

**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 3 April 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.

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 18th April, 9.30am-1pm. 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. 27th April. 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

Parent Support Group for the Indian Community – Clover Park

This is held at Clover Park Community House. 1st May 6-8pm. Indian families 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.

DISABILITY CONNECT SEMINARS AND INFORMATION



2017 Seminars by Disability Connect

[For a link to all upcoming seminars in PDF form click here](#)

Education Legal Issues

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 – The last IF seminar scheduled for 2017

Central Auckland – Monday 12th June, 7-9pm,
Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

Living Options

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 [this date will include a Sign Language Interpreter](#)
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

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

Transition Expo – 8 August 2017 – save the date!!! “The progression from school to community life”

Our popular Expo is happening again. Mt Eden War Memorial Hall, 489 Dominion Road, from 9am – 2.00pm

Work and Income

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

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

Conferences / Events outside of Auckland

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

SEMINARS/TRAINING/ CONFERENCES

Asian Health and Wellbeing Day

29th April, Te Tuhi Centre, 13 Reeves Road, Pakuranga, 9.30am Registrations open, day 10am-1.30pm. There are differences in our health system and our expectation of care in New Zealand compared to people's home countries. The aim of the day is to help our Asian population, particularly those for whom English is a second language, understand and better use health services in New Zealand. The sessions will be presented in four language streams, English, Mandarin, Korean and Hindi/Punjabi.

Presentations by our GPs cover:

Navigating the NZ Health System (video 20-30mins and Q&A translation)

What to expect from your Family Doctor (45 mins - 1 hour)

The first session covers the structure of the New Zealand Health system including enrolment and where to seek health care. The second session covers what to expect from your family doctor and recommended preventative health services available in New Zealand, when and where to access these.

Don't miss Unpacking Disability Law

Registration is now open for Auckland Disability Law's Unpacking Disability Law programme, 4th April and 11th April. This community based programme is focused on making your legal rights on disability easy to understand. Sessions will include your rights on disability and discrimination, mental health, employment and when dealing with the Police. For further information see the attached [flyer](#) or email info@adl.org.nz

Effective Discipline

Most suitable for parents of children 4-11 years. You will learn 24 practical skills and strategies of how to positively discipline your child by building a strong relationship with them. This relationship enables them to be more willing to listen your instruction and guidance while teaching them to take care of their personal responsibilities. Term 1, every Tuesday morning 9.30am-12.30pm, 7th February – 11th April, Term 2 every Tuesday morning 9.30am-12.30pm, 2nd May-4th July, course costs \$50. Email elizabeth@whanaumarama.co.nz or tamati@whanaumarama.co.nz or 09 441 0209.

Effective Discipline - Mandarin

有效的教导 - 国语授课 2017年 第一学期 (共九周) 每周五早上9:30至中午12:30 从2月10日开始至4月7日结束 适用于4-11岁孩子的家长 总费用 \$50.00 你将学到非常实用的24个技巧与策略, 以用于巩固你与孩子的关系并能够使孩子更自觉听从你的教导·更自愿学习如何承担自己的个人责任
Contact in Mandarin haiying@whanaumarama.co.nz

Free help for families in need

City Impact Church has its next Community Impact Day on 10 June and is looking for families who need assistance with house repairs, maintenance work, moving, clothing donations etc. Read more. To refer a family, please send their contact name, address, telephone number and information about the assistance they require. Contact Mary-Kath Laita 477 0300 or communityimpact@cityimpactchurch.com

Future Skills Academy

NZ Certificate in Health and Wellbeing Level 2, Royal Oak. Free Fees. High demand for aged care and support workers in the community. Future Skills NZ, Level 1, 691a Mt Albert Road, Royal Oak.

Little Gems Playgroup

Hi everyone, my name is Lorena. I'm a mother of a gorgeous 6 years old boy, his name is James. My little man was formally diagnosed with autism when he was 3. I know firsthand how difficult it can be for parents looking to do their best after their child diagnosed. I decided to create a playgroup for children up to the age of five (or six if they haven't started school), would be based on free play. The playgroup would also allow parents who faced the same experiences with children with autism to share advice and frustrations. Siblings are welcome. Every Tuesday from 7th March, 10am-12pm, 192 Parnell Road, Parnell, Parnell plunket rooms. Gold coin donation. Contact Lorena 022 307 9263 or Annalee 021 264 2668

