

**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 July 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

CONTENT

[Disability Connect Seminars and Information](#)

[Seminars/Training/Conferences](#)

[Upcoming events and activities](#)

[Notices](#)

[Newsletters](#)

Remember to click on the links to access more information about each heading below. The headings ([blue underlined](#)) are links.

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

'What happens when we're no longer here to care for our loved one with a disability' Click [here](#)

to view the video footage of the entire forum or click on the blue title above to access the video.

On Wednesday 28th June Disability Connect delivered a parents forum focussing on the issue 'What happens when we're no longer here'. This was very well attended with 97 parents and 10 staff from Disability Connect, Ministry of Health and Taikura Trust. We gathered a lot of feedback about the issues that concern parents as well as useful information from Ministry of Health about the Disability System Transformation currently underway. We are currently collating this feedback into a report which will be available by Friday 7th July. We welcome any further feedback or questions to

admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

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. Dates for rest of year 25th July, 15th August, 19th September, 17th October, 21st November, 5th December. 9.30am-1pm. Please contact Sanny Chan at Disability Connect for more information on our meetings. To see flier in [English](#) or [Chinese](#) click here 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. Dates for rest of year - 27th July, 24th August, 28th September, 26th October, 23rd November, 14th December All families with special needs are welcome to join this group – we welcome everyone from any culture and any disability. It is a great opportunity for parents to share their experience and network with each other. Please contact Asoka at Disability Connect for more information or bookings – phone 09 636 0351 or 027 457 8571 or email asoka@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Indian Families Social Group - Otahuhu

This is held at Otahuhu Town Hall Community House on one Monday night per month. August date yet to be confirmed. 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

North Auckland - Wednesday 6th September 7-9pm
Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Place, Albany

Central Auckland - Thursday 28th September 12-2pm
Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

South Auckland - Tuesday 14th November 7-9pm
Clover Park Community House, 16 Israel Ave, Clover Park

Living Options

East Auckland - Wednesday 30th October 7-9pm
Highland Park Community House, 47 Aviemore Drive, Highland Park

West Auckland - Thursday 14th September 7-9pm
Hub West, 27 Corban Avenue, Henderson

South Auckland - Thursday 19th October 7-9pm
Otahuhu Town Hall, 10-16 High Street, Otahuhu

North Auckland - Tuesday 24th October 7-9pm
Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Place, Albany

Central Auckland

Wednesday 1st November 12-2pm
Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

Planning for Adulthood – The Legal Framework around Disability and Disability Rights

Central Auckland - Thursday 7th September 12-3pm
Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

North Auckland - Wednesday 27th September 6.30-9.30pm. Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Place, Albany

South Auckland - Thursday 26th October 6.30-9.30pm
Clover Park Community House, 16 Israel Ave, Clover Park

Sexuality Education for people with intellectual disabilities workshop, Fully booked

Annette Milligan is a sexual health nurse and educator who has developed a series of resources to support parents and educators teach people with intellectual disabilities about all those intimate things that can be so hard to deal with. Topics – Relationships, dating, asking permission, safety in relationships, hygiene, how to ask for help. Parents, teachers, caregivers, teacher aides or anyone interested in the development of people with learning disabilities. We are fully booked for July and August seminars. We endeavour to offer more of these later in the year so please register you list so we can put you on the waitlist for this - admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz or 09 636 0351.

Transition

South Auckland – Wednesday 5th July 7-9pm,
Mt Richmond School, 30 Albion Road, Otahuhu

Central Auckland - Wednesday 21st June 12-2pm
Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

South Auckland - Wednesday 5th July 7-9pm

Mt Richmond Special School, 30 Albion Road, Otahuhu

Central Auckland - Thursday 31st August 12-2pm

Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

North Auckland - Wednesday 20th September 7-9pm

Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Place, Albany

West Auckland – Tuesday 17th October, Oaklynn Special, School, 20 Mayville Ave, New Lynn

South Auckland - Tuesday 31st October 7-9pm
Otahuhu Town Hall, 10-16 High Street, 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

