

Newsletter

Autumn 2017

National Disability Coordination Officer Program Region 17

Welcome to the autumn 2017 edition of the NDCO program newsletter for region 17. The NDCO program evaluation has been finalised and the final report will be published online in the near future. An exciting outcome from this report is the good news that NDCO program has been given an extension for another 12 months till June 30 2018. I am very excited about continuing in the role for another twelve months.

Yours Sincerely

Andrea Evans-McCall

Andrea Evans-McCall NDCO 0418 208 039 andrea.evansmccall@skillsplus.com.au

<http://www.ndcovictoria.net.au/region-17>

<https://www.facebook.com/NDCOregion17>



NDCO Events

Professional Development opportunity 'Supporting Career Planning for Students with Disability'

Workshop One: Creating Confidence....For Careers Practitioners

Tuesday 18th July- Traralgon

9.30am -11.30am -Facilitated by Andrea Evans-McCall NDCO Region 17

Young people with disability have unique career development needs and will benefit from in-depth career awareness and exploration this workshop will explore the current theory that informs accessible career development.

Workshop One: Book now via link below

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/supporting-career-planning-for-students-with-disability-tickets-32868343099>

Workshop Two: Assistive technology – a guide to the role new technologies can play in the transitional journey to further training or work

12.30pm-3.30pm-Facilitated by Mark Cottee NDCO Region 15

This workshop is a hands on and will explore the potentials and the limitations when considering assistive technology for students with a disability. Focusing on real examples with hands on interactions this workshop will give clear insight into:

- The basics of where to start. (The SETT framework).
- What works (or doesn't work) for whom and under what conditions?
- iOS devices – built in accessibility functions.
- Toy versus tool – Applications and 'App smashing'.
- Alternatives – an opportunity for group collaboration.

Attendees are encouraged to bring a range of their favourite devices – phone / tablet / laptop

Workshop Two: Book now via link below

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/assistive-technology-a-guide-to-the-role-new-technologies-can-play-in-the-transitional-journey-to-tickets-32871636951>

Getting Ready for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

These sessions will be facilitated by YDAS, NDIS Readiness Coordinator from the Youth Disability Advocacy Service (YDAS) and will be in plain English and aimed at youth aged 15-25 and their parents and caregivers.

Topics will include:

NDIS 101

What's the NDIS?

How can it help me?

How can I get in?

What can go into a plan (very basic?)

GOALS

What's a goal anyway?

What are some things you/your child want to do in life?

Let's think about all the different things you might need to get there!

SPEAKING UP

When could you run into problems speaking up about what you want in the NDIS?

Who has your back? What does that look like?

What sort of steps could you take to solve the problem?

GETTING INVOLVED

What have you wished you could do in your community?

Who can help you get there?

What if I need to make changes for things to be more accessible?

Warragul- Monday 1st May

9.30am to 11.00am

West Gippsland Health

Pettit Centre

31 - 35 Gladstone St, Warragul

Leongatha-Tuesday 2nd May

9.30am to 11.00am

South Gippsland Trade Skills Alliance

71 Ogilvy Street

Leongatha

Moe-Monday 1st May

1.00pm to 2.30pm

Moe Library

Meeting Room

1-29 George St,

Moe

Wonthaggi- Tuesday 2nd May

1.00pm to 2.30pm

Town Hall Foyer

Baillieu Street East

Wonthaggi

For more information contact:

Andrea Evans-McCall

National Disability Coordination Officer

andrea.evansmccall@skillsplus.com.au

0418 208 039

Learn and Share Network Professional Development Day

The aim of the network Professional Development day is to bring together colleagues who work in the latter years programs at Special Schools to explore ways of working, identify common solutions and share best practice and ideas.

What you will get from this network day.

- Put you in touch with like-minded colleagues
- Allow you to share your experience and learn from others
- Allow you to collaborate and achieve common outcomes
- Validate and build on existing knowledge and best practice

DATE : Tuesday 23rd May 2017

VENUE : Tippy Foundation -58-60 Commercial Road, Morwell

TIME : 9.15 for 9.30 Start- 2.30 Finish

Registrations via: <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/learn-share-pd-day-tickets-32708297398>

Tips, Tools & Websites

PDF accessibility Tips: at the following link:

<http://www.adobe.com/content/dam/Adobe/en/accessibility/pdfs/accessing-pdf-sr.pdf>

Document Accessibility Toolbar (DAT)

An innovation that revolutionises the ease and speed of creating accessible documents in Microsoft Word, the Document Accessibility Toolbar (DAT) supports individuals and organisations to embrace accessibility as 'business as usual' at no cost.

