

**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 11 September 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

My Voice Matters – 2017 General Election

Disability Connect is part of a group of organisations supporting the My Voice Matters campaign in the lead up to 23 September General Election - because the voices of disabled people and families matter! A survey was recently completed capturing the concerns of parents raising a child with a disability – [click here](#) to view the summary report.

The Present and Future Disability Sector (and some of the Past too)

This was a forum for parents of an individual with a disability held on evening of Monday 28th August at Onehunga Community House. This is a follow up forum to the June 'What happens when we're no longer here to care for our loved one with a disability' forum. At this August forum we heard presentations by Ministry of Health representatives on the current disability services which families may be eligible for, how to access them, Individualised Funding, and information on the development of the New Model for supporting people with a disability (ie: Enabling Good Lives). Representatives from Taikura Trust, Ministry of Social Development (including Work and Income) and

Housing NZ were present to address questions. This forum was filmed and is now available on the homepage of our website www.disabilityconnect.org.nz If you have any questions arising from this forum and the topics discussed please forward them directly to Lisa Martin, CEO Disability Connect at lisa@disabilityconnect.org.nz

'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 the first such parents forum and was the pre-cursor to the above mentioned Present and Future Disability Sector forum mentioned above. This original June forum 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 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. Dates for rest of year: 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 - 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. October 8th, 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.

Pushpay Donation for Disability Connect

Disability Connect is a not for profit organisation and as such we continually fundraise to provide free ongoing, quality disability information and advisory services to people with a disability and their families. We now have a donation mechanism set up on our website. If you wish to donate to us please click this link to do so using your credit card https://pushpay.com/pay/DisabilityConnect/oCYqk_8DUzVodWH-5uiHzQ or you can donate using credit card via mobile phone by texting Disconn to 818 - if you are asked to state an area code either use your

own (if you know it) or use 1061 which is the Disability Connect area code. All donations are very gratefully received.

Disability Connect provides information, advice and proactive support by: Face to Face meetings with disabled people and/or families to help them navigate the system, Phone/email consultations, Print Publications (Networker magazine, Four Go Flattening, Disability Support Guide), Seminars (covering topics such as Individualised Funding, Living Options, Transition out of School, Planning for Adulthood, Education Legal Issues and Work and Income Supports), Social Work service, Culturally Diverse Disability Information and Advice, Fortnightly E bulletin, Website and Social Media, Thank you for considering donating to Disability Connect. We enjoy serving the Auckland community with relevant, up to date and accurate disability information and advice. When you send 'DisConn' to 818 you will receive a one-time reply containing a link to give to Disability Connect (1msg/request). Please be aware that Msg & Data rates may apply. For full Terms & Conditions please visit <https://pushpay.com/terms>. For the Privacy Policy please visit <https://pushpay.com/privacy>. For help reply HELP or STOP to cancel.

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

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

Individualised Funding including Respite

Central Auckland - Thursday 21st September 12-2pm
Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road - **Sign Language Interpreter will be at this 21st Sept seminar**
Central Auckland - Wednesday 2nd November 7-9pm
Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

Living Options

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

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 Seminars

There are more coming in October/November please email your interest admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz and once we have dates confirmed will let you know.

Transition

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

Work and Income

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

LINKS TO VALUABLE INFORMATION PAGES

[Activities – Preschool](#)

[Activities – School Age](#)

[Activities – Age 18 +](#)

[Activities - All age activities](#)

[Conferences / Events outside of Auckland](#)

[Counsellors](#)

[Disability / Mental Health Related Events](#)

[Disability Sector Project Information and research](#)

[Discounted Activities across Auckland](#)

[Employment Opportunities and Positions](#)

[General Health Related](#)

[Other organisations information](#)

[Support Groups](#)

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

UPCOMING SEMINARS / TRAININGS / CONFERENCES EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Advanced Strategies for Success Workshop

27th October, 9.30am-3.30pm, North Harbour Life Development Centre, 40 Bronzewing Terrace, Unsworth Heights \$95 professionals \$50 families (couples \$75) email admin@fragilex.org.nz to register Internationally respected education and behaviour specialist Dr Marcia Braden is coming to NZ! Don't miss this opportunity to learn advanced strategies in both education and behaviour from an educational psychologist with specialist knowledge of both Autism and Fragile X syndrome.

ASIST Suicide Prevention Course

We will be coming to South Auckland with these workshops, in the next couple of weeks. Please check out www.1degreeworkshops.co.nz/a-ok for city stops and dates. Our workshops are highly recommended for communities, first responders and professional helpers and most importantly for people who CARE and want to build suicide SAFER workplaces, schools and communities. We bring workshops that are evidence-based, highly-evaluated, internationally and nationally recognised, safe and proven to help. Check out the link www.livingworks.net

Asian Health and Wellbeing Day

Time to get to know the NZ Health system and the role of your family doctor. Wednesday 13th September, 10am-1pm, Western Springs Garden Community Hall, 956 Great North Road, Western Springs. Useful information available and accessible health and wellbeing services in your community. Interpreting services, Asian services, child and mental health services, lifestyle health services, health services for older people, mental health services, disability services, carer services and primary care services. To register please contact TANI on 09 815 2338 or email Samuel.cho@asiannetwork.org.nz or lily.xu@asiannetwork.org.nz. View fliers in [English](#), [Chinese](#) or [Korean](#)

Children's Autism Term 3 Workshops

Dealing with Change and Transitioning, 19th September, Tuesday, 7-9pm, North Shore Children's Autism Facilitators – Arletta van den Bosch – Family and Child Counsellor, Gera Verheul – Service Manager, Christine Farquharson – Occupational Therapist, Joline Zwart – Family Consultant and Lisa Martin – Disability Connect. For information and registration contact enquiry@autism.org.nz or 09 415 7406.