Live your dream Empowering Ethnic Women Entrepreneurs

Women Entrepreneurship Centre (WEC). The Women Entrepreneurship Centre (WEC) is proud to announce the first series of FREE workshop for 2017 supported by Infinity Foundation, The Office of Ethnic Communities and Waitakere Ethnic Board. We will be conducting series of workshops in Auckland Feb-September, communities entitled "Live your dream". The program encourages people to develop self-

awareness and inspire their creative potential. Participants are motivated for starting their own enterprise and briefed on the opportunities available for such enterprises. We think this may be of interest to some of our families. The program encourages people to develop self-awareness and inspire their creative potential. Participants are motivated for starting their own enterprise and briefed on the opportunities available for such enterprises. For more information visit <http://wencentre.org.nz> Link: http://wencentre.org.nz/?page_id=9 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WEN-Centre-1786535468234901/>

Managing Behaviours in children

Using Visual Strategies and Resources, 11th August 2017, 9.30-11.30am, \$45 per person. Learn how to use supports that visually provide behaviour management strategies. Blockhouse Bay Community Centre. 524 Blockhouse Bay Rd, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland. To book a place email info@dottywobble.com places are limited.

NZSL Tester Classes – Free

A free 45 min New Zealand Sign Language Class – learn signs you can use every day! We come to you. For schools, healthcare providers, businesses, clubs etc. Throughout May and through terms for schools.

Parenting Adolescents

Most suitable for parents of teens 11-15 years. Term You will learn 23 practical skills and strategies to strengthen your relationship with your teen and help them to be willing to listen to your guidance and consistently take care of their personal responsibilities. Term 1, every Tuesday evening 6.30-9pm, 7th February – 11th April, Term 2 every Tuesday evening 6.30-9pm, 2nd May-4th July, course costs \$50. Email elizabeth@whanaumarama.co.nz or tamati@whanaumarama.co.nz or 09 441 0209.

Parenting Adolescents - Korean

십대를 둔 부모를 위한 한국어 코스
텀1 (9 주) 2017 년 매주목요일 오전 9:30 분--12 :3 0 분
2월 9일 부터 4월 6일까지 저희코스에 대한더 많은정보 를 원하시면 아래홈페이지를 방문해주세요 .. 이코스에서는 10대자녀들과의 유대관계를 강화 시키고 자녀 들이부모의 가르침을 잘 따르 도록도와주며 자녀 들이개인적인 책임감을 인지 하고지속적으 로 지켜 나갈수 있도록 도와주는 21가지실천가능 한기술과 전략 을배우게 됩니 다. Contact in Korean jumi@whanaumarama.co.nz

Phab Holiday Programme Hang Out Days

8.30am-4.30pm. 18th April- 21st April and 26th April-28th April. A variety of activities – Magician, Xtreme Game Zone, Movie Time, Want to be a movie star, Kiwi Valley, Circus Day and a visit to the Cat Lounge. The cost is \$76 plus GST per day. For more info contact Chewy 09 488 7490 chewy@phab.org.nz

Positive Discipline for under 4's

Most suitable for parents of newborn to 4 year olds. You will learn about your child's brain development, their bonding to you, how to get them to listen, how to effectively manage when they test limits and how to deal with tantrums. Term 1, every Wednesday morning 9.30am-12.30pm, 15th February – 5th April, Term 2 every Wednesday morning 9.30am-12.30pm, 10th May-28th June, course costs \$50. Email elizabeth@whanaumarama.co.nz or tamati@whanaumarama.co.nz or 09 441 0209.

Introduction to Positive Discipline for 4-11 year olds

Suitable for parents of children 4-11 year olds. Week 1 - 22nd March – Family/Whanau time skill, Week 2 – 29th March – Stop, turn and focus skill, Week 3 – 5th April – Communicating one off requests, Week 4 – 12th April – Communicating our expectations. Wednesday morning 9.30-10.30am, Glenfield Library. Email na@whanaumarama.co.nz or phone Na 09 551 6974.

Respite Consultation Workshops Auckland

The Ministry of Health is holding a number of workshops on the draft respite strategy to receive feedback from the sector on whether they think the strategy is heading in the right direction. The draft respite strategy proposes transformational change to the current respite model. It is proposing - the introduction of flexible respite budgets, earlier administration, with fewer rules about how funding can be used, development of wider range of respite options, stakeholders working together to plan how those who need respite the most can access services. 10th April 2-5pm (providers) 6-9pm (disabled people and their families). Independent Living Services, 14 Erson Ave, Royal Oak. To express interest please email respitestrategy@moh.govt.nz by 31st March.

Parenting workshops, Papatoetoe and Manurewa

Free SKIP Positive Parenting workshops, two sessions of two hours, for parents with children aged up to five years. Thursdays 30 March and 6 April, 9.30am-11.30am, [Papatoetoe Library](#), Toitoti Room 30 Wallace Road, Papatoetoe. Tuesday 11 April, Fridays 12 and 19 May, 9.30am-11.30am, [Manurewa Library, Community Room](#), 7 Hill Rd, Manurewa. Register for workshops.

