



Disability Connect Newsletter

1 July 2024



Disability Connect Support Groups

- [Zoom Parents Support Group](#) - Every Monday 7-8pm
Open to anyone seeking advice or support for parenting, upcoming Needs Assessments, starting or leaving school and anything in-between. Robyn would love to meet and chat about anything that is important to you.
- [Parent Support Group](#) - Wednesday 3rd July 2024, 6-8pm.
Guest: Indika
Topic: A Mid-winter Celebration - Story Time with Indi, join us for a mid-winter celebration with a beautiful and interactive Matariki story, art making for children and adults alike and shared kai.
Location: 3b Olive Road, Penrose.
Registration is essential. Click [here](#) for details and flyer.
- [Chinese Support Group](#) - Tuesday 16 July, 10am to 12noon.
Guest Speaker: Jennifer Chen, from Browns Bay - Bilingual Speech Language Therapist (SLT)
Topic: Communication and SLT for Autism
Location: Lynfield Room, Fickling Convention Centre (546 Mt Albert Road, Three Kings)
Click [here](#) for English flyer and [here](#) for Chinese language flyer.

For more Disability Support Groups click [here](#)

Disability Connect Seminars and Workshops

- [Disability Supports in the Community](#) - Thursday 18 July, 6:30 - 9pm. Zoom only. A presentation from Taikura Trust and Work and Income. Come and find out what financial and disability supports you may be able to access. Email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz to register. For more information click [here](#).
- [Education Legal Issues](#) - Thursday 25th July, 6:30pm to 9pm via Zoom. Come along and learn about enrolment rights, decision processes around special education, processes around an ORS funding decline, requests to parents for teacher aide funding contributions, requests to parents for funding for student support at extra-curricular camps and activities, stand-downs, use of restraint, and much more. For more information click [here](#). To register email: admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz
- [Planning for Adulthood](#) - Wednesday 21st August 2024 6.30pm – 9.30pm – via Zoom. Click [here](#) for more information. To register email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Please note some seminars do have a fee. Please let us know if this is a barrier to being able to attend. Clicking on the link will take you to the information.

The flyer is for a seminar titled "Understanding Disability Supports" on Thursday 18th July 2024, from 6.30 PM to 9.00 PM. It is held on Zoom. The flyer includes logos for Disability Connect, Taikura Trust, and Work and Income. It states that the event is free for disabled individuals and their whānau, but there is a \$50 fee for professionals. Contact information for registration is provided: email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz, phone 09-438 0351, and website www.disabilityconnect.org.nz. A disclaimer at the bottom states that presenters from Work and Income and Taikura Trust cannot participate in personal discussions regarding individual circumstances.

Understanding Disability Supports in the Community

Free for Families whanau and disabled people.

Please note there is a \$50 fee for professionals.

To register please email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz before 18 July 4:30pm. Click [here](#) for flyer

The flyer is for the "Transition Expo" on Wednesday 4th September 2024, from 9am to 2pm. It is held at the Auckland Netball Centre, 7 Allison Ferguson Drive, St. Johns. The flyer includes photos of people and a list of interactive activities: opportunities and advice from Transition, Vocational, Employment, Education, Recreation and Information providers; Social Enterprise Resources; a Chill Zone – quiet sensory space; and Conversations with Employers. It also mentions a Café on Site. Additional information includes free parking, wheelchair accessibility, and that all students with a disability, their whānau and those involved in the disability sector will enjoy the day. Contact details are provided: website www.disabilityconnect.org.nz, email admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz, phone 09-438 0351, and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/transitionandfamilyresourcecentre>. The flyer is supported by the Ministry of Social Development. The Disability Connect logo is at the bottom.

Save the Date: Transition Expo

Wednesday September 4, 9am - 3pm.

You are warmly invited to Transition Expo 2024.

A great way for tāngata whaikaha, disabled people, their families and whanau to explore their post school options. Learn what is new and available for disabled people in Auckland in 2025 and beyond we currently have over 90 stall holders registered! Entry is free.

Click [here](#) for more information.



2 July 10am - 12pm The Disability Journey into Adulthood

An informative zoom conversation about leaving school

What do people do with their days? Living options & thinking about the future, WINZ, Transport, guardianship. Transition services & how they work. What kind of funding exists after school.

via Zoom: Meeting ID: [859 1410 3693](https://zoom.us/j/85914103693) Passcode: 426402

RSVP: robyn@realworldliving.co.nz



Spirit of Adventure - Inspiration Voyage - February 2025

Ballot Date Extended - Friday 12 July

The annual Spirit Inspiration voyage is an incredible opportunity for young New Zealanders who live with a disability to take part in an adventure of a lifetime. Thirty young people from across the country, aged 16-30 years, come together to face challenges outside of their usual boundaries, gaining confidence and achieving tasks that previously might have looked impossible. If you have a young adult who might be interested please register your interest with us by emailing admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz by Friday 12 July 2024. For full details and criteria please click [here](#).



No Limits Netball

Skills and netball activities for people with disabilities

Monthly sessions. 10 am-12 pm. Age 5+. Free to attend. [Auckland Netball Centre, St Johns.](#)

For more information please contact: Caitlin Smardon by email: development@aucklandnetball.co.nz.

