Parents of Vision Impaired (NZ) Inc.

Providing a community to support parents of children with vision impairments

Mānawatia a Matariki

We hope you all had a lovely Matariki long weekend, with plenty of time with family and friends. Or even just enjoying some rest and being at home!

Matariki is a time to reflect on the year that was, celebreate the present, and look forward to the year ahead. At PVI we are thankful for our families, for the way you encourage each other, generously share information and insights, and advocate for inclusion and rights for your children and young people. You are all incredible and we are thankful that we get to share some of this journey with you.

Coming up soon are several PVI events:

- **Auckland Family Fun Day** - July 18
- **Online workshop - Transition to School** - 4 August
- **PVI Parent Conference** - 30 October - 1 November

Scroll down for more information on each, followed by a quick update on our latest PVI Board meeting.

✅ Auckland Family Fun Day ✅

Saturday July 18

Come along for an afternoon of fun, connection, and community! Meet other PVI families, where both the kids and adults have the chance to make new friends and connect with others who “get it.” Enjoy a relaxed afternoon filled with food, games, crafts, music, bubbles, and plenty of family fun! Fun for all ages!

🗓️ Date: 18 July
🕐 Time: 1pm – 3pm
📍 Location: Chris Orr Recreation Centre, Blind Low Vision NZ, McVilly Road, Manurewa

We'd love to see you there! 💛

For more information contact Rosemary at rosemary@pvi.org.nz or 0204498829

Register your interest here

✳️ **August Parent Workshop** ✳️

Transitioning to School

Starting school is a big milestone for every child and their family. If your child has a vision impairment and/or other disabilities, you may have additional questions about choosing the right school, accessing support, and preparing for a successful transition.

This workshop is designed for parents and whānau of children moving from early childhood education into primary school. Whether your child is due to start school soon or you're planning ahead, you'll gain valuable information to help you navigate the journey with confidence.

We'll cover:

- Understanding the transition process and what to expect

- Different schooling options, including state, state-integrated, and specialist settings
- ORS (Ongoing Resourcing Scheme) eligibility and the application process

💻 Held via zoom (details on registration)

🗓️ Tuesday 4 August

🕰️ 10am or 7pm (both sessions cover the same material)

For more information contact Rosemary at rosemary@pvi.org.nz or 0204498829.

Register here for our August parent workshop

PVI 2026 Parent Conference & AGM

An annual highlight for many parents, PVI's Parent Conference & AGM offers parents a chance to pause, breathe, and reflect on the year. Across these three days we provide capacity building, information, and support to enable and empower parents to continue to provide high quality care for their family member. It's also an opportunity to connect with others, eat good food, enjoy some laughs, and to feel cared for.

Date: Friday 30 October - Sunday 1 November

Conference Theme: Thriving Together

Venue: Hamilton Novotel & Ibis

Register / find our more about Conference here

PVI Board Meeting

We received some funding from Whaikaha - Ministry of Disabled People to undertake training for our Board regarding the UNCRPD and how we, as an organisation, can continue to uphold our children's rights and protections. We also covered what a DPO is, where PVI sits in this regard, and being intentional about elevating child voice within the disability sector.

As part of this, Dr Huhana Hickey spent a couple of hours with the Board, sharing stories, answering questions, and challenging our thinking. It was a very worthwhile two hours and the board spent some time afterwards discussing everything! Dr Hickey noted that our lived experience as parents and families is different to, but still part of, the wider disability sector.

This radical notion unlocked our collective thinking, and left us pondering, how do we, as an organisation, ensure we have robust mechanisms for child and disability voice, and that these inform our work (so that we are working with and alongside disabled persons as we advocate for our family member).

💛 **Support PVI** 💛

When a child is diagnosed with a vision impairment, it can be overwhelming — but no parent should have to face it alone. PVI provides vital emotional support,

trusted information, and a connected national community for families navigating this journey.

We're a small charity with a big impact, and we rely on donations to keep our services free and accessible to all whānau across Aotearoa. Your support helps us run parent networks, host conferences, share resources, and advocate for inclusive education.

Every dollar makes a difference.

💛 Donate today via Give A Little

Parents of Vision Impaired NZ, PO Box 5629, Frankton, Hamilton, New Zealand 3204, New Zealand, www.pvi.org.nz

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