice-Breaker” Anti-Bullying Workshops for Young People

A workshop designed by *The Cube and Yes Disability* delivered by six young leaders from within the disability sector. Have a look at the [flier](#) for contact details.

Social and Friendship Skills Workshop 7-9pm

Interactive workshop on feelings, emotions, making and keeping friends and problem solving. Monday 13th February, Henderson (for parents of children 12 years plus) and Wednesday 29th March, Freemans Bay (for parents 2-12 years). For free ticket please apply on registration.

Conferences outside Auckland

Enabling Good Lives Workshop

This one day workshop, open to families and providers, is a major opportunity to engage with EGL and to get a sense of what real EGL implementation means for organisational development, renegotiating relationships with people using services and being truly person driven and what this looks like in practice. Workshop runs from 9.30am-4pm with lunch and refreshments provided. Dunedin, Thursday 9th February, Auditorium, Otago Early settlers Museum Queen Gardens, Dunedin. Free for family members or disabled persons. To register go to <http://nzdsn.org.nz/events>

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Research Conference

The 7th International Conference on Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder is an advanced level conference that continues to bring together experts from multiple disciplines to share international research. It provides an opportunity to enhance understanding of the relationships between knowledge and research and critical actions related to FASD. First held in 1987, the conference brings together people passionate about this work in a stimulating environment where they can learn and forge new partnerships. From the pure science, to prevention, diagnosis and intervention across the lifespan, the conference will address the implications of this research and promote scientific/community collaboration. 1st-4th March 2017, The Westin Bayshore, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

Hands on Autism – Day Workshops

Tuesday 7th March, 9am-4pm The Link, Corner River Road and Te Aroha St, Hamilton. For practical "Hands On" tools and strategies. Topics – Guide to Autism, Strategies for behaviour, Dealing with anxiety, Sensory Issues. For a free ticket please apply for sponsorship on registration. Speakers and facilitators – Arletta van den Bosch (Family and Child Counselling), Elisa Slaat (ABA behaviour therapist), Christine Farquharson (Occupational Therapist)

International Initiative for Disability Leadership

The best learning initiative for Disability Leadership is a unique international leadership forum that shares knowledge, innovation and effective practices to support the vision of a full life in the community for children, adults and elders with a disability. IIDL is a collaboration of four countries: Australia, New Zealand, Ireland and Canada. 27-28th February, Auckland and 2-3rd March Sydney Australia.

Moral Coherency 2017 Workshop – Sydney Australia

The implementation Project, How to function morally, coherently and adaptively in a world that is

dysfunctional, including its human services. 3rd-7th July 2017, Dunmore Lang College 130-134 Herring Road, North Ryde, NSW 2113, Australia. The training Institute developed this workshop to equip people with a special combination of worldviews, preparation, support considerations and strategies needed to function with high moral ideas, with integrity intact and even with effectiveness in the world generally in human services that are full of imperfections and never ending problems

Passing Foundations Forum

PASSING is a five day, live-in workshop where you will deepen your understanding of the lived experience of devalued people, the services that serve them, and the SRV framework. You will visit two human services and have interviews and conversations with the people being served and those serving them. Led by a highly knowledgeable teacher of SRV and a team leader, you will then explore your observations through the SRV framework to unpack the complexities of service design and delivery. Past participants of the PASSING workshop have found it to be an eye-opening, mind-expanding training opportunity that deepened their understanding and strengthened their commitment to serving devalued people. Pricing - \$850 early bird special! (Register and paid by 31 December 2016) \$990 full cost (RSVP closes Monday 13 February 2017). Please note: \$100 nonrefundable amount for all cancellations, please see cancellation policy on page 2 for more information What does the cost include?

- Includes 4 nights' accommodation*
- Most meals

For more information and registration form click [here](#)

Understanding Autism – 2 hour workshop

Monday 6th March, 7-9pm The Link, Corner River Road and Te Aroha St, Hamilton. All welcome! Free for families, carers and support workers. Come learn more about autism in an open and supportive environment. For a free ticket please apply on registration.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Attention Autism Programme Two Day Course

The training focuses on the practical aspects of intervention, working in a team and offering an irresistible invitation to learn. The Attention Autism programme targets the teaching of attention, communication and social interaction skills. Training is run applying the principles of the attention autism programme throughout each day. There are demonstrations of the techniques in action, films of the work with children, practical hands-on experience for participants and ideas for activities. The intention is to share the practical skills needed for participants

to feel confident in setting up and running the intervention immediately. 23-24th January – North Shore, 26-27th January – West Auckland and 9-10th February – South Auckland days available.