Children's Autism Term 4 Workshops

Strategies for Behaviour, 24th October, Tuesday 7-9pm, Takapuna, Elisa Slaat – ABA Behaviour Therapist Hands on Autism – 4th November, Saturday 9am-4pm, Manurewa – Christine Farquharson (OT), Arletta van den Bosch, Joline Zwart Dealing with Anxiety, 22nd November, 7-9pm, Yes Disability, 3 William Laurie Place, Albany, Arletta van den Bosch. Contact enquiry@autism.org.nz 09 415 7406 for more details

Clip N Climb Children's Autism Foundation

Sunday 26th November, 7-9pm, Clip n Climb Albany. Contact enquiry@autism.org.nz 09 415 7406 for more details

Community Development Workshops

Maungakiekie-Tāmaki Local Board have created this opportunity for local individuals, groups and organisations that are aspiring to grow their capability! Rākau Tautoko will be coordinating eight workshops starting early August and continuing through to the end of November. The workshops are on Tuesday morning from 10am to 12pm and will cover: Social Enterprise, Business Planning, Volunteering, Financial Literacy, Community Led Development, Writing funding applications, Health and Safety Legislation, Network Development. We have some amazing speakers coming and have made sure that the workshops will be based in both Maungakiekie and Tāmaki. The Tāmaki ones will be in Te Oro, with Tara Moala and I will be at the Maungakiekie workshops. If you're interested, please register via email on this same email jo@rakautautoko.com and I will be able to email you an outline of each workshop and all of the dates. Look forward to seeing you there, and if you know of any inspirational people/ groups that could grow with this opportunity, please pass this email onto them! Deaf Wellbeing Society is going to these workshops and the council have provided NZSL interpreters for us. The workshops are for organizations, could be sports or community groups that would like help with Budgets, volunteers, health and safety, business planning, filling out application forms etc etc

Dayspring Art Class

Our Creative Art Classes are suitable for all levels. Each participant will receive a starter pack that includes a Visual Art Diary and a range of pencils. All paints and canvas paper will be provided. Working together in a group provides the opportunity to learn and be inspired by others. Our facilitators will guide you through your journey, showing you basic skills and techniques and helping you find your own style. Facilitators Leao Tildsley and Jo Marshall. Term 3: Monday 24 July - Monday 25 September, 10am-1.30pm, Dayspring Trust, 2 Seabrook Avenue, New Lynn. Cost: \$80 creche available for 0-5's for \$1 per session while you attend art. Please phone Karen 09 827 6321 to register for more [information](#). Please note fees to be paid at time of booking. Fees are not refunded if you withdraw within 48 hours before commencement. All courses need a minimum number of enrolments. If the course does not have the required numbers, we regret that we will need to cancel. You will be contacted 2-3 days prior to scheduled start date and we will refund your money.

Developing Connections

Developing Connections: the neuroscience of behaviour and emotional development. A workshop for parents and professionals. Session 1 Emotional development 19 September and Session 2 Understanding Behaviour on 26 September 6.30-8.30pm at The Connection, Silverdale. Booking essential. To register email andrea@andregraham.co.nz For full event details go to Facebook page; Andrea Graham-therapist For further information about the presenter see www.andregraham.co.nz

Disability Trial Day Tri Star Gymnastics

Does your child want to jump on a trampoline? Swing on bars? Swim through a foam pit? Do they love to run and play and move? Disability Open Day 16th September for those in Auckland Disability Community to try an age based, one hour structured gymnastics lesson. Children can have a parent/caregiver/support person or have a go on their own for only \$5. Class times 3-5yo 2.30-3.30pm, 6-9yo 3.30-4.30pm, 10-13yo 4.45-5.45pm and 14+ yo 5.45-6.45pm. Limited spaces available. Keith Hay Park, Mt Roskill. 09 625 4354. Contact Leigh at leighdawson@tristar.org.nz

Effective Discipline for 4-11 year olds

18th Oct – 13th Dec, Every Wednesday morning 9.30am-12.30pm. 4 Locket Ave, Glenfield. You will learn 25 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 to your instruction and guidance while teaching them to take care of their own personal responsibilities. The course costs \$50 For more information phone Elizabeth 09 441 0209 or enrol at www.whanaumarama-parenting.co.nz

