

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 24 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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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 16th May, 9.30am-1pm. Please contact Sanny Chan at Disability Connect for more information on our meetings. Contact Sanny 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

Conferences / Events outside of Auckland

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 across Auckland April-July

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.

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 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

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.

Parent to Parent Training Courses

Altogether Autism Network Meeting

Learn about all that Altogether Autism can do to support you. Be upsills on autism from both a professional and a lived experience viewpoint. Have your questions about autism answered. Enjoy a light lunch with others living and working with autism. To register call 0508 236 236
Auckland - Henderson Tue 30 May 17
Auckland (Albany) Wed 31 May 17

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 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

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 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.

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.

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 artandsougroups@gmail.com

Artist in Movement Classes

Māpura Studios has openings in their Artist in Movement class (Mondays 12.30-2pm) for adults with disabilities and their Kids' Open Studio class for children aged 5-12 with ASD and other special needs (Tuesdays 4- 5.30 pm). Enrolments are also open for Creative Music Group with the new time of Thursdays 1–2.30pm Contact info@mapurastudios.org.nz 09 845 5361

Boys Day Out – Phab

It's time for another boy's day out filled with fun and "boy stuff". Saturday the 6th of May, 9am to 6pm 9am - Meet at PHAB, 8 Auburn Street, Takapuna for a full cooked breakfast, 10.30am taxi booked with games and prizes on the trip to....., 12.00pm – Spookers for a trip round the Haunted House and then the black light 3D experience of Disturbia!! We will

also have lunch at Spookers. 3.00pm – Jetboating - a ride on a twin 300HP turbocharged jet boat with supercharged engines in downtown Auckland 5.00pm - Back to PHAB for a BBQ dinner and some rocking music! 6pm - Home time. The cost for the day will be a carer support day per person (or \$87.40) plus \$80.00 each which covers food, activities and transport. We have 15 spaces available so be in quick to book your spot for this epic day out, To book contact Chewy on 0274 334 627 or chewy@phab.org.nz

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

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

Mum's Kitchen Rules

Three free fun and friendly workshops for family cooking on a budget. For pregnant mums or families with children 0-2years. On completion of the third session you will receive a free cooking goodie bag. Thursday 4th May, 11th May, 18th May, 10am-12pm. Plus a weaning foods option extra 25th May. Manukau City Baptist Church, 9 Lambie Dr, Papatoetoe. Ring Jess Bevan 021 531 712 to register or text your name and MKR and someone will contact you within 48 hours. Registration form [here](#)

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 www.rhythmforthesoul.co.nz Tea, coffee, snacks and laughter provided.

Numicon Courses Term 2

Auckland 1st June, Numicon for years 1-6 including special needs

This is a full day course conversing all aspects of maths using Numicon. The fee includes a Maths Bag and morning tea. Bring your own lunch. There is a cafe nearby. 9:15am - 3:00pm

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

Toddler Day Out

Great parenting fair. Fun for under 5's and their families. Saturday 13th May, 9am-2pm. Massey Leisure Centre, Cnr Don Buck & Westgate Drive. For more information contact 09 837 4849 or www.violencefreecommunities.org

Tune In "Speech and Music Co-Therapy Group"

Fun filled group sessions led by a music therapist and a speech therapist that use musical activities to develop social and functional language skills. The groups are organised around themes to help children develop their vocabularies and language comprehension, while allowing for plenty of opportunities for development of social skills and friendship through peer engagement and musical games. Preschool group age 2-5yo with caregivers, Monday 1.45-2.30pm, School age group 6-10yo with or without caregivers Monday 3-3.45pm. Raukauri Music Therapy Centre, \$30 per session. Starts 1st May. For more information contact Jen Ryckaert, Jennifer@rmtc.org.nz or 09 360 0889.

Wellbeing Support Groups – North Shore

Mindfulness, Wednesdays 3rd May-7th June 10.30am-12pm. Raeburn House \$85 or free with doctor referral. Art Therapy, Mondays 8th May-3rd July, 10am-12.30pm, Norman King Community Hub, Northcote, \$105 or free with doctors referral. Moving past depression Sunday 21st May-9th July, 1-3pm, Raeburn House, \$95 or free with doctors referral. Overcoming Anxiety, Monday 1st May-29th May, 6.30-8pm, Norman King Community Hub, Northcote, \$85 or free with doctor referral. Parenting Anxious Tweens and Teens, Sunday 21st May-11th June, 1-2.30pm, Norman King Community Hub, Northcote, Free for all. Confidence, Wellbeing and Employment Guidance, Thursday 4th May for 6 weeks, 10-11.30am, Norman King Community Hub, Northcote, Free for all. Tuesday 13th June for 6 weeks, 1-2.30pm, Norman King community Hub, Northcote, Free for all.

Wellbeing Support Groups – West Auckland

Mindfulness, Monday 22nd May for 6 weeks, Walsh Trust, Henderson, \$85 or free with doctors referral. Moving Past Depression and Anxiety, Thursday 11th May for 6 weeks, Walsh Trust, Henderson, \$105 or free with doctors referral.

Wellbeing Support Groups – Rodney

Enhancing Self Esteem and Communication Skills, Thursday 25th May-29th June, 7-9pm, Stanmore Bay \$95 or free with doctors referral. Overcoming Anxiety, Monday 12th June-3rd July, 6.30-8pm, Orewa, \$85 or free with doctor referral.