North Auckland - Wednesday 16th August 7-9pm
Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3 William Laurie Place, Albany

Central Auckland - Wednesday 25th October 12-2pm
Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

West Auckland - Tuesday 7th November 7-9pm
Hub West, 27 Corban Avenue, Henderson

Activities, after school and holiday programmes

Conferences / Events outside of Auckland

Counselling Services and Support Groups

Disability Sector Project Information and research

Discounted Activities across Auckland listed by Region

Employment Opportunities and Positions

Holiday Programmes and Holiday Activities

Other organisations information

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

Altogether Autism's 2017 Conference 'Transitions #Breakthrough 2017'

Will be held at Holiday Inn Auckland Airport., 2 Ascot Ave, Mangere, 19-20th July. Keynote speakers, Emeritus Professor Rita Jordan, Sue Kinnear, Jason Edgecumbe. Consumer/Family/Whanau \$420 or Professional \$640. Conference programme is [here](#) Register at www.altogetherautism.org.nz/conference

Community Workshops – Coordinating ongoing engagement with council and community groups

Auckland Council has teamed up with *Think Place* to look at how we coordinate relationships with community groups. Over the next few weeks, we will be hosting workshops with community members to look at how council coordinates its ongoing engagement with community groups. Through interviews and looking at existing research (which many community groups across Auckland were previously involved with) a number of challenges in how council currently coordinates ongoing relationships with community groups have been identified. We now want to look at ideas and strategies for what we can do to address the challenges. Our process includes the following stages:

1. Understanding the challenge (interviews and key documents)
2. Exploring solutions for key opportunities (community and council staff workshops)
3. Prototyping strategies (walk-through and interviews)
4. Refining and sharing (stories and report)

We are looking for a range of people from diverse community groups to be involved in our workshops. You don't have to be the most out-spoken person to get involved, you just need to be curious, have ideas and want to help council improve how it connects with community groups. The workshops are 2 hours, and include 30 minutes for mihi whakatau and lunch, and 1.5 hours for developing ideas.

Workshops:

[South](#) – Papatoetoe Town Hall, Tuesday, July 4th 12-2pm

[North](#) – Venue TBC, Thursday, July 6th 12-2pm

Contact Kelsi – Kelsi.cox@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

Learner Drivers Workshop

25th and 26th July, 9.30am-2pm, Yes Disability Resource Centre, 3b William Laurie Place, Albany. Are you wanting to get your learner driver licence? We are looking for people with disabilities who are eager to get own learner drivers licence and would like to attend our workshop. Rachael@yesdisability.org.nz

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@improvinglifeoutcomes.org.nz 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 artandsoulgroups@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

Attitude Award Nominations

Attitude Awards Nominations are open! If you know of anyone deserving within your networks, please nominate them. Information about the Awards can be found here: attitudelive.com/awards

The categories are:

ACC Employer Award

Youth Spirit Award

Making A Difference Award

Artistic Achievement Award

Entrepreneur Award

Leadership Award

Spirit Of Attitude Award

Nominations close 28th June

Auckland Whanau Special Needs Support Group

PACT Building, 311 Great South Road, Papatoetoe. A great way to meet other families and just get together. Meetings are held monthly August 8th, September 5th, October 17th, November 7th. Please bring a plate to share. Children are very welcome and there is a big play area for them. Parents of children who have special needs often feel isolated, judged and frustrated until they meet other parents sharing a similar journey. To provide a fully inclusive support network for whanau or carers who are or have raised a child or is a person with special needs. They have a monthly support morning tea at PACT, 311 Great South Road, Papatoetoe on a Tuesday. For more details either look up Auckland Whanau Special Needs Support Group on Facebook or phone Marlene on 021

120 3235. For more details search [Auckland Whanau Special Needs Support Group on Facebook](#)

Bloom are looking for a paid co-ordinator

We are looking for a paid coordinator to take Bloom into the future. Job description available on request. Our plan will be to be open for 5 mornings a week from the 1st of July. Until then we will be open on Thursdays and Saturdays. Contact - food4soulandsenses@xtra.co.nz Ineke Dirkzwager 021 084 92604 or Nicki Turner - bloompukekohe@gmail.com 021 022 25542