Engaging Pasifika Cultural Competency

Le Va will be delivering a Engaging Pasifika Cultural Competency workshop to disability support service workers in Auckland. Engaging Pasifika is New Zealand's Pacific cultural competency training programme focusing on better engagement between health and disability services and Pasifika people and their families. It has been developed primarily for non-Pacific or mainstream health and disability workers employed at a Ministry of Health funded service such as DHB's, non-government organisations, and support services. The programme is appropriate for people at all levels including frontline workers, administrators, clinicians, managers and leaders. The programme focuses on the essential cultural skills and knowledge required to work effectively with Pacific people and their families, and includes three key components: *EP Online* – an engaging, interactive online module which all learners are required to successfully complete in order to participate in live training, *EP Live* – a full day cultural immersion workshop facilitated by a team of expert Pacific knowledge holders, *EP Ethnic Specific* – Post online training support via specific online modules Thursday 28th September, 9am-4pm, Harakeke House, Rangitoto Room, 15 Ronwood Ave, Manukau City. Express your interest by emailing your name, role and which workshop you would like to attend to engagingpasifika@leva.co.nz Information regarding online registration will be emailed to you. Spaces are limited so get in quick! Check out the following website for more information <https://www.leva.co.nz/training-education/engaging-pasifika>

Family Fun Day

Western Springs Hall, 956 Great North Road, Western Springs. 9am-2pm, 28th October, a day of fun for families and friends. Free activities and event brought to you by Wellbeing Charitable Trust

Find Your Beat Holiday Programme

A dynamic group drumming circle offering fun and engaging activities using hand drums and allowing participants to experience a variety of cultural influences and to express themselves creatively. Our drumming group, run by music therapists Yair and Olly, is designed for our adolescent and young adult clients, as well as their friends and family members, who want to engage in a fun, energetic activity together. Find Your Beat, suggested for ages 10+, will be offered from 3:30-5pm on Wednesday 4th October and Monday 9th October. Participants are welcome to join for one or both sessions at a cost of \$20 per session. Please contact Rachel at info@rmtc.org.nz by Thursday 28th September, to register for a session. Participation is limited to 8 drummers.

Horses Helping People – Ambury Park 16th September

This Saturday 16th September, 10am-12.30pm Ambury Park Centre, Mangere Bridge. We warmly welcome health practitioners, teachers, social services workers and members of the public to our Complimentary Showcase where you will be able to experience Equine Assisted Learning in action. These Showcases are a cornerstone for educating people about our work, designed to give a sample of the different workshops, clinics and courses we offer.

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>

Instrument Petting Zoo

RMTC clients are invited to come and visit their favourite instruments over the holidays! Families are invited to book in for a 30 minute visit to our Instrument Petting Zoo between 9am and 5pm on either Tuesday 3rd or Thursday 12th October. One of our staff will be available to join your child and his or her friends and family in a hands on exploration of a variety of instruments in our large therapy room. Please contact Rachel at info@rmtc.org.nz by Thursday 28th September, to arrange a convenient time to come and visit the instruments. Suggested koha is \$25 per half hour of zoo time.

It's All About Me

Free 1 Day Programme for girls attending Intermediate and High Schools - Self defense, Positive body image, Social media safety, Healthy Relationships. 9th October (Intermediate Girls), 10th October (High School Girls), 9am-4pm, Takapuna Community Hub, Mary Thomas Centre, 3 Gibbons Rd, Takapuna. For more information ring 09 444 4618 or www.nzwomenscentre.co.nz

Making Rights Real Webinar

Two webinars for supporters of people with intellectual disabilities in paid and unpaid roles. PPR & R Act, Financial and Medical Decisions. These webinars focus on the human rights of people with an intellectual disability. There are limited numbers of places for each webinar. To register click on the following [link](#). 30th November, 12.30-2.30pm. We hope you will welcome the opportunity to take part in this exciting learning opportunity. For further information please contact us at community.advocacy@ihc.org.nz.

Mental Health First Aid – Asian Community

A 2 day workshop 9am-4pm, and lunch will be provided both days. Learn skills to support a person with a mental health problem or in a mental health crisis. Learn a five step action plan to support a person until the crisis settles or professional support is received. The workshop is open to any adult 18 years and over that lives within the Counties Manukau DHB Register [here](#) or 0800 338 356 Also will be happening in Manukau 17th and 24th September and Papakura 29th October and 5th November.

Mind and Body Free Youth Resources Launched

Mind and Body and www.rethink.org.nz are delighted to announce the release of the new Like Minds, Like Mine youth resource Conversations for Change, which is available online now for free download! It aims to encourage young people to reach out for support and to include and support each other. The resource contains comprehensive facilitator's guides to five group activities which challenge stigma and discrimination and generate safe conversations about mental distress. Discussions encourage critical thinking about the impact and origin of different attitudes toward mental distress and encouraging empathy. Conversations for Change is part of the Like Minds, Like Mine Community Partnership Fund. The first two activities are compulsory and involve young people considering what mental illness "is" and then confronting the impact of some common negative attitudes toward mental health conditions. Each activity is about an hour in length and ideal to be used in classrooms, youth groups or other community settings. The three additional pick-n-mix activities encourage empathy and critical thinking in the areas of hearing voices, eating issues and holistic wellbeing.

Motat Live Day

See MOTATs operational collection come to life every third Sunday of the month with a great range of family activities included as part of your normal MOTAT admission. This September we are highlighting our Aviation collection on top of all the usual Live Day experiences. 17th and 18th September, 10am-5pm Motat, 805 Great North Road, Western Springs.

