

**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 25 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

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 - Wednesday 2st November 7-9pm
Disability Connect premises, 3b Olive Road, Penrose

Living Options

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 - NZSL interpreter will be available

Sexuality Seminars

Central Auckland - Tuesday 21st November 10.30am-12pm and 1-2.30pm
If you wish to attend please let us know as soon as possible as will fill up quickly, Please also make sure you will be available to come that day as we have limited spaces.

Transition

West Auckland – Tuesday 17th October, Oaklynn Special, School, 20 Mayville Ave,
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](#)

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[Disability Sector Project Information and research](#)

[Discounted Activities across Auckland](#)

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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.

Art Exhibition

Paintings by uniquely talented artists from Art for All as part of the [National Gem Show](#). North Shore Events Centre, October 6-8th, 9am-5pm. Also there are dinosaur bones and other rocks and minerals that can be touched before they get sent to Te Papa.

Birkdale and Beachaven Coffee and Playgroup for parents with Autistic Children

First meeting 22nd September, 1-2.30pm. Come when you can to Birkdale Community House, 134 Birkdale Road. Everyone's welcome! Help shape this group to suit the needs of you the parents/caregivers. This is a flexible group, here to help you form support networks in the community. Make new friendships, find support, share stories and your challenges. There is a fully fenced playground and inside space that is comfortable and safe. All ages welcome. Tea, coffee and cake will be provided. \$2 donation. Please contact houses@birkdalebeachhaven.org.nz for any questions.

Child's Play School Holiday Program!

This holiday program has been designed to support children aged 5-12 years old with mild to moderate needs who may not yet be able to cope in a busy, larger scale or mainstream program. Focus is placed on social skills, confidence building, fine and gross motor skills all in a safe environment. Sensory integration and cognitive behavioural interventions are incorporated through play to ensure the children have a fun experience within a safe environment. Auckland Girls grammar School (entrance gate 4), 10th, 11th and 12th October for ages 8 to 12 years 9.30am to 12.30pm, 10th, 11th and 12th October ages 5 to 7 years, 1.30pm to 3.30pm. \$90 per day per child for 8 to 12 year old \$60 per day for 5 to 7 year old. Book accounts@childsplayot.co.nz 09 300 6324

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.

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.

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>

Essential First Aid

This is a concise practical course covering general First Aid. It looks at: CPR (practice with manikins); Choke-rescue techniques (practice with manikins); Dealing with emergency medical situations such as heart attacks, strokes, diabetic emergencies, seizures, etc; Dealing with other emergency situations such as burns, allergic; and Reactions, poisonings, concussion, broken bones, etc. This course can also be adapted to suit specific workplaces – we have run, for example, courses for arborists, roofing insulators, gym trainers, where we have been able to focus on the potential risks of these specific industries as well as covering more general first aid. Everyone on the course receives a booklet, to complement the explanations and demonstrations on the course. Participants also receive a certificate. The course is four hours long. Presented by Sarah Thompson from [First Aid First](#). 1st November 9.30am-2.30pm, includes break for lunch (catering included) Channel View Lounge, Mary Thomas Centre, 3 Gibbons Rd, Takapuna, \$50 per person. Register info@ancad.org.nz

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 info@rmtc.org.nz by Thursday 28th September, to register for a session. Participation is limited to 8 drummers.

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

JobFest –Auckland's biggest Free Youth Employment expo is coming to the West

JobFest is happening and it will be held on October 11th at The Trusts Arena. There will be heaps of employers looking for entry-level candidates and resources to help you prepare for those jobs. We know getting a job can be tough. JobFest West can take away some of the barriers to getting a job. There's no scrolling through job ads online and no trying to sort out what the ad means. It's just you hooking up directly with employers who are there because they need people like you in their company. Heading into JobFest West we'll give you a hand to make sure you're prepared to get the best out of the day. To register:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jobfest-west-tickets-37051654496?aff=es2>

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.

Manurewa Community Expo

Thursday 12th October, 10am-1pm, Southmall Shopping Centre. A fun community event for the family.

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 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.