Circability

We are offering a new [Applicable Circus Class](#) for physically disabled people (16-30yo) and a new [Funky Friday](#) mixed ability class for all ages at Circability Central in Victoria Park. Please register [here](#).

Clip n Climb North Shore

Come along to try it out, session for families with autism. For bookings email info@clipnclimbnorthshore.co.nz 2017 dates - 26th February, 26th March, 28th May and 25th June, 27th August, 24th September, 29th October, 26th November. 9am-10am private Admission (Autism Foundation guests only). Please also complete the online waiver form. Please arrive 20 minutes before the session on the day. If you come for the first time with your child, please send Arletta an email (arletta@autism.org.nz) and she will send you a 'social story' to help you prepare your child. info@clipnclimbnorthshore.co.nz or ph 09 447 1428

Dance Party All Abilities

10th February, 6-8pm. Fun, safe environment with great music. Gluten free nibbles and drinks provided. Bookings payments via email / internet. No door sales \$15 per person. RSVP 31st January, email danceitld@gmail.com or ph 021 793 018.

Dance Therapy and Art Therapy Schedule Term 1 2017

Stars Dance Classes across Auckland, Arts 4 Us speciality- Orakei, Art 4 Us drop in and Dance 4 Us. [Main brochure](#)

Disability Gymnastics at Tri star Gymnastics

Gymnastics is a great way to improve coordination, balance, motor skills and strength in a fun and safe environment. In Vancouver, I have been the lead coach/coordinator for a Special Needs gymnastics program for the last three years. We are non-discriminatory and are open for anybody, regardless of age or ability-level, who simply needs a more personalised approach to learning. Many of our athletes in Vancouver are individuals living with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome or developmental delays and I am hoping to connect with the same communities here in Auckland. For more information and flier click [here](#).

Emmanuel Family Camp - 31st March – 2nd April 2017

A weekend camp for families who have a child with a disability. For more information ph 09 636 4763 email familycamp@elevatecdt.org.nz

Flourishing Friendships

Flourishing Friendships is a social, friendship and dating organisation for all people over the age of 18 who have a disability, but open to all. There is a launch party being held Saturday 11th February 2-4pm

in Mt Roskill and Saturday 18th February 2-4pm in Papakura. Please RSVP to flourishingfriendships16@gmail.com or call Sarah 021 135 3560 or Diane 027 629 0696. For more info click [here](#) and [here](#).

Imagine Better Assembly 2017

Will you friend me? Imagine Better is pleased to introduce you to Dr Al Condoluci and Janet Klees, who will be presenting at the February 2017 Imagine Better Assembly – Will You Friend Me? Both Al and Janet come with a wealth of experience, having been involved in the community sector, particularly building social capital and community bridges, for many years. At the session *Will You Friend Me?*, key aspects related to social capital will be explored; examining it from a generic perspective and looking at the possible strategies, actions, or aspects that may be utilised in support of any vulnerable population who have limited opportunities to build friendships. Our other session is *Building Community through Social Capital*. Individuals with disabilities and their family members (as well as professionals who are involved with the family) are interested in seeing themselves or their son/daughter/relative be successful in life. In fact, one of the biggest fears individuals and families have is that their loved one might be lonely or at serious risk when they are no longer around. By understanding the impact of friendships in our lives, we can look at ways and means to better prepare for the future. Sociologists call this "social capital" and it is amazing what our relationships do for us. This session will help you think about how friendships can be better developed over time, and, in turn, build a more inclusive community.

Jumping Beans for pre-schoolers

Tuesdays Feb to April 2017, Grey Lynn Community Centre 1.15-2.15pm. \$120 per term or \$20 per session (subsidised).