Nature's Treasures Unearthed

6-8th October, 9am-5pm Friday and Saturday, 9am-4pm Sunday. Live dinosaur appearances at 11am, 1 and 2.30pm. Entry \$5 adults, \$2 children and \$10 family. Meteorites, kids section, crystals, fossils, dinosaur bones, displays, paintings and artwork, gems. See the largest dinosaur bone found in NZ. Crafts and raffles. For more info <http://www.northshorerockclub.co.nz/>

Outward Bound Activate Course

Just a heads up that we have our Activate course coming up in November (8 day course for those aged 18+ with physical disabilities). If you know of anyone who may be interested in this amazing opportunity, feel free to put them in touch with me. Dates for the course are 3-10 November 2017. Here is a bit more info - [Outward Bound Activate](#) Funding: There is funding support available either through Work and Income or the Outward Bound Foundation - I can talk you through how either option works. Lisa Healy 04 495 1767 / 0800 688 927 / 021 260 7077 or <https://www.outwardbound.co.nz/>

Parenting Adolescents 11-15 year olds

18th Oct – 13th Dec, Every Wednesday evening, 6.30-9pm. 4 Locket Road, Glenfield. 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, The cost is \$50 for this course. For more information phone Elizabeth 09 441 0209 or enrol at www.whanaumarama-parenting.co.nz

Phab Holiday Programme

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. P.h.d's will run four days each week, the numbers will be limited. Activities include wax art, games, circus day, zoo, movie and fish and chips, drumming, ferry trip, pet assisting therapy, xtreme day. Bookings are essential due to ever increasing demand. The program will be supported by the awesome PHAB staff and is available to PHAB members and their friends. The P.h.d's will run from 9am – 4.00pm on the following days/weeks: Tues 3rd–Fri 6th Oct 2017 and Tues 10th-Fri 13th Oct 2017. The cost is one day carer support or \$87.40 per day. Please call the office for more information 09 488-7490 or chewy@phab.org.nz

PHAB Deaf Club Interest

Phab are Auckland's leading disability social and recreational organisation. We are currently looking at setting up a PHAB for Deaf club for young people with disabilities aged 16 - 30 to meet up regularly for social events and activities in Auckland. Days, times and location to be confirmed once interest has been registered. To register your interest in a PHAB For Deaf social club please email Miranda on: office@phab.org.nz.

Positive Discipline for under 4's

24th Oct – 12th Dec, Every Tuesday morning, 9.30am-12.30pm, 4 Locket Ave, Glenfield. 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. The cost is \$50 for this course. For more information phone Elizabeth 09 441 0209 or enrol at www.whanaumarama-parenting.co.nz

Sibling Group Holiday Programme

Siblings of our clients bring their own unique experience of growing up with a brother or sister with special needs. Our Sibling Group, run by music therapists Angela and Tori, is a place where our clients' siblings can share their experiences, explore the instruments that their brothers and sisters enjoy each week and have fun making music. The October sibling programme, suggested for ages 4-10, will meet on the 10th and 11th October, from 9:30-11:30am. The price is \$60 for the first sibling and \$40 for each additional child which covers the cost of both sessions (children are expected to attend both days). To sign up please complete the enrolment form, which can be downloaded via the link below, and send it through to info@rmtc.org.nz.

South Auckland Green Prescription (Auckland and Counties Manukau)

Green Prescription is a referral based health and wellness programme for adults 18 years and over who would like support and motivation to get active and improve their lifestyle. Available in Auckland ADHB [click here](#) Glen Innes, Panmure, Mt Albert, Mt Roskill, Onehunga, Otahuhu, Avondale and Counties Manukau DHB [click here](#) - Clendon, Pukekohe, Pakuranga, Mangere, Otara, Papakura. For contact details for all these For clients who are not able to speak in English or have limited English proficiency and residing in the Auckland and Counties Manukau districts, a free translator for the initial consultation will be arranged. Fact sheets are available in [English](#), [Chinese](#) (Traditional), [Hindi](#), [Korean](#) and [Punjabi](#) languages. For more information: Contact: 0800 ACTIVE or 0800 228 483

'150 Years of Discovery: Emerging Research' competition.

Young carers are such a hidden and under-served group of children and youth, and this video competition is a huge opportunity to raise awareness of young carers and bring about change. The video is part of the '150 Years of Discovery: Emerging Research' competition. Voting closes September 15th at 12am (we only get a short period to promote our videos). Please use #150YOD (150 Years of Discovery) and #nzyoungcarers when sharing, as that is part of the competition rules. Here is the link and a wee blurb. For Facebook: Please vote for Lauren Donnan's research all about New Zealand's young carers, and help her to bring about change for this wonderful but very hidden group: <https://150-years-of-discovery-emerging-research.thinkable.org/#entries> and scroll down to 'Researching an invisible population: Being a young carer in Aotearoa/New Zealand' #nzyoungcarers #150YOC. For Twitter: Please vote and help Lauren to bring about change for NZ's wonderful but very hidden young carers: <https://150-years-of-discovery-emerging-research.thinkable.org/#entries> 'Researching an invisible population' #nzyoungcarers #150YOC For email: Please vote for Lauren Donnan's video entry in the '150 Years of Discovery: Emerging Research' competition: <https://150-years-of-discovery-emerging-research.thinkable.org/#entries> and scroll down to 'Researching an invisible population: Being a young carer in Aotearoa/New Zealand' #nzyoungcarers #150YOC The video tells the story

of Lauren's PhD research, about the experiences and needs of young carers in New Zealand. Young carers are a completely hidden and under-served group of children and youth in New Zealand, and this video competition is a huge opportunity to raise awareness of young carers and bring about change. Please re-share the link with whoever you think may be interested, and whoever may be able to promote it for Lauren. Voting closes September 15th at 12am (there is only a short period to promote videos).