Using Visual Strategies and Resources for Learning Workshops

9th June 2017, 9.30am-12.30pm. \$55 per person. Learn About - Visual strategies for learning at any age. Great ways to support learning. New strategies for school or home. Extra support for learning difficulties. Blockhouse Bay Community Centre. 524 Blockhouse Bay Rd, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland. To book a place email info@dottywobble.com places are limited.

Visuals – The Basics and Much More

7th April 2017, 9.30-11.30am, \$45 per person. Learn About: Why visuals are important, Different types of visuals, How to use visuals effectively, How to extend the use of visuals. Receive a free visual to get you

started. Visuals and related resources will be available for purchase on the day. Blockhouse Bay Community Centre. 524 Blockhouse Bay Rd, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland. To book a place email info@dottywobble.com places are limited.

Wellness and Leadership Takapuna and Wellness Pukekohe

This seminar brings together two key areas of interest and concern for people in the community sector. Wellness has increasingly become a significant challenge for people who experience the pressures of unsustainable demands and challenges in this sector. For years we focused on how to deal with stress but the growing awareness now is the importance of understanding and knowing how to develop and sustain wellness in our lives and in the way we work, and how critical it is that we model this in our leadership with others. Presenter: Hilary Star-Foged, 11th April 12-2pm, Channel View Lounge, Mary Thomas Centre, 3 Gibbons Rd, Takapuna. \$20 per person including lunch. 5th April, Franklin Arts Centre, 12 Massey Ave, Pukekohe \$20 per person. Register info@ancad.org.nz or 09 486 4820.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



Adapted Gymnastic Classes

Gym City Papatoetoe's new disabled programmes. These are great opportunities for disabled young athletes to learn gymnastic skills. Preschool classes are held Mondays 1-2pm \$84 per term and Gymfun (5-12year olds) Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm, \$18 per term (Kiwisport funding confirmed). To register contact Gymcity Manager Rowena 09 279 9400.

Art and Soul – North Shore

There are open days on Wednesday mornings in Milford senior citizens hall, 10.15-11.45am which explain all the programmes they offer, how to pay for this. There is a 1:4 ratio of carers to young adults. Offer several programmes – Art Club, Band and Drumming, Computer Skills, Dance Club, Day Tripper Club and Zine Club. Run throughout the week for over 21year olds who have left full time education, based for families living on the North Shore. More details can be found in our activities attachment page. For more information phone Kate 021 028 36465 or email artandsoulgroups@gmail.com

Diabetes Self-Management Programme January-December 2017

6 weeks duration, designed for people living with type 2 diabetes and or their caregivers. The DSMP diabetes programme helps participants to develop

self-management skills to deal with the challenges of living well with diabetes. Available in Samoan, Cantonese, Mandarin, Hindi and Punjabi languages and at venues and times to suit different communities within West Auckland Waitemata DHB.

Fitness Fun Class

In term 2 under our new brand, we will be launching a fitness fun class for children with special needs or learning difficulties (including things like dyslexia, etc). This class will have fun activities for learning balance, agility, fitness skills, upper body strength as well as activities which encourage both sides of the brain to function. The class will have routines to follow and fun free time. Confirmation of whether the class will run on Saturdays or Sundays will be made soon. Please email info@dottywobble.com if you are interested in finding out more about the class or enrolling.

Framework South Timetable Apr-June

Community learning programmes. It delivers community based mental health and intellectual disability services. The programmes include: interacting with nature, swimming, computer basics, social groups, basketball and cultural awareness. To attend groups please register by completing our referral form and returning it to us with all required documents. Once registered you will be contacted for an induction meeting so you can find out more about our service and enrol in the programme/s which best suit your goals. ph 09 815 5113 or PF.admin@framework.org.nz

Holiday Arts Programme

For adults, youth and children living with disabilities. Adults class for 17 years plus, 20th, 21st April. Childrens Class for 5-11 year olds, 27th April. Youth Class for 12-17 year olds, 18th April. 9.30am-3pm \$50 per day or ½ carer support + \$15. Mapura Studios Fowlds Park, Rocky Nook Ave, St Lukes. For more info ring Alex 09 845 5361 or info@mapurastudios.org.nz.

It's All About Me!