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/>

Numicon Teacher Aide and Parents of children who have special / high learning needs Course

Thursday 9th November, 9.30am-2pm, Disability Connect, 3b Olive Road, Penrose, \$80 per person, please book [here](#). Join us to become confident and capable in using the Numicon approach to teach to mastery and improve standards. Our workshops and courses are designed to give you the opportunity to: Familiarize yourself with the resources and the theory behind the Numicon approach, Appreciate the essential building blocks that underpin the key mathematical ideas, Explore the benefits of using Numicon with all children, Experience how the Numicon approach supports the aims of the NZ Curriculum, Explore the range of teaching support materials and tools essential to the Numicon approach

in preparation for implementation, or as a refresher. This course is suitable for teachers, teacher aides, SENCOs, RTLB's, MOE staff and specialist tutors. It is intended for teachers who are involved with classroom and/or remedial mathematics teaching. The day will cover: What is Numicon?, Bruner, CPA and the impact of using structured apparatus, Teaching resources, Apparatus knowledge, How does Numicon help children learn so easily?, Understanding number sense, Difficulties in understanding maths and dyscalculia, In depth knowledge and strategies with $+$ $-$ \times \div , Place value and fractions, Decimals and percentages, Getting started in your school, class, group, practice, Planning and assessment, linked to the NZ Curriculum and National Standards

Numicon Courses for Teachers, RTLB, Tutors, Teacher Aides and Ministry of Education

Thursday 26th October, 9.30am-3.30pm, Disability Connect, 3b olive road, Penrose, \$150 per person. Register [here](#), and more information click [here](#)

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 Social Group Spaces

Are you looking for a social group to become part of or do you know someone who might be interested? 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

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

Safari Multicultural Playgroups – Henderson, Lynfield and Papatoetoe

Henderson Baptist Church, 321 Great North Rd, Henderson, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday.
Safari. Lynfield, Lynfield YMCA, 16 Griffen Park Rd, Lynfield, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday. and Safari Papatoetoe PACT building, 311 Great South Rd, Papatoetoe, Wednesday & Thursday. All are 9.30am - 12.00pm Please contact Shoma if you are interested to know about Safari Playgroup: 625 2440 or email safari@arms-mrc.org.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.

Social Skills Program

Child's Play OT will be commencing weekly, one hour, Group Social Skills Program/Curriculum, from term 4 2017. This program is derived from L E Shapiro (PH.D), designed to teach social skills to children with various needs. The program is intended to help children in every aspect of their social development such as: how to relate to their peers, parents and teachers. 7- 12 year old, Wednesdays 3.30pm to 4.30pm, \$30 per hour, Child's Play OT Clinic, 125 Grafton Road, Unit 6, Ground Floor. Book email accounts@childsplayot.co.nz Further Information
Qualified and experienced staff, 6 children in a group.

This program is aimed at children who have difficulties with social problems who do not require 1:1 sessions. All programs are run by an Occupational Therapist.

Wellness and Leadership

This seminar brings together two key areas of interest and concern for people in the community sector. Wellness has increasingly become a significant challenge for people who experience the pressures of unsustainable demands and challenges in this sector. For years we focused on how to deal with stress but the growing awareness now is the importance of understanding and knowing how to develop and sustain wellness in our lives and in the way we work, and how critical it is that we model this in our leadership with others. Hilary has been leading wellness workshops for eight years now and continues to develop and draw on tools, frameworks and her experience in supporting wellness and leadership. Presented by Hilary Star-Foged, Lead NFP Management, 17th October, 12-2pm, Helensville War Memorial Hall, 2 Porter Cres, Helensville. \$20 per person. Register info@ancad.org.nz

Whanau Hui

A hui to discuss the new qualification being offered by MIT Inclusive Education in 2018. Tues Oct 17th, 6.30pm, Talanoa Room – Pasifika Centre, Gate 13, North Campus MIT, Otara. Things to be covered: Why this is happening? Who can do it? New qualification structure and assessments; Student commitment, Whanau commitment. Other providers who support people with disabilities will be there. RSVP to Cushla Wilson Cushla.wilson@manukau.ac.nz by Oct 13th. Light supper, tea and coffee provided.

Wise Clubs – Massey and Mt Roskill

WISE HUB, Henderson Baptist Church, 319 Great North Road Henderson (near the bus stop). Every Monday Morning, 10am to 12.30pm. On Monday the 18th of September, our WISE women from Henderson hub and Roskill hub are going to Waiheke Island as a one day picnic.
WISE HUB Mt Roskill, Wesley Community Centre, 740 Sandringham Road Ext. Mt Roskill, Main floor, "Tarapunga Room" Every Friday Morning 10am to 12.30pm. On Friday the 15th of September, we will have the "Facial Session" at our Roskill hub. One of our WISE women will show you how to massage and make your face glow with natural products! See you there!