COGY test ride – Pedal/Wheelchair/Bike/Chair

Have a look at the info below and the attached flyer and if you want to book a spot for a trial please contact me. Thursday the 10th of August, 4.30pm to 6.30pm at PHAB 8 Auburn Street, Takapuna. **Please note** - There are only **5** places available on the trial evening. **COGY trial evening.** Chance to try out COGY, pedal-wheelchair / bike-chair. **COGY** is originally designed in Japan. Pedalling COGY is very light, so that even people whose legs are not strong enough to stand, are able to pedal. By repeating peddling, our body learn how to move our legs. Users become stronger on their legs. safer than walking, less pressure on joints than walking, more fun than exer-cycle, efficient for teaching our body how to walk, you can feel the wind on your face using your own body. You will find it beneficial if you - have legs paresis from brain injury/spinal injury., have legs paresis from cerebral palsy, have legs paresis from stroke, have multiple sclerosis, -have problem exercising because of your body weight and/or joint problem and/or general weakness. Here below is the story of a 10 years old boy, with CP, who continuously tried out COGY. (For his videos, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC190_qiuRYb2P-xUA8TqIXA/videos). Ben is a 10 years old boy, with paresis on his legs from cerebral palsy. He is experiencing growing pain these days, which discourage him from walking/standing. Ben used to walk 10-12 mins on treadmill about 3 years ago, but not at all in the last few months. He cannot stand long enough because of the growing pain followed by the weakened muscles. His parents were worried about him getting weaker on his legs. On his 4th day with COGY, his mother reported to me, "Ben managed to walk for 6 minutes on the treadmill. His gait was wider than I have ever seen and his steps were strong."

COGY did not just help with his physical issue. His mother also reports, "He has decided a bit odd muscle pain is good because its his muscles growing", "He really enjoys his time on COGY as it gives him a sense of freedom nothing else gives him", "The biggest change is that Ben has much more self esteem than before."

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.

Drama Classes – Interacting Theatre

Mondays 1-2.30pm, \$10 per class. Phab, Auburn St, Takapuna, for more details and bookings contact Paula 09 849 5595 interacting@ihug.org.nz

Fitness Fun Class

An activity class to get individuals with special needs or learning difficulties (e.g. Dyslexia) to have fun while learning new skills. This class includes balance, agility, fitness and upper body strength and activities in a fun environment. The class consists of routines and free time. We look at the needs and abilities of each child and provide activities that suit those needs. Please email info@improvinglifeoutcomes.org.nz if you are interested in finding out more about the class or enrolling.

Interact 2017

Corban Estate, Henderson. 25-27th October. Contact Paula, interactfest@gmail.com or ph 09 849 5595 or check out our website www.interacting.org.nz

Have you produced art work? Dance, music, Kapa Haka or performance pieces? Wearable art for the parades? You don't have to prepare something new, it may be something you have already performed but would love to share it with all the people who come to InterACT. It takes 2 mins to fill out this link and it's the first step to being part of this exciting event. <https://tinyurl.com/interactfest>

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 Contact Ben on ben.gould-smith@jst.org.nz or 027 552 6545.

Kids at School Care – Holiday Programme

School Holiday Programme based at AGC Sunderland, 6 Waipareira Ave, Henderson. Contact nanettecarillo@yahoo.com. Events all cost \$45 and include Space Exploration at Motat, Mexican Party, Super Hero and Villains day, Movie day and Bubble soccer challenge. 021 026 3242

Mixed Abilities Rugby

What is Mixed Ability Rugby – [here](#) is some more information in general Done in collaboration with IMAS (Internationally mixed ability sports) which is a proven model started in England to include everyone in mainstream sports. Mixed ability involves players, coaches, volunteers both with and without disabilities in mainstream sport activities, generating social inclusion and improving health, confidence and social skills. Mixed Ability Rugby can sound like a daunting idea in a sport known for its physicality, however within the wider rugby offer. To start we will organise a 'Have a go' training where we would like to invite anyone who is keen to join our Mixed ability Rugby team, trainings will be on Monday evening 6.30-8pm, College Rifles, Remuera. Please contact expression of interest via marugby.nz@gmail.com so we can inform you of start date. Or contact 027 246 8461