The DAT puts the power of accessible functionality into the hands of content authors, for the ultimate benefit of consumers with disability or age-related impairment.

<https://www.visionaustralia.org/dat>

Policy, Funding

Making Schools More Inclusive In the Education State

Schools across Victoria will receive a funding boost to support students with disabilities and special needs Government Minister for Education James Merlino has announced that a further 17 schools will receive funding under the \$20 million Inclusive School Fund.

The fund is helping government schools better support the social and education needs of young people with a disability.

<http://www.premier.vic.gov.au/making-schools-more-inclusive-in-the-education-state-2/>

Scholarships

Disability Scholarship Program—Victorian Government

The Disability Scholarship Program is an initiative from the department's Disability Action Plan. The program aims to achieve a long-term increase in the number of qualified people with a disability employed across all areas and all levels of the public service. The 2017 program will be offering a limited number of scholarships for people with a disability in Victoria in the following areas of study: law, criminology, para-legal, psychology, social work, and other justice-related fields.

A scholarship for study at diploma, advanced diploma, bachelor, and postgraduate level will be offered at a tertiary institution within Victoria. Prospective students interested in undertaking justice-related courses will need to check with the respective institutions to ascertain the requirements of lodging an application and the closing date for courses.

Closing date: 31/3/2107

http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/utility/careers/disability+scholarship+program?utm_source=Youth+Affairs+Council+of+Victoria+List&utm_campaign=d8377bbfe4-

EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_02_02&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_3e327e091a-d8377bbfe4-78077189#breadcrumbs

NDIS

As the NDIS is introduced you may have a few questions about how to access the NDIS; this video will help you answer some of the more common ones.

https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/Accessing%20the%20NDIS%20video.html?utm_source=National+Disability+Insurance+Scheme+eNewsletter&utm_campaign=0602485a30-

EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2016_12_08&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_85b9cee0c8-0602485a30-50875613

School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES)

School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES) is an early intervention approach to employment for Year 12 school leavers with disability. The aim is to provide eligible NDIS participants with a supported pathway from school into employment.

Find out more about SLES by downloading the fact sheet:

<http://ais.act.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/SLES-Fact-Sheet-SLES-Teachers-and-Students-2016.pdf>

Mainstream interface: Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training Supports the NDIS will fund in relation to Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training

Some participants in the Scheme may be studying through a higher education or vocational education and training (VET) provider. This could include undertaking a university degree, apprenticeship or training course. Some participants will require additional support as a result of their disability in order to undertake this education.

Find out more by downloading the fact sheet:

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/document/supports-ndis-will-fund-relation-3.html>

In the News

Spectroscopic

VICTORIA'S leading autism organisation Amaze is calling for budding directors and storytellers to create short films about their experiences with autism. Amaze works to increase understanding of autism and is doing so through its Spectroscopic movie campaign to coincide with World Autism Awareness Day on April 2.

Schools can support World Autism Awareness Day by hosting a gold coin event, making their own films, creating an exhibition or showing the 2017 Spectroscopic film.

For more information about Spectroscopic visit: <http://spectroscopic.com.au/>

Internship program delivers dose of confidence

Now in its twelfth year, the Australian Network on Disability's Stepping Into program is a paid internship scheme that matches talented university students with disability with roles in leading Australian businesses

<http://www.and.org.au/news.php/263/internship-program-delivers-dose-of-confidence>

Applications for the winter 2017 Stepping Into program are now open and will close on 7th April 2017.

To apply online: <http://www.and.org.au/pages/apply.html>

Federal Government recognised for disability employment policies

The Federal Government has been internationally recognised for its efforts to remove barriers to employment for people with disability. The Hon Jane Prentice, Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services, announced the Federal Government's JobAccess Service received an award at the annual Zero Project Conference held at the UN in Vienna last week. JobAccess received an award in the *Innovative Policies advancing Employment of Persons with Disabilities* category.