Kids Connect Camp 2017

A camp specifically for children with physical and mild disabilities aged 9-16. It is held in Blockhouse Bay, Auckland. Our camps are conducted by experienced staff. We focus on building strong, healthy relationships with other children (with or without physical disabilities). We have a weekend packed with activities, action and fun. Team games, competitions, songs, orienteering on a wheelchair accessible track, quad bikes, crafts and lots of food. Camp fee will be approx. \$135 (subject to change) and also accept Carer Support Forms. For a registration form please email info@cbm.org.nz or phone 09 630 5271, www.cbm.org.nz.

Moveit Youth Programme

Is a free youth age 11-17 years in West Auckland wanting to stay active during the holiday period. Youth are able to participate in sport, tournaments, recreation and physical activities, including touch, basketball, tag, netball and loads more. To find more please contact Venus email: venus.rangi@sportwaitakere.nz or 022 658 0988. Registration form [here](#).

Pasifikability – Free Disability Dance Classes

Proudly presented by Niu Ola Trust. Classes starting on January 20th 11am- 12pm (every Friday until 25th August) including School Holidays 23rd, 30th January. Te Rito Community Centre, 7 Piki Thompson Way, Otahuhu. And on Mondays 11am-12pm every Monday until 26th June. Otahuhu Town Hall, 10 High Street, Otahuhu. Self expression Tutors - Valeria Pierbon: Dance and Movement Therapist and Yoko Obata: Movement Based Art Therapist. For more information contact Susannah 021 806 769 or stauponiuala@gmail.com

Sensory Processing Disorder and Sensory Diets, workshop.

January 25-26th 2017 Waitaha School, Christchurch is hosting a 2 day workshop. Would be suitable for Parents, Teachers, Teacher Aides, RTLB and SENCO. Guest speaker is Gwen Wild, a leading authority on this topic from USA. Click on link above for more info.

Show Your Ability Expo

Free entry to the Disability Equipment Expo. ASB Showgrounds, February 14th 9am-3pm.

Sibling Camp

As an organisation, Parent to Parent supports families raising children with disabilities. As part of Auckland Airport's annual '12 Days of Christmas' campaign, we are excited to announce that we have been given a \$10,000 grant to help fund a Camp to support the siblings of children with disabilities. These SibCamps are very popular and there are limited spaces, so be quick! Open to all siblings aged 8-18 years. Please register below and confirmation of places will be in the new year. Dates: 10-12 March 2017 Venue: Piha Mill Camp, close to Piha Beach, Waitakere. Fill in registration form [here](#)

Spirit of Adventure Trust 5 Day Inspirational Voyage

The Spirit of Adventure Trust was established to provide the youth of New Zealand with access to a character development programme conducted in a maritime environment. Our voyages are seen as an unique environment for youth development. Where the focus of learning for the trainees is on team-work and developing skills of communication, self-reliance, self-discipline, self-esteem, resilience, confidence and leadership. The voyage is from Sunday 27th March – Thursday 31st March.

Stars Dance Therapy and Art Therapy

Groups available in Onehunga on Tuesday, Mt Albert Wednesday and Thursday, Pakuranga on Friday and Northcote on Saturdays.

Te Roopu Taurima – Ready for Mahi

Free e-learning modules. These accessible and trilingual modules provide the opportunity for people to learn some of the basic skills they need to get ready to work.

Universal Design Symposium

Universal Design makes things safer, easier and more convenient for everyone. The Universal Design Hub provides access to a range of resources and guidance to support a design process that recognises our common needs through each of our individual life stages. A universal approach recognises human diversity and various life scenarios such as pregnancy, childhood, injury, disability and old age. This means developing places and homes that can be used and enjoyed by as many people as possible. Here you will find resources to ensure your next project is built to be accessible for all life stages and scenarios. For more info email universaldesignsymposium@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Working with Parents' Anger

Taking the heat off the child. For people working with parents, caregivers and families. Auckland 18th and 19th May. Mercy Spirituality Centre, Te Ngakau Waiora, 104 The Drive, Epsom, \$275 incl GST, 9am-4.30pm.

NOTICES



ASD Basketball Programme

Siblings and peers welcome. NZ Breakers stadium, 7 Atlas Place, Mairangi Bay. All sessions are on Sundays. Cost \$40 per family/per term. ASD Kids Trust run this event.