Mum's Kitchen Rules workshops, from August 9

Free cooking classes, Mum's Kitchen Rules, are available for Māori and Pacific mums. For pregnant women or families of children up to two years. Places will go quickly. Three workshops, 9 August, 16 August and 23 August, 10am–12noon, Manukau City Baptist Church, 9 Lambie Drive, Papatoetoe. To register phone 021 512 018 or text MKR. Read more [here](#)

Otahuhu Town Hall Activities

A variety of different activities during the week. Chen style Tai Chi, Free CV workshops, flower arrangement, line dancing, dance17, Fit club, Yjam, cooking. For all information and other programmes [click here](#). There is also after school, before school and holiday programmes available.

Pain Self Management Education

16th August running for 6 weeks, 10am-12.30pm. East Health Trust, 260 Botany Road, Unit B, Golflands. For people with chronic pain lasting more than 3 months. Topics include Healthy Eating, problem solving, communications, strategies for managing pain, fatigue and frustration. Contact Shirley Bernhard on 538 0599 or email shirleyb@easthealth.co.nz

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

Phab Hangout Days

For over 16's. The Building" is an amazing, fully accessible, PHAB youth space in central Takapuna that has the best of equipment for you to use: Playstation 3, Singstar, EyeToy, 4 Internet Linked computers, 42 Inch screen TV, Video camera, pool table, table tennis, basketball, foosball table, liberty swing plus heaps of other games and outdoor equipment. 8.30am-4.30pm, Tuesday 11th-14th July and Tuesday 18th-21st July. Cost \$76 per day+ GST. A carer support form can be used to claim this back. Activities include Movies, Pizza, Maritime Museum, Science Day, Design your own t shirt, indoor/outdoor competition day, Xtreme game zone, paint the staff, zoo. Contact chewy@phab.org.nz or 09 488 7490.

Safari Multicultural Playgroup

They welcome families from all cultural backgrounds living locally, as well as former refugee families Safari Henderson – Henderson Baptist Church, 321 Great North Road, Henderson and Safari Lynfield – YMCA Lynfield, 16 Griffen Rd, Lynfield, Safari Papatoetoe – PACT building, 311 Great South Road, Papatoetoe. Time 9.30am-12pm. Contact Cherie at cherieb@arms-mrc.org.nz or 09 973 2852

Sight and Sound Holiday Arts Programme

9.30am-3.30pm, for students 15+, \$50 per person per day. Wednesday 12th July, Thursday 20th July – Music and Movement (am) Painting, Printmaking, Drawing and Clay (pm) and Wednesday 19th July and Thursday 13th July – Cartooning (am), Print making, drawing and clay (pm). Mapura Studios, Fowlds Park, Rocky Nook Ave, St Lukes 09 845 5361 info@mapurastudios.org.nz

Sign Language Sessions

[South Auckland](#) - Elevator-Geneva, 621 Great South Road, Manukau. Wednesday 12th July, 6.30-8.30pm.

Special Olympics Training Opportunities Programme

Special Olympics sports training sessions are held weekly in most areas, except Public Holidays, and school holidays in some areas. Groups break around the first week in December and resume in early February. Please ensure you contact the Coordinator before attending a training session to ensure there haven't been any changes to the timetable. Activities include Ten Pin Bowling, Swimming, Equestrian, Basketball, snow Sports, Football, Basketball, Golf, Indoor sports, Table tennis, Powerlifting, Athletics, Indoor bowls, Boccia in different areas. Run in Hibiscus Coast, Greenhithe, North Harbour, Waitakere, Central Auckland, Howick/Pakuranga, Manukau, Pukekohe, Mangere, Tamaki, Papakura. Click on above link for the contact details or each area.