Self-Awareness Workshop for girls attending intermediate and High Schools held in school holidays - Self-defense / Positive Body Image / Social media safety / Healthy Relationships. Beach Haven Community House, 130 Beach Haven Road, Beach Haven. 19th April 9am-3pm. Register North Shore Women's Centre 09 444 4618 or women.crt@xtra.co.nz

Japanese Community Activation Project

Japanese-Community Activation Project (J-CAP) is a multi-agency, co-designed and community-led project project to support Japanese migrants, living in Auckland. Our vision is to build a healthy and supportive Japanese community for Japanese migrants to live happily in Aotearoa/New Zealand. This project plans to present a series of collaborative seminars to provide a practical settlement support (i.e. life-skills) and health/mental health promotion to Japanese migrants in Auckland. Through these collaborative seminars, we aim to provide an opportunity for Japanese migrants to connect with other peers and Japanese professionals and gain

necessary information and practical support to be more confident and successfully settle in Auckland. Our second seminar's guest speakers are; Ai Kihara (Counsellor - Available support and/or service for those who have challenge in worries, anxiety and/or in medical/mental health troubles), Sho Isogai (Community Social worker - New Zealand health services and patient's rights) and Nitta Naoto (Insurance advisor - New Zealand insurance system and how to use them). Most of the talk will be presented in Japanese language. Childcare support and refreshments will be provided. You are welcome to bring your friends or family member with you. Please RSVP your attendance by 2nd of April, 2017 or for more information, please contact Sho - Project coordinator jcapnz@gmail.com. 4th April, 10.45am-1.30pm (you can attend any time). The Spreading Tree, 37 Mt Eden Road, Grafton, cost \$5.

JobFest May 3rd

For all youth to register to go to JobFest 2017 at Vodafone Events Centre, Manukau, 10am-2pm. This is a free event and a chance to connect with employers with jobs available and find out about free services to help youth get ready to work and find a job.

Jubilee Sailing Trust – Set Sail Adventure

This programme will only be running between 3rd May and 8th August this year so book now to secure an adventure of a lifetime! All ages welcome. JST is a globally unique, UN-accredited charity which utilises the adventure of tall ship sailing to unlock human potential and break down barriers between people of different circumstances - especially between people living with disability and the non-disabled. Our vessel, Tenacious, is the world's largest operating timber hulled vessel and has voyaged over 18,000 nautical miles from Southampton UK to deliver a programme of voyages and day sails in New Zealand. She has been built from the ground up to accommodate a crew where half can have a disability or impairment of some kind and the other half is made up of people who are non-disabled. The JST voyage experience is open to all ages and encourages self-discovery and cultivates active participation. The supportive and well-designed environment quickly breaks-down prejudice, promotes equality and mutual understanding. It is where people find new strengths and learn to see strengths in others without being diverted by a perceived weakness. The effect is an immersive personal development experience, increasing life skills and self-belief. It is also about enjoying yourself and making new friends. To see a video of our life on board click [here](#) or check out our website for more details - www.jst.org.nz Our programme in New Zealand is open to all ages but will only be running between May and August this year so book now for the adventure of a lifetime with a crew like no other! To check out our voyages go to www.JST.org.nz/voyages

Manage Better, Feel Stronger, free courses start his month

Are you, or someone you care for, managing an ongoing health condition? Join a friendly group providing support and information for two and a half hours per week for six weeks. Courses are free and include a cuppa. Venues in Otara, Flat Bush,

Manurewa, Glen Innes, Mt Roskill, Henderson, Ranui. Hindi, Chinese and Tongan courses in some areas. To register or for more information call Ula 274 7823 ext 9144 or Ruby ext 9821 or email: ulas@ethc.co.nz

Mess It Up – Messy Play

6th April, 13th April. 10-11am. Meadowbank Scout Hall, 28c Rutherford Terrace, Meadowbank \$15 casual entry. Our unique one-hour Messy Play sessions involve free play using paint, slime, play dough, foam, water, ice, finger paint, rice, pasta, and many different mediums. Come and have some messy fun with your child where you don't have to clean up the mess afterwards. It's not about making a mess, it's about making memories. Messy or sensory play can help your child's development on a number of levels. This type of creative play gives children endless ways to develop and learn. Young children rely on sensory input to learn about their environment. Research suggests that sensory play helps build neural connections that support thought, learning and creativity. Sensory play supports language development, cognitive growth, fine/gross motor skills, problem solving/reasoning, and social interaction. Children will experience lots of opportunities to develop their fine motor skills - squishing and squeezing can help develop pre-writing skills. There is potential for early Mathematics by discussing size, shape, height, weight and counting and grouping of various mediums. There are endless opportunities for early Science experiments with mixing, dissolving, temperature, and different textures.