Auckland Disability Law Supported Decision Making Resources

They have developed a set of resources as part of a project. The resources can be downloaded and distributed. If you would like printed copies please email info@adl.org.nz. [Let's talk about Supported Decision Making](#), [Let's talk about Supported Decision Making – easy read](#), [Promoting Supported Decision making and the protection of personal and property rights act](#) and a [roadmap to success poster](#).

Autistic Disabled Person Organisation Survey

A group of self-advocates are in the stages of forming this. They would appreciate you filling out their survey.

Auckland City Council is looking for members of the Demographic Advisory Panels

The Youth Advisory Panel (YAP) is not mentioned in this email, but will also be going through a recruitment process. If you would like to know more about YAP and the ways in which we are working with young people to make sure voices across Auckland are heard, please do let me know.

CCS Disability Action – How’s it Going?

Opening up new conversations is a free tool that can support people to work out whether they are living the life they want. People can also use it to talk, or think, about where they are at and where they want to be. For more information click [here](#).

CCS – What’s new in the Library

You can request free books from this service from CCS and will be couriered to you, like a library. Latest update November 2016

Centre for Chiropractic Research – Volunteers needed

The Centre for Chiropractic Research, with AUT University, is involved in a research project that is being run as part of a Master’s thesis by Dr Alice Cade. This study investigates if there are any changes in eye tracking abilities before and after getting a chiropractic adjustment. The focus of the study is that a chiropractic adjustment may make eye tracking easier thereby improving ADHD kids' ability to read, learn and behave in class. This study is not a treatment for ADHD or eye tracking problems. Children will take part in two sessions (around 30mins each) over a week at the New Zealand College of Chiropractic in Mt Wellington. To be eligible to participate, kids need to be:

- 8 – 15 years of age
- Have a previous diagnosis of ADHD
- Not have any major visual disability (seriously impaired vision, cataracts or eye trauma)

Please contact Alice Cade for more information. Chief Investigator: Dr Kelly Jones

Co investigators: Dr Kelly Holt & Dr Alice Cade
email alice.cade@nzchiro.co.nz or 021 400 739

Communicare Friendship Centres

Located all across Auckland and a wide variety of activities available to all. Great for company and just to be able to have something to do.

Da Homies – A social group of four young men on the Autism Spectrum

We thought we will share this interesting story about how two caregivers supported and promoted the friendship of four young men on the Autism Spectrum to form their own social group “Da Homies”. If you would like to know more about promoting social connectedness and/or more about this process, please contact Bobbie Chadderton (bobbie.chadderton@gmail.com)

Footpath Users Survey

This survey request is from the same people who conducted the Kiwi Travel survey late last year. Please can you give your attention to this survey and complete. The wider variety of answers to the survey, the more useful the survey results will be to all groups of footpath users.

Good Vibrations Music Therapy

Sophie Buxton is a qualified and registered music therapist who has just started to offer this therapy in Helensville in term 4. She is available to provide sessions for children, teenagers and adults with

intellectual / physical disabilities. Sophie Buxton 021 525 609, or email sophieb@musictherapy.associates

Government launched Disability Confident Campaign

25th November encouraging employment of people with disabilities. The campaign is about showcasing the wide range of easily accessible and practical information available to support employers of disabled employees. One in four New Zealanders have some form of disability. This group represents a vast pool of talent that employers can tap into to enhance workplace diversity and make a valuable contribution to their business. More information is [here](#).

Idea Services Art Therapy

Arts Therapy uses art, drama, music and movement therapeutically to support wellbeing. A Registered Arts Therapist works from a psychotherapy, counselling and child development framework. Arts therapy is a visual, sensory-rich, concrete and interactive means of expression. \$110 per session 45-60mins. Contact specialist.support@idea.org.nz

Idea Services ASD Plus

ASD Plus aims to increase parental knowledge and skill in supporting their pre-school child with autism. It is person-centred and individualised and participants learn about autism in relation to a range of topics over seven modules. Our team of facilitators are skilled and experienced specialist workers who have experience in supporting young children with autism and their families. ASD Plus is delivered over seven modules covering a wide range of topics including: communication, learning, stress, behaviour and planning for the future. ASD Plus can be delivered via group sessions, individual sessions, or by distance learning. This flexibility allows us to meet the needs of people in rural and isolated locations, and to better cater to cultural and language needs. All of these options come with follow-up support for families, to help with using these skills at home. Contact: asdplus-education@idea.org.nz

Looloo Toilet Training Solutions

Constipation during toilet training can be common. There are a few giveaways to enter for and also Toilet training with less mess and stress.