Stanford Self Management Leaders Training

Do you want to make a difference to the communities you serve. Do you or someone you care for have a long term health condition, such as heart disease, arthritis, lung disease, depression or diabetes? Topics include: Relaxation techniques, communication skills,

physical health and healthy eating, managing depression, managing symptoms and prevention. 4 full days Monday 4th, Tuesday 5th, Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th September, 9.30am-4.30pm. East Health Trust, 260 Botany Road, Golflands. Expression of interest to parvink@easthealth.co.nz or 09 538 0599, Parvin Kapila

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.

Adaptive Athletes

Personal Training, Fitness Programmes, Group classes, Special courses and many more. Contact Adam 021 289 5044

Anxiety Helpline Job

Clinical Backup Position for 0800 Anxiety Helpline – work from home

The Anxiety Helpline is a free, nationwide 24-hour Helpline that provides people with anxiety and their families, with support, education and anxiety management techniques. The helpline has a three tier system (helpline volunteer, duty manager and clinical back up). Therefore we always have someone on call who can provide support for the volunteer on shift (e.g. if they need to debrief), support with calls where risk is elevated or take the Helpline if the volunteer is unable to at last minute (which is very rare). The clinical backup person would be contacted by phone if and when extra support is required. If you have a professional background in mental health, and an interest in this position, we'd be keen to hear from you. Applicants from anywhere in NZ are welcome and you can work from home. Free training would be provided in Auckland (the next training dates will be in Sep 2017). For more information please contact Helpline Manager Goldie
Hamilton: helpline@anxiety.org.nz

AS Club Beachlands Log Cabin Support Group

Meeting first Friday every month, 6.30-8pm, Log cabin, cnr Wakelin Road and Ealing Crescent. For mums, dads and kids including siblings. Contact [Sue](#) for more information. We also have mums only outings to the movies or dinners every now and then.

AT HOP accessible concession process

Auckland Transport are reviewing the AT HOP accessible concession process and would like to hear your feedback, about any issues/problems you have experienced or anyone you know in terms of getting the card. Anna Haggerty is the lead. Can you please contact Anna email Anna.Haggerty@at.govt.nz. Anna will contact you about the next steps.

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

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

Community Liaison Coordinator – IHC – Counties Manukau

I am the new Community Liaison Coordinator at IHC and its service arm IDEA Services in Counties. At IHC, supporting people with intellectual disabilities and their families/Whānau is what we are passionate about and we are pleased to be offering this free service to the community.

I am here to help you with navigating and accessing agencies, services, and supports. If you need information and assistance, I will guide you through the process of diagnosis to linking into Ministries for additional support. The other important function of the community liaison is advocacy. It is about ensuring people's rights are being respected and that they have support when navigating agencies. Please do not hesitate to phone, email, or visit our friendly office if you would like support for yourself or a loved one. Iris Philip Community Liaison Coordinator IHC IDEA Services Counties Mob: 022 010 8243 Ph 09 529 8714. Iris.phillip@idea.org.nz

Council Local Board Engagement

No local board has access or disability projects in it at present, in terms of a budget line; this might be a real concern, seeing that there are heaps of projects around youth, ethnic diversity, migrants, older persons, etc. Do use this chance to go to the Have your say events and to make submissions and even to address someone from your local board. 30th June.

First Signs Website

Deaf Aotearoa is proud to announce the new First Signs website is now live. The site features

information about the First Signs service, as well as videos for families with Deaf or hard of hearing children aged 0-5. Families can use these videos to support their child's learning and links to further resources. Big thanks to the stars of the website, Carter and Elliot, and their families. You can visit the website at www.firstsigns.co.nz

Having a good GP is important to everyone

The three Auckland DHBs in partnership with the city's Primary Health Organisations (PHOs) want to provide you with more user-friendly and accessible information about general practices (GPs). This will help you make informed choices when deciding which GP is for you. We also want to learn more about your experience of visiting the GP. We are running a number of community workshops to learn more about what matters to you when visiting the GP, and to give you an opportunity to have a say about what information is most relevant and useful when choosing or changing GPs. The workshops will take two hours and there is free onsite parking at all venues. We will provide a light morning/afternoon tea or supper and a gift voucher in appreciation of your participation. 7th June - Northcote, 14th June - Te Atatu South, 21st June - Mt Eden, 28th June - Manukau For registrations click [here](#)