North Shore African Drumming Day

30th April, 11am-4pm. Birkdale Community House, 134 Birkdale Road, Birkdale. A day of learning traditional African drumming rhythms and song with Chewy Wilson. We will learn 4/4 and 6/8 timing polyrhythms, Dundun patterns, intro pieces and solos. This would suit drummers with some experience and beginners are also welcome. \$50 per person, booking is essential so enough drums are provided. Bookings - Chewy on 0274 334 627 or chewydrummer@hotmail.com Website - www.rhythmforthesoul.co.nz. Tea, coffee, snacks and laughter provided.

Papatoetoe Football Adapted Programme

A great opportunity to learn football or enhance skills under Papatoetoe United Football Club coaches! The programme runs for 8 weeks and is open to young people (5years plus) with a physical impairment who are ambulant or uses walkers or sticks for mobility. Saturdays 1-2.15pm, Kolmar Centre (Indoor Cricket Nets) off Sutton Cres, Papatoetoe \$85 for the year. Contact Paul Ralph 021 456 534 paulralph@advancemarketing.co.nz to register

Tri Star Gymnastics Open Day

As the days become shorter and the air becomes colder, come inside for an exciting opportunity for those within the Auckland disability community to explore Tri Star Gymnastics at our fun and family-friendly event! The Disability Programme is hosting an Open House on Saturday April 8th, 2017 from 4:30-6:00pm. This is a great opportunity to come and swing on the bars, roll down the cheese mats, walk on

the beams, jump on the trampoline, or get lost in the foam pit. Try out the gym if you've never been before, or for our existing members, use this as a chance to show off all you have learnt so far to your family and friends. Although coaches will be on hand to assist, the event is for athletes and their parents/guardians/support workers to enjoy together. This is a sensory aware event and there will be a quiet room provided for those who may need a break from the gym and we will also be limiting attendance for this event. Sign up ASAP by emailing Leigh Dawson at leigh.dawson@tristar.org.nz to confirm your spot! In your email please state how many children will be attending and any details that will help us make the event the most successful for your child. Tri Star is located at 55 Arundel Street, Mt Roskill in Keith Hay Park. Entrance is by gold coin donation.

Waka Ama Open Day

Register now for a fun day on the water and experience the magic of Waka Ama. Sunday 9th April, 11am-1pm, Ian Shaw Park, Panama Road, Mt Wellington For physically disabled 5years plus. To register contact George Taamaru 021 103 6916 or g.taamaru@gmail.com.

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



Angel Flight

Is a nationwide network of volunteer pilots and planes that provide free flights to hospitals or specialists facilities. Our volunteer drivers meet every flight and provide connections to the hospital, clinic or surgery. With 60 pilots around NZ we can fly you to any specialist facility you need. By taking care of your travel arrangements we take away the stress of long distance travel so you can focus on what's really important, getting well.

Attitude are wanting kids to share their voice

We are producing some short videos to give a platform for kids to share their voice. What do they want others to know about having a disability? What would they change about the world? What do they want to be when they grow up? Contact Olivia Shivas 021 022 01103 olivia@attitudelive.com

[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](#).

[Bloom](#)

Is a social enterprise for youth and individuals with learning disabilities. We are based in Pukekohe at Tui Glen Nurseries. You can find us at 188 Jutland Rd (far end of Princes St West) alongside Te Whangai Trust. We offer; meaningful activities for our vulnerable people, a connection to our community, an exchange of knowledge and skills between our keen volunteers and our people, a fun social work environment, some additional income to our workers and a sense of wellbeing for all participants. Every Monday, Thursday, Saturday 9am-12pm. New participants welcome on Mondays. For more information email Ineke bloompukekohe@gmail.com or 021 084 92604. Plants available for sale 10am-12pm.

[Care Matters](#)

Care Matters is a ground-breaking carer learning and wellbeing resource service, designed in New Zealand by carers specifically for carers in the disability community. Phone 0508 236 236

[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. Check out any books and if they don't have them they can get them in for you.

[Community Investigation](#)

Community Investigation invites you to take a holistic look at community and explore questions such as, what does a healthy community look like and how can we create it? How does reciprocity work in community? It also provides methods and tools for exploring the talents of the community. This in turn should lead to a targeted allocation of practical and financial resources and in turn increase productivity for your organisation. It will allow you to look at and challenge the way your organisation functions on a day to day basis while remaining true to its vision. You will also develop a fresh understanding of how your organisation fits into the wider community. Community Investigation will empower your organisation to adopt fresh, innovative ideas and increase you relevance while providing tools for you to shed ideas that may be limiting your life in the community. Community investigation is an experience that empowers your organisation to be agents of change in an ever changing world. For more

information contact Gray Ruffell, info@grayruffell.co.nz, 027 303 1079 / 06 870 8212

['Disadvantaged Pedestrians' Research](#)

Jun Park is a Doctoral (PhD) student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Auckland. He needs to interview a diverse range of people to further enhance his understanding of the barriers or issues faced by disadvantaged pedestrians in their journeys and to find potential solutions to these issues from various perspectives. 'Disadvantaged pedestrians' in this research includes people over 65 years of age and individuals with disabilities, such as: Physical (mobility impairments), Sensory (hearing and/or seeing impairments) and Dementia. His research aims to identify key factors relating to recurring issues and to develop a framework in evaluating and quantifying the impact these issues have on the users and the benefits of addressing these issues using qualitative data from the interviews. [Participant Information sheet](#) here and [Consent Form](#). For more information contact Jun hpar706@aucklandunit.ac.nz or 021 022 77965.

