



**People With  
Disabilities**  
ACT Inc

# 'OUT & ABOUT WITH ABILITY'

**Volume 3 \* Issue 6 \* May 2010**

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## **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

- Executive Officers Report
- Getting into Advocacy
- 2010-2011 Disability ACT Grants - Now Open
- Social Inclusion Can Be Achieved In The Workplace
- Travel And Transport
- The National Scene
- Cyber Security – Everyone's Concern
- Employment Opportunity
- Upcoming Activities And Community Events
- Free PWD ACT Membership Disability Definition
- Organisational Members
- PWD ACT Contact Information

## **PWD ACT ACTIVITIES OVER THE PAST MONTH:**

- 2 June** Meeting with Opposition Leader re Making Diversity Work Report EO Robert Altamore and Justin Le Couteur Attended
- 3 June** Post School Options Expo attended by Justin Le Couteur, Alison Chin, EO, Robert Altamore and AO Maida Kajkic
- 7 June** Met with Disability ACT/ Lyn Holt Executive Director re: Funding EO and Justin attended.
- 7 June** Conference about cyber security at Parliament House EO attended.
- 8 June** Meeting with ACT Chief Minister re Making Diversity Work report EO and Justin Le Couteur attended
- 8 June** PWD ACT Board Meeting.
- 9 June** meeting with Fiona McIntosh Disability ACT re Community information Hub EO and Ian Trehwella attended
- 10 June** Disability Act consultation for Disability Service Standards Review EO attended.
- 15 & 16 June** National Disability Advocacy Conference EO, attended
- 21 June** Women's Centre for Health Matter Launch of "Out of Reach" Report attended by AO Maida Kajkic
- 25 June** Meeting of WATS Consortium with PWC re Taxi Industry Review EO attended.
- 25 June** *Meeting Department of Justice and Community Safety re ACT Human Rights Framework EO attended.*
- 25 June** PWD ACT Outdoor Café Policy. Submission
- 29 June** Submission Amendments to ACT Parking Code Submission.
- 30 June** Revision of National Disability Service Standards Submission.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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PWD ACT was pleased to contribute an information table to the 2010 Post School Options Expo held on 3 June. This event which provides information on life after school for students with disabilities, families, teachers and school and disability services support staff. It was a tremendous opportunity to talk with students with disabilities and explain to them the relevance of the systemic advocacy work we do and provide them with practical information on relevant services.

I represented PWD ACT at 2 conferences. The first was a conference on Cyber Security held at Parliament House. The second was the Third National Conference of the Disability Advocacy Network of Australia (DANA). My reports on these conferences are separate articles in this Newsletter.

Our President Justin and I have met with the Chief Minister Jon Stanhope and the Opposition Leader Zed Seselja to discuss with them the implementation of the recommendations of our report on the employment of people with disabilities in the public Service 'Making Diversity Work'. Both leaders and their advisers responded positively to what we had to say and the government has committed to responding to us to our recommendations.

In addition, on 23 June, which is the International Day for Public Service Employees, the ACT Greens tabled a motion in the Assembly calling for action to increase the numbers of people with disabilities employed in the ACT Public Service. This motion will be debated in August.

We are heartened to see the interest in our advocacy on this matter and will continue to work hard to transfer that advocacy into employment opportunities for people with disabilities.

This month we have also responded to a call for comment on the review of the ACT Policy on Outdoor Cafes. Our submission advocates for changes to this policy to make it clearer and to broaden its focus so that it addresses all access issues for people with disabilities allowing all members of the community to partake of the social interaction and benefit that outdoor cafes provide.

In a short submission on proposed variations to the ACT Parking Code we sought to ensure that the variations took account of the coming National Parking Scheme and that designated disability parking spaces are constructed in accordance with National standards.

Finally, in our submission to the Revision of the National Standards for Disability Services, we called for the new Standards to support a disability service system which gives effect to the human rights of people with disabilities and improves the quality of their lives.

There is much information in this Newsletter and I hope you will find it enjoyable and useful.

Robert Altamore

## GETTING INTO ADVOCACY

I am very glad that at such an early moment in my time with PWD ACT I was able to attend the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Conference of the Disability Advocacy Network Australia (DANA) held in Canberra this month. DANA is the peak National body for advocacy organisations and covers organisations involved in individual, systemic, family and group advocacy and citizen advocacy and self-advocacy.

Topics covered included:-

- ❖ The nature, theory and philosophy of advocacy;
- ❖ Funding and quality assurance for advocacy services;
- ❖ The UN Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities; and The National Insurance Scheme.