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.

Access Matters

You can sign this open letter as a supporter of Auckland Disability Law (ADL) if you have experienced or know about the barriers Disabled People and Deaf People encounter doing every day activities just like everyone else. If we all have the right tools, then everyone can participate. You already know that access matters to all of us! The Access Matters Campaign aims to build the support of people like you to create the political will to introduce accessibility legislation in the next parliamentary term. We need more voices telling our leaders that Access Matters. Please sign this open letter to the leaders of the New Zealand Political Parties urging them to show leadership this election by committing to Access for All. Sign the open letter [here](#). For the easy read version click [here](#). For the large font version click [here](#). To print copies of Access Matters Open letter print version click [here](#).

Ambury Farm Day

October 8th, 10am-4pm, Lovely lambs, terrific turkeys and cute cows are just some of the animals bringing the country to the city at Ambury's annual Farm Day at Ambury Regional Park, 43 Ambury Road, Mangere Bridge

Art Exhibition

Paintings by disabled artists from Art for All as part of the National Gem Show. North Shore Events Centre, October 6-8th, 9am-5pm.

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 Emergency Management

Auckland Emergency Management ran a Chinese Media Engagement in September to launch their Chinese Media Resources. In English click [here](#). In Chinese click [here](#).

Bloom

Bloom is a social enterprise for youth and individuals with learning disabilities. We offer meaningful activities based on horticulture for our vulnerable people, a connection to our greater community through markets and projects. We aim to provide life skills, social interactions and a sense of well being for all participants. We are based at the Tui Glen nurseries alongside Te Whangai Trust. We are open for students and plant sales on Monday to Friday, 9am to 12pm. Feel free to contact us for more information. Jessica griffin 021 932 499 or bloompukekohe@gmail.com.

Brainwave Review

An insight into adolescence. Adolescence is often portrayed as a time of difficult and challenging behaviours. Yet it's possible to view adolescence in a much more positive light. Recent research may help adults understand and appreciate the remarkable changes that are taking place. To read the review click [here](#).

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

Disability Support Guide

We have now have the pdf document of our very popular resource in [English](#), [Chinese](#), [Korean](#) and [Arabic](#) for you to download.

Elections – How to vote

Election Day is Saturday 23 September and voting begins on 11 September. The Electoral Commission wants every eligible New Zealander to enrol and vote. Let's work together to make that happen. Hundreds of thousands of New Zealanders aren't ready to vote: perhaps they don't know they are eligible to vote; perhaps they forget to enrol and vote; or perhaps they don't think their vote will make a difference. Help your community enrol & vote. We've created a handy guide with links to content that you can use and share in a variety of ways – on social media, on your website, in newsletters or direct communications, or as display materials at your office, workplace or community centre. [Help Spread the Word- Resources for Communities to Share](#) (PDF, 1.8MB) You can also find out more – and order resources – [via our website](#) Together, we can make sure all of us get to have our say in this year's general election.

Engaging Priority Families

The Engaging Priority Families programme is funded by MOE with the better public service goal to support all 3-5 year olds to access a quality ECE and start Primary School with a solid foundation. Our EPF team promote the value of education by walking alongside

parents/caregivers in preparing their child for the 'big school'. We believe that we can achieve this through working in collaboration with community services and Primary Schools while keeping each child at the centre of our educational vision in the hope to minimise future school absent issues. We work alongside families to identify the barriers to accessing education, how to address them and move forward. In order to reach more children and their families we need the support of the community to identify children who might benefit from registering with the EPF programme. Our team covers the following areas in Auckland: Puketapapa, Manurewa-Papakura, Otara-Papatoetoe, Manukau. There are other EPF providers covering Maungakiekie, Whau and Henderson-Massey and I will gladly share their contact details if there are families living in those areas who might benefit from the EPF programme. Please feel free to contact me if you require further information. Petro Schoombe, PetroS@atwc.org.nz 09 276 3729 x 9403

Got a query for Taikura Trust?

Taikura Trust are holding drop in sessions at Royal Oak and Botany stores. The aim of these sessions is for you to pop in and see a Taikura Trust representative who will answer any questions or queries you may have on the services they provide. The details are: Royal Oak, 14 Erson Ave, Royal Oak, Tuesday 12th September, 9.30am - 12.30pm Botany, Tuesday 26th September, 9.30am - 12.30pm, ILS, 308 Te Irirangi Drive, Botany South. Taikura Trust provide support to disabled people under 65 years and their families and carers across greater Auckland. They work with them to understand their needs, develop a plan and ensure the best support services are in place to meet their needs. We look forward to see you. If you need any further information please email debbie@ilsnz.org

Hand to Hand Playgroup

First Wednesday morning of each month from 10am to 12pm. A casual coffee morning where parents with children with a disability of any kind can meet other parents and families – next playgroup date is September 6. The age group catered for is 0-5 years old, but if your child hasn't started school at 5 they are still welcome to come along. Siblings are also welcome. The group is run by two trained child care therapists and is held in a large hall with a trampoline, climbing frame and appropriate toys for different ages. There are also musical instruments with a sing along for the last half hour of the group. If you would like to know more about the group or register your interest, you can email Sian at Sian.Lyness2@waitematadhb.govt.nz.