NZ Sign Language Immersion Camps for 2024

Christchurch, Hamilton and Kapiti Coast (near Wellington)

Practice and improve your NZSL skills in a day and/or weekend camp. A full schedule of a



Panel/Q&A, 2 workshops, lots of NZSL activities and a fun-filled Drama on Saturday evening.

By the end of the camp, you'll have gained a deeper understanding and appreciation of NZSL and the Deaf community.

Earlybird registrations until end of July. For more details click [here](#).

Registration is now OPEN for EARLYBIRD until the end of July!



New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL) Community Group Opportunity!

Learn NZSL online for just \$20 per course!

Term 3 Courses Available:

NZSL4U 10 week courses are starting next term! To book your spot and start your NZSL learning journey, visit www.nzsl4u.co.nz or email admin@nzsl4u.com to find out more.

Beginners welcome. Deadline: Tuesday 18th July for term 3 enrollment. Don't Miss Out! Limited spots are available, so quickly secure your place in these popular courses!

Facebook video link: <https://www.facebook.com/share/v/h5LDLMLSd21W3UM8/>



Enabling Good Lives (EGL) Seminars North and East Auckland.

Do You:

- Have a learning Disability
- Want to know more about Enabling Good Lives

People First NZ have 2 meetings for you to learn more:

When: Sunday 7 July 2024, 1pm - 2:30pm

Where: The Albany Beauty Room, Albany Community Hub, 575 Albany Highway, Albany

Whānau / family and support people welcome. There will be afternoon tea. Email us if you would like to come along: sarahsharp@peoplefirst.org.nz

Tuesday 9 July - Dream Horse

Fundraiser Movie Night!

Ambury Park Centre does equine assisted learning for disabled people, and they are holding a fundraiser movie night on 9th July.

To get your tickets contact office@amburyparkcentre.org.nz.

Tuesday 9 July at 7.30 pm

Rialto Cinema

167-169 Broadway

Newmarket

Tickets: \$22.00 per person



Neuro-divergent Parenting Course

4 week course specifically designed to support families living with autism and ADHD. Learn how to build co-regulation, compassion and connection with your neuro-divergent child. More information in community courses on our [website](#)

Teacher: Hannah - NZAC Counsellor working at Rainbow House and in private practice.

Location: Epsom

Dates: 30 July, 13 August, 10 & 27 September.

Advocacy Available (no charge)

Please contact Jules at Citizen Advocacy Auckland if you require assistance with advocacy around any disability issues.

For more information please visit www.caaauckland.org.nz



FREE Mobility Equipment Repairs through Independent Living

We know there is mobility equipment out in the community which needs to be repaired but the cost of the repair is prohibitive for our low-income whānau and older people living on a pension. We can now fix it for FREE to get them mobile !

Equipment can be dropped to one of our stores in Browns Bay, Royal Oak and Botany or we can collect and drop off (within the

Auckland area as our repairs team are based in East Tāmaki).

We can pretty much fix any type of mobility equipment, but we don't work on ACC or Health NZ equipment as they have their own repairs process.

Check out more info on this great service on our [website](#) at or you can print the attached form and email it to us. Or if you would like to know more about this service you can email us at repairs@ilsnz.org or call our team for more info on [0800 625 100](tel:0800625100).

Your voice matters!

Survey - An examination of mobility impairment and accessibility to public buildings - PhD research with Margaret Stefanitsis.

Massey University student Margaret Stefanitsis is researching accessibility to public buildings. To read about the research click here or participate in the survey please click the link - <https://forms.gle/ALb31Ya4gQt51rc57>

Health and Disability Act and Code Review - We want to know what you think about how we can make the Act and the Code better. click [here](#) for details and easy read links.

Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People - To keep up to date with the latest changes on the 18 March announcements, refer to [Whaikaha's website](#). The latest on purchasing rules are available [here](#).

Make your voices heard by signing both of the petitions below:

[Carers NZ Petition](#) - Recognise and protect New Zealand's family, whānau and āiga carers

[Petition: Re-evaluate the Recent Changes to Whaikaha Purchasing Guidelines for Individualised Funding](#)

To have your say, you can also write to your local MP or email us at admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Great information on our website!

- [Newsletters from other disability organisations](#)
- [Useful links page](#)
- [Disability Support Guides - English, Chinese, Korean and Arabic](#)
- [View all news and updates on our information pages on our website.](#)

Thermomix® to Support Disability Zoom Info Session - 25 July at 8 pm



THERMOMIX® TO SUPPORT DISABILITY AND CARERS

A Thermomix® can increase independence for disabled people and is a game-changer for carers. It is also amazing for managing food allergies, intolerances and choking risks. Find out more at my next Zoom session - what is it, what can it do and the process to use disability support funding to purchase.

Book here for Zoom Thursday 25 July at 8pm: <https://tinyurl.com/4a4pxp39>

disability
connect.

We are available Monday-Friday 9am-4.30pm

admin@disabilityconnect.org.nz

Phone [09 636 0351](tel:09 636 0351)

We are here to help you with the best information, advice and support for living the best life possible.

Disability Connect can now receive online donations via credit card. We appreciate any donation from you!

Donate now



Disability Connect

3b Olive Road, Penrose, Auckland

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