A speaker from Calgary in Canada, Bruce Uditski, shared his experience of providing advocacy services in the context of individualised funding arrangements.

I found it helpful to reflect on and understand issues about the importance of partisanship and independence in advocacy. The conference also reinforced for me the vital role that advocacy needs to play to ensure that disability services contribute to bring about a good and valued life for service recipients.

Robert Altamore  
Executive Officer



## **2010-2011 Disability ACT Grants - Now Open**

Applications for non-recurrent grants are now open for residents of the ACT under the following Disability ACT programs:

### **Quality of Life**

Quality of Life Grants will be offered for small, person-centred initiatives that may make a real difference to the quality of life of people with a disability.

Each applicant may apply for funding up to \$5,000.

### **Young People in Residential Aged Care**

Quality of Life Grants will be offered to enhance the life of younger people in residential aged care.

Each applicant may apply for funding up to \$5,000.

### **Innovation**

Innovation Grants are intended to support new strategies, concepts, and ideas that have the potential to promote positive change and meet an identified social need for vulnerable people, including those with a disability. Innovation can be big or small, brand new - radical and revolutionary or slightly different and seemingly simple. Grants are intended to bring creative ideas to life to extend and strengthen our community.

Each application may apply for funding up to a maximum of \$50,000.

Applications and information can be obtained from the ACT Government Grants website [www.grants.act.gov.au](http://www.grants.act.gov.au) <<http://www.grants.act.gov.au/>> or the Disability ACT Information Service on 6207 1086 or website [www.dhcs.act.gov.au/disability\\_act](http://www.dhcs.act.gov.au/disability_act)

**Closing date for all Disability ACT Grant applications is Friday 30 July 2010 Nadine Stephen**

## **SOCIAL INCLUSION CAN BE ACHIEVED IN THE WORKPLACE**

The ACT Government is changing its tender process to favour organisations that employ people with disabilities and the long-term unemployed.

Chief Minister Jon Stanhope revealed the Government's new commitment to 'social tendering' at the launch of Woden's Café Ink which provides employment for people who are struggling to enter the workforce.

"This ACT Government initiative aims to break down some of the barriers faced by people with disabilities wanting to enter the workforce by making it easier for organisations that employ people with disabilities to win Government contracts," Mr Stanhope said. "The changes will mean that ACT Government departments and

agencies must consider the social benefits of awarding contracts to such organisations alongside some of the more competitive requirements.”

Mr Stanhope said he hoped the initiative would encourage more organisations like Café Ink to offer employment and training opportunities to people with disabilities.

“Businesses like Café Ink provide opportunities for some of the most vulnerable and isolated members of our community to participate in the workforce,” Mr Stanhope said. “Café Ink is an example of how social inclusion can be achieved in the workplace with the right combination of market knowledge, opportunity and goodwill.

“The ACT Government already supports organisations like Café Ink through the ACT Social Enterprise Hub which offers business development support to organisations that employ people who might otherwise be excluded from the workforce.

“We are now taking the extra step of making it easier for social enterprise organisations to win Government contracts and provide their staff with employment security.”

Café Ink is an initiative of the Woden Community Services.

The ACT Social Enterprise Hub was established under Social Ventures Australia with the help of PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Snow Foundation, the Mental Health Community Coalition, DHCS and ACT Health.

## **Upgrading of Bus Stops – Can You Help Us Help Roads ACT**

PWD ACT recently attended a meeting of the Accessible Transport Group. The meeting was addressed by Mario Sallecchia from Roads ACT which has the responsibility of upgrading all bus stops to comply with the Disability Standard for Accessible Public Transport. As part of that compliance Mario expressed the view that rather than concentrating solely on just upgrading bus stops on the current ACTION dedicated accessible bus routes, he would also like to concentrate the upgrade on bus stops where people with disabilities currently live and may be using accessible buses.

To achieve this and to get these targeted bus stops into Roads ACT ongoing upgrade program, Roads ACT needs people with disabilities to tell them about the bus stops they use. We would appreciate it if you could tell us the bus stops you use identifying the bus stop by reference to the suburb, street and the street number of the nearest house to the bus stop. We will pass this information on To Roads ACT.

Please email your response to PWD ACT Board Member and our representative on this Committee Ian Trehalla at [it45@gmail.com](mailto:it45@gmail.com)

# TRAVEL AND TRANSPORT

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## Taxis

Taxis have been very much on our minds in the last 2 months. We provided a submission to the review of the ACT Taxi Industry and provided input into the submission to this review by the WATS Consortium. PWD supports the WATS submission call for a WATS service staffed by salaried drivers which would form part of the Action bus fleet and would therefore operate as an integral part of the ACT public transport system.