[Family First Welfare Trust](#)

Their vision is have a multi-ethnic and well integrated society where Muslim families are dignified, empowered and can live a life free from fear and violence with their own unique identity, contributing towards Aotearoa and community while exercising their rights and choices in a responsible manner. They provide all possible support to the families based on NZ law focusing on Islamic values in a family crisis or family breakdown situation. Based at 269 Great South Road, Otahuhu, 09 276 1785 / 0800 435 7786 email info@familyfirstwelfare.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. Contact flourishingfriendships16@gmail.com or call Sarah 021 135 3560 or Diane 027 629 0696.

[IHC Volunteering](#)

The IHC volunteer programme is about friendship in the community. This is what makes a volunteer for IHC so unique. Spend time doing what you want to do, when you want to do it, with a person with an intellectual disability. By taking a moment to connect with someone with an intellectual disability you can make a positive change in someone's live and a new friend in the process. For more information click [here](#) and to find volunteers in your area for your young person.

[Job Café](#)

Supporting Disability Employment. Our exceptionally important group of New Zealanders on the diversity spectrum needs more help than most – jobseekers with a disability. We help people find people. Whether you are a jobseeker, employer or recruitment agency we are keen to help our clients succeed. Our Purpose: Helping to make New Zealand a better place to live, work and play. Job Posting on JobCafe and/or using our talent pool (on-line

recruitment system) To find out about advertising services, rates for JobCafe or to setup your own Job Posting Account or enquire about using our talent pool solution - Email [Tony Cutting](mailto:Tony.Cutting) or call / txt Tony on 021 911 722. JobCafe Coaching Services JobCafe provides Career Coaching services for people who need assistance in developing a career plan then executing this with a solid marketing strategy. Our JobCafe 'Available Now' service was developed to market these clients to employers across New Zealand. For employers and recruiters we can help develop you into proactive recruiters who build solid referral networks, attractive brands and find the people you are looking for. For further information about JobCafe Coaching services please contact Tony Cutting on 021 911 722 or email tony.cutting@peoplenet.co.nz or visit our JobCafe Coaching website at jobcafecoaching.com

LifeKidz Youth Group – Community Participation Programme

This programme is developed for Very High Needs and High Needs Youth for over 18year olds. Running Monday to Wednesday 8.30am-3pm. The vision for the youth programme is to: form a group for 18 year olds and over where they can express and excel in everyday life and experiences and join in the local community. Our facility at The Depot is wheelchair friendly, we have a large gym, playground, quiet rooms, large kitchen and social room. Our goal is to do a variety of activities every day including cooking, swimming, visiting our local library, villages and participating in community events. We will create personal goals for each youth member and help achieve them. Call Deearna and make a time to come and visit. We can discuss payment options with you. 09 533 6360 or email deearna@lifekidz.org.nz

Mind over Matter

Are a charity organisation that presents workshops to strengthen communication and connection with those teenagers who think learn and work differently These workshops are designed for the parents, siblings, families, community members first responders and professionals in close association with these teenagers. The teenagers may be undiagnosed high functioning or diagnosed with such labels as Asperger's, OCD, ADHD, Dyspraxia, ADD, ODD and others. They normalizes what's often viewed as dysfunction or disability and reframes it as cognitive difference, levelling communication barriers between all of our neurodiversity. That person that's been put in that "label or box" is just another person. They were established because there is a desperate and exponential need for our workshops .We are all aware there is a significant increase in teenage anxiety , youth alienation, unemployment ,teenage runaways and youth suicide. Helps parents and professionals keep going when they just don't know what to do next. Mind over manner uses applied theatre techniques and works with theatre practitioners. By re-constructing highly-charged events drawn from life experiences, exercises deliver "active-reality" scenarios so parents, family, caregivers, teachers, youth workers and police have the chance to participate and reassess their responses to these most difficult times. If you are interested in booking a Mind over manner workshop please visit our website www.mindovermanner.co.nz or contact Susan

Haldane 027 665 8084 (txt only)

sue@mindovermanner.co.nz

Music Therapy with Shari

Shari is an Auckland-based, NZ Registered Music Therapist, providing contract music therapy services to a variety of facilities including a mental health service for older people in a hospital setting, aged care in residential and health settings, a choir for people living with neurological conditions, day services for adults living with disabilities, as well as private practice with clients in locations across Auckland. From young children to older generations; one-on-one, with families and in groups; in schools, rest homes, health care facilities and private homes; working with people with special needs, mental health needs, intellectual and physical disabilities and within neuro-rehabilitation. Email shari.storie@outlook.co.nz or phone 021 574 274.