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

Call for Applications for the Japanese Core Leaders Development Programme

February 2018, in Japan. Nominations welcomed and wanted for "Young Leaders to Travel to Japan in February 2018". The Office for Disability Issues has been asked to co-ordinate the identification of Young Leaders (Aged 23 to 40 years). Important dates - complete the nominee application form and email it to odi@msd.govt.nz by 20th October. The Office needs to notify the Japanese Embassy on representatives by 2 November 2017. Community Core Leaders Development Programme. The programme is funded by the Japanese government. In October 2017 the Office for Disability Issues and the New Zealand Disability Support Network is hosting a delegation of young leaders from Japan working in the disability sector. The programme is established to create a cohesive society by bringing young leaders together working in the areas of disability, seniors/older people and youth to learn from each other, engage in joint problem solving, consider different cultural perspectives, and build leadership potential. Japan involves other countries that are considered progressive and innovative in their approaches. The February 2018 visit to Japan is the return leg of the exchange programme. We are looking for 13 delegates in total, with five (5) from the disability sector: Four working in the disability sector, One delegation lead with a disability perspective. The length of stay in Japan will be Tuesday 13th February

to Tuesday 27th February 2018. The Programme - In Japan the delegates will join with similar delegations from Germany, Austria and hosts Japan. The Tokyo programme will be 3-night, 4-day forum (discussions and exchanges of ideas) with Japanese participants and the delegates from Germany and Austria, and Followed by a regional programme Tuesday the 20th to Sunday 25th February. Delegates working in the older people/seniors sector will be hosted by the Oita Prefecture; delegates working in the disability sector will be hosted by the Kagoshima Prefecture; delegates working in the field of Youth Services will be hosted by the Wakayama Prefecture. The regional programme will involve facility/organisational visits to observe community based activities, local seminars with local youth working in disability, seniors or youth fields, and a homestay. Costs - The Cabinet Office of Japan will pay economy airfares to and from Japan, local travel and accommodation costs within Japan. The delegates are responsible for passport costs, personal expenses, medical insurance, travel within New Zealand. For further information please contact Brian Coffey, Director Office for Disability Issues, email brian.coffey005@msd.govt.nz

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](#).

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

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.

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 Schoombee, PetroS@atwc.org.nz 09 276 3729 x 9403

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

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

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

Raukatauri Music Therapy Class Pukekohe

Group and individual music therapy sessions in Pukekohe from October on Fridays. Music therapy can provide a platform for communication and self-expression, reduce a sense of isolation, help to build relationships with others, work towards physical goals, increase independence and autonomy. Session prices from \$15. For more info ph 09 360 0889 or email info@rmtc.org.nz

Roald Dahl Resources

Including activities, puzzles, games, colouring in, all free and ready to download. For all your Roald Dahl fans.

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

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

Youthline Mentoring

Are you 16 or 17 years old, live or study in Central Auckland, on the North Shore or Rodney. Have struggled to stay at school, have low NCEA results, are thinking of leave school or have left. What does mentoring @ youthline look like? Work one on one with someone who can help you: Stay in education, create a CV, find a job or course, get your drivers

licence, learn new skills, build your confidence. Work out your goals and a plan to achieve them so you get to where you want to be. Contact 0800 2YOUTH, www.youthline.co.nz or youthservice@youthline.co.nz or free text "Mentoring" to 234. For more information click [here](#)

Articles of interest:

[*New Maori words for Mental Health/Autism*](#)
[*Lady qaga invites boy with severe autism on stage*](#)
[*8 of best fenced playgrounds in Auckland*](#)
[*Build a sensory garden*](#)
[*Best play dough recipe no bake*](#)
[*Down syndrome reality show takes home Emmy's*](#)
[*Different kinds of exercises affect different parts of the brain*](#)
[*Calm down kit*](#)

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](#) – September 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](#) – 13 September 2017

[Communitycations](#) – 19 September 2017

[Dance Therapy](#) – September 2017

[Deaf Aotearoa 18 Sept](#)

[Deaf Aotearoa 25 September](#) [Talking Hands Magazine](#)

[eCald News](#) – September 2017

[Health Link North](#) – August 2017

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

[Improving Life Outcomes](#) – September 2017

[Independent Living Services](#) – September 2017

[NZDSN Newsletter](#) – August 2017

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

[Parent Aid](#) – September 2017

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

[Magazine](#) – September 2017 [Parent to Parent](#) [info](#)

[Plunket](#) – September 2017

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

[Raukauri Newsletter](#) – Winter 2017

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

[Sands – Spring 2017](#)

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

[Vaka Tautua](#) - September 2017

[Violence Free Communities](#) – August 2017

[Whanau Marama](#) – September 2017

[Wise Newsletter](#) – 13 September 2017

[Wise Newsletter](#) – 20 September 2017

[Young Carers Newsletter](#) – August 2017



helping families

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

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

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