Mum creates the easiest cookbook

Wellington mother Jenny McClure has released a cookbook she wrote especially for her son and others that struggle with traditional cookbooks. 30 year old Joe McClure suffered a traumatic brain injury after he was hit by a car while cycling in Cambridge, UK, 17 years ago. The then 13 year old spent 10 days in an induced coma and underwent major surgery. Years later when he left home to go and live by himself, it soon became clear that standard cookbooks didn't work for him, she couldn't believe how crazily and complicated they were and her son really struggled to follow them and so the idea for Short Takes: Making cooking simple was born.

MyCare

The new way to find support workers. MyCare is bringing technology and community together in a dedicated online platform for people needing at-home care and support. They've built a mobile marketplace, connecting individuals needing help to live comfortably at home to a nationwide network of care workers, part-timers and volunteers. The service aims to break down the barriers. The site already has nearly two thousand workers from nurses and care workers to students looking for work while they study. Here is their updated [flier](#). Visit www.mycare.co.nz or phone 0800 677 000. In October, we released new tools and people can now set up a contractor agreement using MyCare's templates, book their support worker's visits through their MyCare account, assign tasks for the day and keep their support circle of family and friends in the loop. They'll be able to see all visits at a glance and know what's happening every week. Once they've registered, users will have access to these tools:

- **Match** – find someone to provide support or care for themselves or a family member
- **Manage** – it's easy to coordinate support visits and pay workers safely and securely
- **Share** – invite family and friends into the support circle so they know what's happening just by logging in.

If you have any questions about how the service will work for members of your community, you may like to visit our [Help Centre](#)

Numicon

Want to learn more about the Numicon approach click [here](#). Their new firm foundations info is [here](#) - Learning through play is the key feature of this new publication. Teachers are loving it! They are enjoying conversations with children in play and workshop situations, even talking about numbers higher than 20! Early childhood teachers and New Entrant teachers are using New FF. And also all their new resources are [here](#).

Pain Self Management Education

For people with chronic pain lasting more than 3 months. Programme is Free and runs from Wednesday 16th February for 6 weeks. 10am-12.30pm. East Health Trust, 260 Botany Road, Golflands. Register contact Shirley Bernhard ph 09 538 599 or email shirleyb@easthealth.co.nz.

Phab Social Groups

Our North Shore senior social group (age 35ish) and over are looking for new members, if you or anyone you know is keen please email chewy@phab.org.nz or call 09 488 7490. The group runs in Takapuna on Tuesday from 6.30-8.30pm. Our social group runs throughout school terms and involve different activities such as ten pin bowling, movie visits, baking nights, meals out, community projects and more. The group decides at the beginning of each term and we support them in their social outcomes. This is fun and interactive way to make friends and get out in the community.

Te Ata Timetable Term 1

Includes Zumba, Mosaic and Crafts, Pools, Art Journalling, Relaxtion and Pamper Class, Art, Movies, Creative Writing and Pool Competition. 52 Keeling Road, Henderson.

Phd Student requiring participants insights re their experience of holidays with their disabled loved one.

Brielle is a student at the University of Waikato. Alison, Cheryl and Simon are her supervisors. Brielle will interview you for her study. Alison might help her interview you. The study is about your experiences of travelling on holiday with your family, carer or support worker. By helping us with our study, we can help other people travel with their family, carers or support workers. The aim of this study is to develop a more holistic understanding of what care means to your lives, in the hope that we can further support and enable independent travel for other carers and people with intellectual disability, and raise awareness of the valuable 'work' you do, in wider society too. For more information please look [here](#) to see if you would like to participate. Carer and support information [here](#).