Headway Equestrian

At Headway Equestrian we believe that children of all abilities can discover the joy of contact with horses and horse riding. We provide an encouraging and stimulating environment where children can engage in activities that are specifically designed to improve balance and co-ordination, fine and gross motor skills, concentration, listening and communication skills. We have found that children develop a strong bond with their horse, gain self-confidence and become more positive and outgoing. Caregivers have commented many times that Headway Equestrian is their child's happy place. All activities take place outside where the children can hear, feel and appreciate the movements and sounds of nature. We incorporate Hippotherapy and Therapeutic Riding into the sessions. The movement pattern of the horse provides a rhythmic and repetitive action that influences the rider who responds to these actions enhancing their physical strength and cognitive capabilities. Therapeutic Riding spaces are available for children with mild disabilities during Terms 3 and 4. For more information visit:

www.headwayequestrian.co.nz or Headway Equestrian on Facebook. Email info@headwayequestrian.co.nz
Phone/Text: 021 834 781, 76 Jackson Way (off East Coast Road), Silverdale. Shelley Thomson
New Zealand Registered Occupational Therapist
Hippotherapy Level One, Perth
20 years horse riding and 10 years coaching experience

One small step for your child, one giant leap for their education

Hi, my name is Julie and I am your local Footsteps Teacher working in the heart of the North Shore. I work with many local families in the area to provide the Footsteps 'Learn' Programme. Funded by the Ministry of Education our free home-based programme entitles your child/ren to receive regular visits from a qualified early

childhood teacher like me when there is a caregiver (other than you, the parent) in place. The caregiver can be anyone who provides regular care to your child such as a nanny, grandparent, relative or friend. I am trained to provide fun, one to one learning support, advice and ideas to ensure your child gets the best start. At Footsteps, we are committed to the highest quality which is why I receive an industry-leading 20 days training a year and have up to 75% smaller caseloads than other providers. When you enrol with Footsteps you will receive: 1:1 support to ensure tamariki are getting a personalised learning experience, regular visits from one of 55 qualified early childhood teachers working nationwide. Free learning resources tailored to your child's needs and interests. Learning folder - a folder celebrating your child's life story and achievements. Access to subsidies - to ensure you are getting the support your family is entitled to. Keen to find out more about how Footsteps can support you and your child? Call Marion on 0800 366 878 or go online to www.footsteps.co.nz/learn

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

Kaleidocare School Holiday and after school programmes

Kaleidocare is the vision of Karen & Rebecca. Based in Pukekohe. It was established in July 2014, growing from an idea to develop a high quality service in Franklin that would support & engage young adults with high and complex needs with the community. We aim to provide fun and meaningful activities for our clients to make life inclusive and enjoyable. They also run a day programme for young adults with high and complex needs. Email office@kaleidocare.co.nz

LifeKidz Youth Group - Community Participation Programme

This programme is developed for Very High Needs and High Needs Youth for over 18 year 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 Manner

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

If you're looking for caregivers to support you and your child, take control of your home support needs and connect with a nationwide network of caregivers and support workers on MyCare. Mycare is an easy-

to-use online platform and app that allows you to browse through thousands of helpers and support workers to assist with a wide range of services. Whether your child needs support with activities, a buddy, or help with personal care, Mycare gives you the power to select a helper that best suits your family's needs. Worker profiles allow you to check interests, experience and qualifications. You can also read reviews from other users to help gauge if their personality and skills are a good fit for you and your child. Simply download the app on [iOS](https://www.apple.com/ios) or [Android](https://www.android.com) or log onto www.mycare.co.nz to list a job for free and find a suitable worker. Next, it's as simple as booking their time and making a payment through Mycare's secure payment system. hello@mycare.co.nz, 0800 677 700, www.mycare.co.nz