Halberg Junior Disability Games are coming!

A national three day sports tournament open for 8-21 year olds with a physical or vision impairment. Friday 6-8th October, Kings College Auckland. Participate in ambulant football, athletics, blind cricket, Boccia, cycling, equestrian, goalball, powerchair football, rowing, swimming, triathlon, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair tennis. For registration visit www.juniordisabilitygames.org.nz

Halberg Events and Classes

[Gymcity Papatoetoe Classes](#). Preschool classes are Monday 1-2pm, \$84 per term. 5-12yo, Wednesdays 3.30-4.30pm, \$18 per term. [Papatoetoe United Adapted Football](#). Saturdays 1-2pm, Kolmar Centre, off Sutton Cres, Papatoetoe, \$85 per year.

Helping to Change the Future of Ageing in Counties Manukau – South Auckland

Thriving in an inclusive society for all ages is our goal! Contributing to Age Concern's survey on what enables older people to live, work and play well in South Auckland – Counties Manukau region will help us inform the future of ageing, the environment which facilitates this, and the potential to make changes. Follow the link on our website www.accm.org.nz to complete the survey. Participant contributions to the survey will be gathered with intention of increasing the understanding of how older people live, work and play in Counties Manukau. This information will also be collected to inform future interventions targeted to improve older people's health. Age Concern in partnership with the Positive Ageing Network has the goal to make older people feel empowered, independent and valued in their communities. Any residents of Counties Manukau aged over 65 (over 55 for Maori and Pacific) who are interested in contributing to this research are asked to follow the link on our website www.accm.org.nz to complete the survey. For more information or for a hard copy of the survey contact Age Concern Counties Manukau on 09 2794331 ext 810 or email admin@accm.org.nz

Hydrotherapy Swimming Sessions

Monday afternoons 3pm – 4pm. Available to children between 12 months and 21 years of age. Sessions are 20 minutes duration with a registered physiotherapist Barbara Rijnbende. We are full for this term, but are compiling a waiting list for next term and hope to be able to increase our pool time next year to enable more children access to hydrotherapy. For enquiries or registration, please contact Carol White, 09 485 3461 www.wilsonhometruster.org.nz

Junior Athletics and Swimming Development Programme

11 weeks alternating athletics and swimming, weekends, venues across Auckland. 8-21 year olds with visual and physical impairments. Expert coaches with guest appearances from Paralympic athletes and a fun, friendly environment. We are hoping to develop life-long participation amongst our youth generation. \$107 programme fee which includes 10 coaching sessions, JDG entry, Wheel black game tickets, payment plan or lump sum accepted with online registration. To find out more go to www.parafedauckland.co.nz/jdpg. Frequently asked questions [here](#).

Lifekeepers National Suicide Prevention Training

What is it? LifeKeepers is a new, national suicide prevention training programme, created especially for New Zealand communities. You can think of it like first aid training, giving people the skills to recognise and support those at risk of suicide. LifeKeepers combines an internationally proven, evidence-based approach with local knowledge and experience, to provide a programme that is community focussed, clinically

safe, and culturally responsive. Who's it for? LifeKeepers will be available, nationwide and free of charge, to New Zealanders who are 18 years and over, and who are likely to interact with people at risk of suicide. The programme is designed especially for those of us who work in communities or in frontline community roles, such as: support workers, sports coaches, emergency service personnel, church leaders, school counsellors, youth workers, Māori wardens, caregivers, Kaumatua and community leaders etc. Manukau Workshop, 15th September, full day workshop

Making things easier for MSD Clients

We've been working to make it easier for our clients to see us when they apply for a benefit. In most of our service centres we're now running a 'new business window' for clients coming in for their application appointment. We're letting clients know they can come in when it suits them over a window of time, e.g. ~~between 9am-11am on a particular day.~~ This makes it easier for people to work around other commitments such as getting children to school and means they don't have to worry if they can't make a specific appointment time.

Save time and reduce hassle by signing up to MyMSD. We're adding more and more services to MyMSD so clients can get things done for themselves, quickly, easily, and at a time that suits them. MyMSD has become a really popular way for our clients to keep on top of things without having to come into a service centre or call us. Since we launched MyMSD we've had over 130,000 address or accommodation cost changes made by clients online, and 62% of clients now tell us their wages each week in MyMSD. Doing these things online saves clients from having to call or visit us. Soon clients will be able to do even more in MyMSD. From 25 September clients will be able to use MyMSD to: Apply for help from us, read and sign their obligations when applying for assistance, view and work through their application steps, like reading and agreeing to obligations, booking appointments, etc, reapply for Temporary Additional Support. MyMSD already makes it easy for clients to: tell us what they earned, apply for help with food, school uniform, school stationery and emergency dental costs, tell us about a change in phone number, address or accommodation costs, tell us about a relationship change, check their next appointment, book, change and cancel some appointments, view their payment details, view debt details, view, save, print or email most of their letters check their payment card transactions - in near real time.

New services are regularly added to MyMSD so you can do more online in future. No data? No problem. If you're on the Spark, Vodafone, 2degrees or Skinny mobile networks you can use our website and online services at little or no cost from your mobile phone or digital device.