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](#)

National Youth Theatre Company

Our OnStage programme, for young people aged 7-21, is an All-Access programme in which we strongly believe any child who wants the opportunity to participate in the performing arts should be able to. We work with many different young people and accommodate everyone's needs as best we can. We have had a student in a wheel-chair in our shows, as well as students with Autism, Aspergers and similar learning difficulties or intellectual disabilities. Our programme is based around the process of creating a full-scale musical production, so our students generally need to be able to be onstage under bright lights (often for sustained periods of time) without aid, and able to be part of the cast of a show. However, we would be delighted to talk with any family who might be unsure about the suitability of our

programme to see how we can best serve the needs of the particular student. For more details email info@nytc.co.nz

Northern Performing Arts

We would love to provide a special needs / disabilities class, however this is something that we have been looking into for some time and would love to get involved with. Ideally we would love to run a class / classes during the daytime, however this would be dependent on numbers in order to get a programme up and running. If you are interested in participating they would love to hear from you including age range and what sort of programme they are interested in (i.e. ballet, jazz, hip hop, just a general mixed dance class) that would be amazing. Please email info@northernperformingarts.co.nz or phone 027 680 4414.

Primary Schools No Exceptions Training – All sports Halberg Trust

Increase the participation of physically disabled young people in sport and physical education at primary school. No Exceptions Training empowers teachers and coaches to adapt sport, physical education and recreation activities to include physically disabled young people at primary school to increase their participation. For more information please contact your local Halberg Disability Sport Advisor via website www.allsports.org.nz/contact

Skids After School Programmes

Running out of Bairds Mainfreight Otara, Mayfield, Nga Iwi, Randwick Park, Robertson Road, Sutton Park after school quality programmes and are able to cater for some special needs children. Can provide most times a free service. Have arts and crafts, technology, cooking, movie day, fun day, sports and more. Provides healthy nutritious food and physical activity every day. Check out the above flier. For more information contact Ajneeta 027 627 5001 or email ajneeta.skids@outlook.co.nz

Special Assessment Conditions – Schooling

School term has begun and often IEP's are scheduled this term. SAC may be one of the subjects to discuss with teachers whether your teenager has an IEP or not. What are Special Assessment Conditions (SAC)? Special Assessment Conditions (SAC) provide extra help for approved students studying for NCEA that ensure they are fairly assessed through the removal of barriers. They can be used for both internal standards and external exams.

Standing Tall Transforming Abilities Survey

Standing Tall Recruitment and Advisory is proud to announce that we will be conducting Disability Sensation and Awareness Training for a global ride share service soon. Contact driver@standingtall.co.za for more information

Strengthening Families – Franklin

Empowering families to sort out their issues all at once in a coordinated way. Families are supported to achieve lasting results. It's about making a difference for families by connecting the services. For more info

or to register contact 238 6233 or visit www.strengtheningfamilies.govt.nz

Strengthening Families – North Shore

Are you feeling overwhelmed on how to navigate funding for your child, and would you like to receive increased support from the professionals and schools involved with your family? Julie Walker can help you with this by co-ordinating round table meetings with all those involved, identifying any further help that you can access for you or your child, collaboratively formulating an action plan, and facilitating a safe space where your concerns can be heard. This is a Ministry of Social Development free service, and is based at Raeburn House in Northcote Central. Phone 09 441 8989/027 498 7074

Super Kids Soap Box Derby

Whangaparoa Rotary Soap Box Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th April, 10am-2pm. Racing in tandem with a fully experienced and qualified soap box derby driver. To book a time slot phone Hellen 021 412 613 or Sarah 021 428 037

Supported Learning Courses

We have 2 new programmes below that help learners whom have learning disabilities, it's designed to support students who need extra help, to gain skills and confidence to take on further study and or employment in the future. We currently have a variety of students with different needs we also keep class to a minimum of 10-12 for effective one on one learning. It is a free course for students 16 years and over. I have attached the Supportive Learning Brochure - Level 1 - NZ Certificate in Skills for Living, 20 weeks (55 credits)
Level 2 - NZ Certificate in Foundation Skills 21 weeks (60 credits)
Manukau City Campus, MSL Training, 601-603 Great South Road, Manukau. Ph 0800 224 38 or info@msltraining.ac.nz

StarJam spaces available

Singing, dancing, drumming workshops for young people with disabilities in Auckland. Contact auckland@starjam.org for more information.