New Zealand to join Marrakesh Treaty

The Government will join an international treaty to improve access to written materials for blind and visually impaired New Zealanders, Disability Issues Minister Nicky Wagner and Commerce and Consumer Affairs Minister Jacqui Dean say. The *Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired or Otherwise Print Disabled* is an international framework that will enable the reproduction and distribution of books and other literary works in accessible formats. "An estimated 90 per cent of all written materials worldwide are not published in accessible formats, such as braille, audio or large print. For around 168,000 New Zealanders with a print disability, this is a barrier to participation in public life and restricts employment, educational and recreational opportunities," Ms Wagner says. "This treaty will make meaningful change to the lives of thousands of New Zealanders by ensuring they have access to a greater variety of books and other publications in accessible formats. It also supports the Government's vision of creating a 'non-disabling society', as outlined in the New Zealand Disability Strategy." Ms Dean says the Government will make other changes to further improve access to copyright works. "These changes will allow more organisations and individuals to produce and provide accessible format works without breaching copyright laws. "We now need to complete the Parliamentary treaty examination process and make the necessary legislative amendments to ensure New Zealanders with a print disability can benefit from the agreement as soon as possible," Ms Dean says. Ms Dean is also pleased to announce Cabinet's decision to make the Blind and Low Vision Education Network (BLENNZ) a prescribed body under the Copyright Regulations. This will allow BLENNZ to better meet the educational needs of students with a print disability. For more information, visit: www.mbie.govt.nz/marrakeshtreaty

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

Puhinui Homes Trust 18th Anniversay 15th July

60's, 70's dance and fashion show, 15th July, Metro Theatre, 362 Massey Road, Mangere East, Tickets \$30 including dinner and soft drink. Doors open at 6pm. Please RSVP by 5th July to noori@puhinuihomestrust.org.nz or 09 279 9029

Rescare Homes – Day Service

“Rescare Homes Trust is opening a new specially designed Day Service for young men with autism at our Flatbush, East Auckland lifestyle community. We have at least 3 vacancies for young men for between 3-4 days per week 9am – 3pm Monday to Friday (excluding 3 weeks over the Christmas period). Interested parties MUST qualify for Very High Needs funding (ie they must be on VHN ORRS funding at school and ready to transition from school at the end of this year - transitioning may start in October 2017 if support staff are provided) OR may already be attracting VHN funding but want a Day Service more suited to their specific needs. We believe this will be the first service in the region to cater specifically to the needs of this client group and we are very excited to see it up and running. If you would like to learn more about this service please contact Tania Shine on 09 267 3686.

Riding for the Differently Abled

Sam Holcroft is an Occupational therapist student who is offering riding lessons one of our wonderful ponies and educational time before and after. I can help with social stories, visuals and absolutely anything to support this fantastic experience. First introduction – come and say hello! We can figure out what will work best, what support may be needed and what I can do to assist. Riding lessons \$50 for 30 mins riding. This includes 30 mins before and 10 mins after riding for valuable and educational time around animals learning how to interact and care for them. We can adjust the times to suit each individual. My main focus is always what works best for each person so anything can be changed. Carer support payment welcome. Contact Sam 021 207 2942, slolcroft@gmail.com, Awa rd, Kumeu.

Safari Multicultural Playgroup

They welcome families from all cultural backgrounds living locally, as well as former refugee families Safari Henderson – Henderson Baptist Church, 321 Great North Road, Henderson and Safari Lynfield – YMCA Lynfield, 16 Griffen Rd, Lynfield, Safari Papatoetoe – PACT building, 311 Great South Road, Papatoetoe. Time 9.30am-12pm. Contact Cherie at cherieb@arms-mrc.org.nz or 09 973 2852

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

Space Out South Art Classes

Mapura Studios have started up Open Studio Art Classes for Special Needs Teens 4-5.30pm, Tuesdays 25th July-26th September, Pukekohe Youth Centre, 1 Roulston St, Pukekohe. For more information contact Alex 022 045 3961 or Sylvia 021 160 7641 or info@mapurastudios.org.nz 09 845 5361.