Mapura Studios – Outsider Art

Opening next Friday - Outsider Art at the Waiheke Art Gallery. What could be more pleasant than a day on Waiheke, then calling into the gallery for the 6pm opening. The show features contributions from Mapura Studios, local artists and Awhina Mai Tatou Katoa. If you can't make the opening, Outsider Art until Sunday 17th September - at the Waiheke Community Art Gallery, 2 Koroka Rd, Oneroa is on.

New Lynn Support Group

We help organise a support group for the Auckland areas of Green Bay, Blockhouse Bay, Titirangi and surrounding areas for anyone living with or educating an individual with special needs. We meet once or twice a term. We have a mix of natter sessions, topic sessions and guest speakers. The group runs a positive environment where we offer each other understanding and advice. Having both parents/caregivers and school staff involved we are able to learn from each other, understand the challenges involved from both perspectives and work together to support each other. If you would like to join our group please email Angela at info@improvinglifeoutcomes.org.nz Thursday 21st September 1.15pm - Natter session.

People First Pukekohe

We want to meet and make new friends, have fun and help each other become great self-advocates. Wednesday 20th September, 18th October, 22nd November. 6.30-8.30pm, 1/241 Manukau Road, Pukekohe. Contact Tina Nimeroda, 021 029 40118, tnimeroda@hotmail.com

PHAB

PHAB have spaces in their fun, interactive, engaging and empowering groups all over Auckland. These groups are aimed towards people with disabilities aged 16 and over. The groups run in the early evening and are a great place to meet people, make friends, gain life skills and develop independence. If you're interested please contact Chewy on 09 488 7490 or email chewy@phab.org.nz

Speech Therapy

Speech therapy is a great thing to consider if your child is presenting with the following: speech delay, speech disorders, language delay/disorders, learning difficulties, development disorders/delay, hearing loss, dyspraxia, dyslexia, dyscalculia, autism, down syndrome, lisps and stuttering. ½ price speech and language (1 hr exam) now \$50 at Auckland Speech Therapy. 290 Rosebank Road, Avondale, 09 820 2392 or email info@auckspeechtherapy.co.nz

Spirit of Gold Annual Mufti Day

8th September, Together lets celebrate 6 months to go until the PyeongChang 2018 Paralympic Winter Games. You and your business/school are encouraged to wear gold and bring a donation to support Paralympics New Zealand. For more information visit. www.paralympics.org.nz

Student currently looking for an accessible flat

(2 bedrooms minimum) or to share a current house/flat close to central Auckland for study next year 2018 and beyond. Uses electric wheelchair and has own support team. Contact details to my email or phone in the first instance and I will pass on for the student to contact them directly. Please email Marian Galvin, Marian@realworldliving.co.nz 09 299 5304

Takaro - Investing in Play and Playground Refurbishments Questionnaire

Auckland Council is developing an investment plan addressing how it invests in play: Tākaro – Investing in Play. The plan is a scheduled piece of work arising from the Parks and Open Spaces Strategic Action Plan 2013. The purpose of the plan is to clarify why, how and where the council should invest in play. Providing guidance on these questions will make it easier for the council to identify which types of investment will best meet the current and future needs of Auckland's diverse communities. The plan will cover all types of public outdoor play. This includes play which takes place in city parks, at the beach or in the bush, on streets and in civic spaces. It includes capital expenditure on physical play infrastructure, as well as operational expenditure on temporary play 'activations' such as pop-up playgrounds and facilitated play programmes. It excludes organised sport. We would like to notify you of upcoming opportunities to advise the council on how it invests in outdoor public play areas and play programmes. Here are the questions:

1. Where do you play the most? At home? On in street? At the park? What stops you from playing in public spaces?
2. How can the council provide play spaces that welcome and accommodate all?
3. What types of play opportunities would be more inviting to people with disabilities?
4. What kinds of ancillary facilities make a playground visit more enjoyable?

[Here is a link to the document](#)

Te Rito Community Lifestyle Centre

This centre enables people with disabilities to get out and participate in the community, as well as learn a new skill or connect with others. Te Rito offers a range of activities and classes throughout the week – Monday to Friday, 7 Piki Thompson Way, Otahuhu 09 270 0342

Transitional Housing - Social Housing Assessment Changes

As of 03 July 2017, we started offering a phone appointment for all social housing assessments, as experience confirms this works well for the majority of our clients. It also means that if your organisation is acting as an agent on behalf of a client, they can complete the appointment with you, from your office or at an agreed meeting place. A client will be able to sign-off the obligation page of their Assessment Summary by either going into one of our local offices, or the Assessment Summary can be sent to a client by post and returned to us using a postage-paid envelope that will be provided. If a client would like a face-to-face appointment at a local service centre, this can still be arranged when booking the assessment appointment. **Tenancy Reviews** - Since July 2014, the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) has been conducting tenancy reviews to understand if people living in social housing still need it, and if they do, that the house continues to meet their needs. There have been some great outcomes for clients, including home ownership and greater independence into long-term sustainable accommodation in the private market. There's also [information for clients about tenancy reviews](#) on MSD's housing website. The information is available as a printable factsheet in Burmese, Chinese, English, Maori, New Zealand Sign