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



Access4all

ACCESS4ALL is a New Zealand-wide Accommodation and Activity Guide specifically designed for anyone, young or old, who has mild to major mobility difficulties. It is mainly visual so travellers and their support team can see and decide for themselves whether accommodation and/or activities in a particular destination might suit – because they are the experts. We do have some knowledge of this field as we have a few mobility impairments ourselves. Contact Richard 09 479 7702.

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](#).

Big White Wall

Big White Wall is an online support site available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week for people living in Auckland region. The site has over 15,000 members and contains resources and online group programs for a number of problems (eg. depression, anxiety, trauma). People use the site for a variety of reasons including loneliness, frustration, work stress, depression, and anxiety and gain support from talking to other users or just expressing their own experiences. You can access the site for free at www.bigwhitewall.com and entering an Auckland postcode

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

Carer Required Henderson

We are in need of a carer to care for my 6 year old boy in Henderson on an ongoing part-time basis. He suffers from Tuberos Sclerosis, is non verbal and can't walk. He suffers from epilepsy which is partially controlled. Hours 2.30-4.30pm on weekdays (Monday to Friday) and then full time in the school holidays. In the school holidays, you will be working 8am to 4.30pm although the ability to start as early as 6.30am is an advantage. Some light household duties around child would be required as well - such as unloading dishwasher, and doing the child's washing. You will also do personal care. No work experience is needed, although a background in childcare and/or experience working with children with special needs is highly desirable. To be suitable, you will: Need to be able to make a long-term commitment (at least a year) Be able to work as a self-employed contractor. This means that you will have to pay your own income tax. Please note that if you are currently holding a student visa, you are unlikely to be able to work as a

self-employed contractor due to your visa conditions. If you have any questions about your student visa conditions, it is best to contact Immigration NZ for the most up to date advice. Be caring and reliable. Your own transport is an advantage, however there is public transport to the job location. Hourly rate is \$17-\$20, to be advised based upon experience. Please email Anita Garrett, anita.garrett@icloud.com

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 normalize 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

Public Transport Survey

I am a 4th-year undergraduate student in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Auckland. I am currently undertaking a research project with Joshua Bamford, another 4th-year undergraduate student, alongside Jun Park, a PHD student. We are trying to understand the barriers or issues faced by disadvantaged pedestrians in their journeys involving public transport. This research involves interviewing a diverse range of pedestrians with disadvantages to explore these issues from their perspectives. Currently, we are looking for members in your organisation who may be interested in being involved with this research. Please find attached the participant information sheet which contains information about the research and the procedures, as well as a guideline of the list of questions we will ask during interviews. Questionnaire [here](#). Participant Information [form](#).

Ranfurlly Care Celebrates 25 Years of Service

Epsom residential care and activity centre the Ranfurlly Care Society recently celebrated 25 years of service.

Skids After School Programmes

Runing 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

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

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

Articles of interest:

[Free to fidget – these Maine classrooms encourage movement to improve learning](#)

[7 things I wish people knew about parenting kids with Dyslexia](#)

[Disability system transformation group announced](#)

[Books for visually impaired kids handmade by Auckland school student](#)

[Autism spectrum disorder not a deficit expert says as she urges schools to embrace autistic children](#)

[World autism day – a café where all the workers have autism](#)

[Marine dad returns home expects to see son in wheelchair but keep your eyes open](#)

[Video shines light on disabled customer's needs](#)

[Ageing parents struggle caring for disabled children](#)

[He's the love light of my life](#)

[Don't leave kids like me behind](#)

[The courage to be kind teaches kids about disability and inclusion](#)

[The controversy around autism and neurodiversity](#)

[Why self care is an important part of parenting and how to make time for it](#)

[The green eyed goblin](#)

[Helping children with special needs cope with fears, anxiety and worries](#)

[The walking bike that is changing lives](#)

[Shining light on volunteer hard work](#)

[2017 New Zealand youth award winners](#)

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

[Auckland e-News](#) – 15 April 2017

[Be Accessible](#) – April 2017

[Cald Newsletter](#) – April 2017

[Carers NZ](#) – April 2017

[Carers NZ](#) – 20 April 2017

[Changing Minds](#) – April 2017

[Children's Autism](#) – April 2017

[Communitycations](#) – March 2017

[Communitycations](#) – March 28

[Communitycations](#) – April 4

[Dance Therapy](#) – March 2017

[Deaf Aotearoa April 14](#)

[Deaf Aotearoa 7 April](#)

[Deaf Aotearoa 24 April](#)

[Talking Hands Magazine](#)

[Dotty Wobble](#) – March 2017

[e-Cald news](#) - April 2017

[Edushop](#) – April 2017

[Health Link North](#) – April 2017

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

[Independent Living Services](#) – March 2017

[I-sign update](#) – March 2017

[Kia Maro Enable NZ](#) – April 2017

[Mapura Studios](#) – March 2017

[NZDSN](#) – March 2017

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

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

[e-news](#) 17 April 2017

[Magazine](#) – April 2017

[Raukatauri Newsletter](#) – Autumn 2017

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

[Sands Expressions](#) – March 2017

[Special Olympics Fanletter](#) – April 2017

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

[Waitakere Health Link](#) – March 2017

[Whanau Marama](#) – March 2017



helping families

From the Disability Connect Team

Lisa, Virginia, Robyn, Sanny, Angela and Asoka

www.disabilityconnect.org.nz

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