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 tomdidovich@gmail.com.

Whats New in the CCS Library

All sorts of new and a variety of different books, resources, videos, autism specific, self-care, children's books free to access.

Articles of interest:

[Gifted awareness week – data missing for 40,000+ students](#)

[Fidget spinners – A crazy craze or teachers toolbox](#)

[Schools support staff day marked with strain](#)

[Register now – Know your rights](#)

[Mary Fisher awarded Cigna Disabled Sportsperson of the year](#)

[Music therapy week 2017: finding your voice](#)

[Flowers and fairies sensory tub](#)

[Community rallies for disabled boy Charlie Gordon-Stables](#)

[Single father creates safe haven for children with autism to play together online](#)

[Disability rights Commissioner appointed](#)

[Connect the dots – Understanding Dyspraxia](#)

[All rights Sparklers](#)

[Autistic boy 6, becomes global star after film shows him recite all 196 countries in alphabetical order](#)

[Apple spotlights how accessible tech helps people with disabilities](#)

[My plea to parents worried about the 'autism' label](#)

[12 year old creates award winning app for sister with autism](#)

[Parents heartbreak as one year old diagnosed with alzheimers](#)

[Blind woman to co-present at Art Access Awards](#)

[Dancing and drumming with a disability](#)

[Diagnosed with autism at 35, women calls it a relief](#)

[Pro-tactile ASL: A new language for Deaf Blind](#)

[Temple Grandin explains why it is important to pull ASD children out of their comfort zone](#)

[Disabled students surprised with ultimate graduation](#)

[School holidays not designed for modern parents](#)

[Who will speak for her when I can't](#)

[Personal emergency profile sheet](#)

[New film 'Breathe' depicts life of Disability Advocate Robin Cavendish](#)

[Healthcare NZ seeks clearance to acquire Geneva Healthcare](#)

[Pay rise for 55,000 care and support workers](#)

[Historic equal pay settlement comes into force midnight 1st July](#)

[How to help a worried kid](#)

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

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

NEWSLETTERS

[Altogether Autism](#) – Issue 2 2017

[Auckland e-News](#) – 3 May 2017

[Auckland e-News](#) - 17 May 2017

[Be Accessible](#) – July 2017

[Bloom](#) – June 2017

[Carers NZ](#) – June 2017

[Children's Autism Foundation](#) – June 2017

[Communitycations](#) – 27 June 2017

[Communitycations](#) – 21 June 2017

[Communitycations](#) – 4 July 2017

[Dance Therapy](#) – July 2017

[Deaf Aotearoa June 26](#)

[Deaf Aotearoa 19 June](#)

[Deaf Aotearoa 3 July](#)

[Talking Hands Magazine](#)

[Epilepsy NZ](#) – July 2017

[Health Link North](#) – June 2017

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

[Independent Living Services](#) – July 2017

[Interacting](#) – June 2017

[Kia Maro Enable New Zealand](#) – June 2017

[Numicon](#) – July 2017

[NZDSN Newsletter](#) – June 2017

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

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

[Magazine](#) – March 2017

[Plunket](#) – June 2017

[Raeburn House Training Workshops](#) - July-Dec 2017

[Raukauri Newsletter](#) – Autumn 2017

[Recreate NZ newsletter](#) – Term 3 2017

[Salisbury School](#) – June 2017

[Sands](#) – June 2017

[Te Ata Newsletter](#) – Term 2 2017

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

[Whanau Marama](#) – June 2017

[Wise Newsletter](#) – 21 June 2017

[Wise Newsletter](#) - 28 June 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](#)

CAUTION – The information contained in this message or any document, file or attachment is provided for your information. Any opinion or representation of fact contained is made WITHOUT THE ENDORSEMENT of DISABILITY CONNECT. We urge recipients to validate any claim or statement made in this message and other material conveyed for them. DISABILITY CONNECT – CC21603 – is a registered charity entity in terms of the Charities Act 2005.