Language, Samoan and Tongan and in a more accessible Easy Read format. **Transitional Housing** - MSD supports clients into a range of housing options. Transitional housing is one of those options, where clients are provided warm, secure short-term accommodation for around 12 weeks, along with tailored social support while they're there. We've enclosed a new factsheet for more information. **2015 Social Housing Valuation** - MSD has published the first social housing valuation, a first step towards a social investment approach for housing. It's based on 2015 figures, providing the benchmark for future valuations. MSD already takes a social investment approach with its welfare services. Extending that knowledge will help MSD focus effort on areas that make the biggest difference to our clients. You can read the report [here](#). **Social Housing Quarterly Report and Social Housing Register** - The latest Social Housing Quarterly Report (June 2017) and the figures for the Social Housing Register (June 2017) have just been published. The [Social Housing Quarterly Report \(June 2017\)](#) provides a full picture of the progress we're making to bring on additional supply and support people with their housing needs. The [Social Housing Register \(June 2017\)](#) is published at the same time as the quarterly report. It contains a breakdown of information for the Housing and Transfer Registers by region. **Social housing newsletter** - MSD now produces a monthly Social Housing update. You can subscribe to the newsletter [here](#). You can also read the previous newsletters at www.socialhousing.govt.nz.

Whats New in the CCS Library

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

WFDYS Children Camp 2018 – Applications Open

Deaf Aotearoa is looking for two young deaf people aged 9 to 12 to represent Deaf Aotearoa and New Zealand at the WFDYS Children Camp in Buenos Aires, Argentina. We are also looking for a Leader aged 21 to 30 to accompany the young people and help facilitate at the camp. If you are interested in this amazing opportunity or would like to find out more, please see the application form [here](#).

Youth Workers wanted

PHAB currently have 5 positions available for Youth Workers in Auckland. The role is to support people with disabilities in fun social groups. All these positions are for 1 evening a week for 3 hours. We need two people in Takapuna on a Wednesday evening, two people in South Auckland on Wednesday/Thursday evenings and one as a cover person for all of Auckland. Experience is preferred but not necessary. Please contact Chewy on 09 488 7490 or email chewy@phab.org.nz to find out more.

Youth Enterprise - Opportunities for Young People- Funding open

In 2017/18, a total of \$190,000 is available under the Youth Enterprise Fund - Opportunity for Young People for individuals and/or groups of young people who have a new and innovative enterprise project or idea and need support to progress it. This funding initiative

is targeted at individuals and/or groups of youth (aged 12-24) who have a new and/or innovative enterprise project or idea, and need knowledge, skills, competencies or mentoring to help them execute their project or idea. The Ministry of Youth Development (MYD) will support initiatives which demonstrate - innovation and viability of enterprise project, potential for sustainability and growth, potential of social and/or environmental impact, value for money and learning impact. MYD is currently seeking expressions of interests from young people, which closes on 17 August 2017. More information can be found on our [website](#). Could you please share this through your networks or pass it on to any young people you know who would be eligible. If you have questions or would like more information please get in touch and contact Sarah Freer – sarah.freer005@msd.govt.nz

Articles of interest:

[What should I put in my sensory room?](#)

[Play gear for all abilities](#)

[IHC Art awards](#)

[\\$6.5m to increase adults cochlear implants](#)

[Cochlear implants trusts welcomes additional funding](#)

[8 of the best fenced playgrounds in Auckland](#)

[Gary Numan: I don't see my aspergers as a disability – its an advantage](#)

[Kiwi made app offers help for MS sufferers](#)

[Autism NZ and Spectrum sign collaborative memorandum of understanding](#)

[Monthly update – September, system transformation](#)

[Jacqui's life of independence is full of new adventures](#)

[Kiwi dads including Dr Lance Sullivan jump from](#)

[Auckland Harbour Bridge](#)

[ADHD and Lying: What you need to know](#)

[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 Down Syndrome Association](#) – September 2017

[Be Accessible](#) – July 2017

[Brainwave](#) – July 2017

[Cald Newsletter](#) – August 2017

[Carers NZ](#) – September 2017

[Changing Minds](#) – August 2017 [Changing Minds](#) – 15 August 2017

[Children's Autism Foundation](#) – 9 September [Children's Autism Foundation](#) – 22nd August

[Communitycations](#) – 29 August 2017 [Communitycations](#) – 22 August 2017 [Communitycations](#) –8 September 2017

[Dance Therapy](#) – July 2017

[Deaf Aotearoa August 28](#) [Deaf Aotearoa 9 September](#) [Deaf Aotearoa 4 September](#) [Talking Hands Magazine](#)

[eCald News](#) – September 2017

[Epilepsy NZ](#) – July 2017

[Every Kiwi Counts](#) – July 2017

[Health Link North](#) – August 2017 <https://www.totstoteens.co.nz/playgrounds/8-best-fenced-playgrounds-auckland/>

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

[Improving Life Outcomes](#) – September 2017

[Independent Living Services](#) – September 2017

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

[Numicon](#) – July 2017

[NZDSN Newsletter](#) – August 2017

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

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

[Magazine](#) – July 2017

Parent to Parent [info](#)

[Plunket](#) – July 2017

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

[Raukauri Newsletter](#) – Winter 2017

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

[Sands – Spring 2017](#)

[Te Ata Newsletter](#) – Term 2 2017

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

[Violence Free Communities](#) – August 2017

[Whanau Marama](#) – September 2017

[Wise Newsletter](#) – 16 August 2017 [Wise Newsletter](#) – 8 September 2017

[Young Carers Newsletter](#) – August 2017

**disability
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helping families

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

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