JobAccess is the national hub for workplace and employment information for people with disability, employers and service providers. This includes the administration of the Employment Assistance Fund, used to make changes in workplaces for people with disability, purchase Auslan services and provide disability awareness training & support.

If you missed the NDCO webinar JobAccess: helping drive disability employment presented by Heather Hill. You can watch the recording via this link: <http://www.ndco.stepscs.net.au/webinars.html>

Reports / Resources

NDCO Region 17 -Gippsland POST SCHOOL SERVICE DIRECTORIES FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITY

have been updated for 2017 and can be downloaded under directories on the Region 17 page on the NDCO Victoria website: <http://www.ndcovictoria.net.au/region-17#directories>

Get Ready Workbook Series

The NDCO program has developed a series of workbooks for young people with disability, a chronic medical condition or a mental health condition to help plan life after school.

These workbooks are based on the top ten tips for moving into post school education, training and employment pathways. They contain practical activities, facts on rights and responsibilities, useful links and more!

There are three workbooks: Get Ready – Top Tips for Students with Disability; Get Ready – Top Tips for ATSI Students with Disability & Get Ready – A Guide for Parents

The workbooks are FREE to download and can be progressively completed electronically and saved to a computer.

There is also a plain text version for users of assistive technology and an Easy English version of the Student and ATSI workbook for people with low literacy or language skills.

You can download all versions at www.westernsydney.edu.au/ndco/

If you would like a hard copy email andrea.evansmccall@skillsplus.com.au

Conferences, Workshops, Forums and Training

CEAV Biennial Conference *Career Education Contemporary Approaches to Transitions*

30 Nov to 1 Dec 2017. Keep up to date with the latest conference news and confirmed speakers on the CEAV website at www.ceav.vic.edu.au go to the Conference tab and choose from the drop-down box.

Youth Forum “Let’s Talk” which will be held in the Performance Space at the Docklands Library on Tuesday the 28th of March. The forum...will explore programs that support and promote social and emotional health and wellbeing for young people from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and young people from culturally, linguistically and spiritually diverse communities. Young people will be speaking about programs that that they are involved in that promote inclusion, participation, connection and healing, facilitating opportunities for reflection and connection throughout the day. <http://www.vtmh.org.au/calendar/youth-forum>

I CAN Network Parents Night

Driving a rethink on AWEtism from "I Can't to I CAN". Listen to Chris Varney speak about the I CAN Network's programs and NDIS. His mother Lisa Anderson will also join us and talk about "Setting up your child's I CAN Network". Jeff Segal, a father to a son on the spectrum and a primary school teacher will talk about "Partnering with teachers". Carla Burn & Chris Varney will share their insights and perspectives of young leaders on the spectrum. There will also be time allocated for Q & A.

Thursday 30 March 2017

6.00 PM- 7.45 PM

Cunningham Centre, St Bernadette's Catholic School

53 Stanley Street, Ivanhoe, Victoria 3079

Registrations via: <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=261985>

Aspect PBS Sale workshop

The workshop is open to families and carers of individuals on the Autism Spectrum. A FREE workshop for parents and carers of children and young people aged 6 - 25 years of age who are diagnosed with Autism.

May 16-18.

Sale & Districts Greyhound Racing Club

(The Champions Room)

Sale Showgrounds - Maffra Rd

Sale VIC 3850

Registrations via:

<https://enews.autismspectrum.org.au/link/id/zzzz585b378f02ea6435/regform?evuid=zzzz585b378ed6106287>

Disability Confident Recruiters Webinar

Unintended barriers in your recruitment processes may prevent you from accessing the 2.1 million Australians with disability who are within working age.

Join in on Tuesday 28 March for our Disability Confident Recruiters webinar to learn more about confidently recruiting and retaining people with disability.

Registrations via : <http://ow.ly/6bij309Q0Kz>

Victorian NDCO's

The NDCO Program works strategically to assist people with disability access, and participate in 'Tertiary Education' and subsequent employment, through a national network of regionally based NDCOs. There are 31 NDCO regions in Australia with 7 in Victoria. Each NDCO region has an Advisory Committee with representation from key regional stakeholders. In Victoria the NDCO program has also established a state network to work on collaborative state priorities. You can access contact to all Victorian NDCO's via the state website: www.ndcovictoria.net.au