Talking Works Counsellor - Tom Didovich

Tom is a well qualified NZAC Registered Counsellor, Coach and Mentor based in New Lynn, Auckland. He has worked with young adults on the autism spectrum and with mental health challenges. He specialises in anger management, emotional regulation and working with a wide range of issues including grief & loss, stress, anxiety and depression. He also works with couples, and facilitates therapeutic groups for men living without violence. Tom is a qualified pianist/musician and can bring musical elements into therapy, as well as drawing on his many years of experience working with animals. Contact Tom at tomdidovich@gmail.com

World First Audio Game App

The Blind Cricket game is the latest development from Auckland start-up Audio Game Hub. With demonstrations of the digital and real world version of

the game it gave us an amazing insight into how the game was developed, with support and engagement in reviewing and testing the new app from the New Zealand Blind Cricket Team. Blind Cricket is played very similar to the conventional game. The most significant differences are that they bowl underarm, the stumps are metal to give an audible sound, the ball is plastic with small plastic balls in it to make an audible plastic rattle sound when it is moving and there are three sight categories dependant on your degree of vision

Articles of interest:

[New blood test can detect autism in children](#)
[Phil gets by without speaking](#)
[NZ Busy mum finishes book](#)
[Nelson man tackles disability head-on writes a book about it](#)
[Deaf NZ's at risk in medical emergencies](#)
[Disability carer workshop mooted](#)
[\\$200,000 for more youth leadership – Recreate NZ](#)
[Scholarship winner aspires to special needs training](#)
[Sesame St debuts first autistic character](#)
[Accessible properties acquire more than 1100 Tauranga homes](#)
[Jubilee Sailing Trust arrives in New Zealand](#)
[Amazing things happen](#)
[Bone tired: Autism and parental fatigue](#)
[My son is challenging and inspiring and loved](#)
[Transforming respite: Disability support services draft respite strategy](#)
[How Adele has helped with my sensory overload](#)
[Anxiety and autism in the classroom](#)
[Lego printable emotion cards](#)
[Bracing for the school holidays](#)
[He uses a wheelchair and so does this TV character](#)
[A doorbell for the deaf community](#)
[10 things parents of normal kids should know](#)
[Blind dining experience launches in Auckland](#)
[Teen doesn't have a date to the prom, burst into tears when football stars emerges](#)
[Idea services cut funding to 5% of its business](#)
[The real life mother and son behind muppet with autism](#)
[Newmarket café hires woman with Down Syndrome](#)
[Stretchy resistance bands](#)
[The funny down syndrome ad will change the way you feel about special needs](#)
[What are the signs of adhd](#)

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

[Auckland Down Syndrome](#) – February 2017

[Be Accessible](#) – April 2017

[Carers NZ](#) – February 2017

[Changing Minds](#) – March 2017

[Children's Autism](#) – March 2017

[Communitycations](#) – March 2017 [Communitycations](#) – March 28 [Communitycations](#) – April 4

[Dance Therapy](#) – March 2017

[Deaf Aotearoa April 3](#)

[Deaf Aotearoa 28 March](#)

[Talking Hands Magazine](#)

[Dotty Wobble](#) – March 2017

[e-Cald news](#) – March 2017

[Franklin Family Support Newsletter](#) – February 2017

[Health Link North](#) – April 2017

[Health Quality & Safety Commission E-update](#) – March 2017

[Idea Services](#) – February 2017

[Independent Living Services](#) – March 2017

[I-sign update](#) – March 2017

[Kia Maro Enable NZ](#) – April 2017

[Kiwi Families](#) – February 2017

[Mapura Studios](#) – March 2017

[NZDSN](#) – March 2017

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

[Parent to Parent newsletter](#) – April 2017

[Magazine](#) – April 2017

[Raukauri Newsletter](#) – Autumn 2017

[Recreate NZ newsletter](#) – Term 2 2017

[Sands Expressions](#) – March 2017

[Special Olympics Fanletter](#) – March 2017

[The Asian Network Newsletter \(TANI\)](#) – Autumn 2017

[Violence Free Communities](#) – February 2017

[Waitakere Health Link](#) – March 2017

[Whanau Marama](#) – March 2017

[Women's Centre](#) – February 2017



helping families

From the Disability Connect Team

Lisa, Virginia, Robyn, Sanny, Angela and Asoka

www.disabilityconnect.org.nz

Join us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#)

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