Smalltalk Therapy

Have some sessions available with a speech language therapist who have specialist skills in paediatric disability. They cover East and South Auckland.

Support Worker Available covering Onehunga – Drury

I am a support worker who has been working with people with special needs and disabilities for 10 years. I am looking for work during the school holidays. I'm also happy to look after your kids while parents go out and do Christmas shopping or just so they can go out and have a little bit of 'me' time as I know parents don't get a lot of that. I'm available Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 9am till 2:30pm and I will work in South Auckland from Onehunga to Drury. I can work with micky buttons, ng tubes, all hoists, can drive mobility vehicles, know New Zealand Sign Language and can look after children with high needs. I have references if you would like to contact them. Thank you and I look forward to meeting more parents and working with your children. I am also willing to be paid through IF and carer support days. My hourly rate is \$18-\$20 an hour depending on the child's needs also I charge a bit more for more than one child which price can be negotiated. Please contact Jackie Riley on 0211402891. I look forward to hearing from you.

Survey about Tourists with disabilities and elderly

In this survey there are questions about frequency of travel, preferred destinations, means of transport etc. In addition to this there are other questions in travel aimed to evaluating the satisfaction about the accommodations or adaptations of tourist facilities, resources and services regarding to the travellers needs and preferences.

UBU Playgroup for our kids with a difference

Starts 7th November, Grey Lynn Community Centre, Monday 1-3pm. We're encouraging parents and caregivers to come along, connect and support one another at our new pre-schoolers playgroup with a focus on our children with extra needs. Differences are embraced in a fun and safe environment which offers free or supported play. Contact 378 4908 for more information.

[Counselling Services and Support Groups](#)

[Disability Sector Project Information and research](#)

[Discounted Activities across Auckland listed by Region](#)

[Holiday Programmes and Holiday Activities](#)

[Other organisations information](#)

[Playgroups, activities, after school and holiday programmes](#)

[Upcoming Events January - March](#)

Please click on the above section links to see more information and providers

Please look on our [Useful Links](#) section of our website for more services / organisations

Articles of interest:

[Special needs parents need support](#)

[Beach access for disabled](#)

[Autistic surf camp coming](#)

[Deaf Christchurch woman a supermarket star](#)

In order to keep informed about important issues, seminars and changes to any seminars it is important that you LIKE us on Facebook !

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

NEWSLETTERS

[Altogether Autism Journal](#) – Issue 4 2016

[Auckland Down Syndrome Association](#) – December 2016

[Brainwave](#) – November 2016

[Cald Newsletter](#) – December 2016

[Carers NZ](#) – December 2016

[Children's Autism](#) – December 2016

[Dance Therapy](#) - Term 4

[Deaf Aotearoa end December](#)

[Talking Hands Magazine](#)

[Dotty Wobble](#) – January 2017

[e-Cald news](#) - December 2016

[Enable](#) – December 2016

[Expressions](#) – Spring 2016

[Health Quality & Safety Commission E-update](#) – December 2016

[Idea Services](#) – November 2016

[Independent Living Services](#) – December 2016

[Land of Be](#) – December 2016

[Ministry of Health NGO newsletter](#) – September 2016

[Chair update Nov 2016](#)

[Muscular Dystrophy](#) – December 2016

[My Care – November 2016](#)

[News from the Land of Be](#) – December 2016

[Numicon](#) – December 2016

[NZ Disability Support Network](#) – December 2016

[On the Radar \(Rare Disease Advocacy and Research\)](#)

[Parent Aid](#) – December 2016

[Parent to Parent newsletter](#) – December 2016

[Magazine](#) – December 2016

[Plunket](#) – December 2016

[Raukauri Newsletter](#) – November 2016

[Recreate NZ newsletter](#) – 2016 / 2017

[Sands Expressions](#) - Summer 2016

[Special Olympics Fanletter](#) – December 2016

[Tani Newsletter](#) – Summer 2016

[Vaka Tautua](#) - December 2016

[Whanau Marama](#) – December 2016



helping families

From the Disability Connect Team

Lisa, Virginia, Robyn, Angela, Asoka, Sanny and TingTing

www.disabilityconnect.org.nz

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