We are pleased that this submission has attracted public interest with an article by Graham Downey in the Canberra Times of Friday 10 June and a number of Media interviews.

The Government has responded to the reaction generated by the review by engaging Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) to conduct a survey of WATS users. We encourage WATS users to fill out this survey and in particular to take advantage of the opportunity in question 49 of this Survey to express their feelings of dissatisfaction and frustration with the current system which is broken and beyond repair.

To complete this survey go to:

[http://www.tams.act.gov.au/move/public\\_transport/taxi\\_services\\_and\\_information/wheelchair](http://www.tams.act.gov.au/move/public_transport/taxi_services_and_information/wheelchair)

This is the text of the article by Graham Downie which appeared on Page 3 of the Canberra Times today. (Actually the original heading referred to those who are 'wheelchair-bound' but I have taken editors privilege with that.)

Canberra's Wheelchair Accessible Taxi system should be scrapped in favour of a dedicated fleet within ACTION, Advocacy for Inclusion general manager, Christina Ryan said yesterday.

The present taxi system was broken and no amount of tinkering would make it work. "People with disabilities have long endured a dysfunctional system that we can't rely on," Ms Ryan said. She is a member of a wheelchair accessible transport consortium, established in 2008 to work with government and other parties for the improvement of transport for disabled people. "Wheelchair accessible taxis and standard taxi services are not serving the needs of people with disabilities in the ACT," she said.

A new system, not driven by profit, and which could be relied on at any time, was overdue. "Past changes, adjustments and incentives have failed to generate improvements at a level that is compliant with the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002." Neither did Canberra's wheelchair accessible taxi service comply with the human rights requirement for people with disabilities to have equitable access to public transport.

“Given that Canberra’s ACTION bus network will not be completely accessible until 2022, it is essential for people with disabilities in the ACT to access appropriate public transport services.”

The ageing population would create an increasing demand for wheelchair accessible taxis.

The consortium proposed a new approach, with an accessible fleet as part of ACTION, properly service vehicles and trained drivers. This would remove the need for large subsidies, increase safety for drivers and increase reliability of transport for people with disabilities.

The current system was so bad that many people with disabilities had stopped going out. The consortium acknowledged some taxi drivers did their best to cater for their passengers with disabilities, but the system was broken.

Ms Ryan, who used an electric wheelchair, said “We don’t want to have to rely on a taxi service which does not work.” Even with a fully accessible bus fleet, there would be a need for a taxi service for wheelchair users. The present accessible buses were not suitable for many wheelchair users because wheelchairs could not be secured.

ACT Chief Minister Jon Stanhope said the Government was undertaking a review of the ACT taxi services, including a substantial focus on improving access to wheelchair accessible taxis. He was aware some people could wait for hours for a wheelchair accessible taxi. He said 38 submissions in response to the Taxi Review Discussion Paper issued on April 11 had been received. Taxi users’ suggestions would be part of a report recommending ways to improve service and regulation.



## **THE NATIONAL SCENE**

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### **Blind People Finally Receive a Secret Ballot**

As a person who is blind, the 2007 federal election at which I was able to cast a secret, independent and verifiable vote. At previous Federal Elections, I and people like me were denied this fundamental democratic right.

I am sure you will join with me in commending the Commonwealth and Government and Opposition for working together to ensure that the necessary legislation to give people who are blind or vision impaired a secret ballot at future Federal Elections was enacted prior to the election scheduled for later this year. We are pleased with the progress we are finally making on this matter although are disappointed that it has taken so long. At the Federal level we will have to go through an interim voting system for the 2010 election before getting the truly convenient and independent voting method we have been waiting for.

As a resident of Canberra I have been able to cast a secret, independent and verifiable vote at the last 3 ACT elections. I have access to the system used by sighted voters, subject only to the addition of voice output which reads the ballot paper and guides me through the process of ticking the names of the candidates for whom I choose to give my vote.

Initially the changes will allow the Electoral Commissioner to determine the method of secret ballot. For the next election, this will mean that electors who are blind or have low vision will have the option of attending an Australian Electoral Commission divisional office where they can be connected to trained call centre operators for assistance in completion of the ballot papers. It is expected that, over time, alternative means of ensuring secret ballots will be developed and implemented.

Robert Altamore

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### **Community and Disability Services Ministers' Conference Report**

This item is taken from the E-Newsletter of the Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities Mr Bill Shorten MP

On Friday 11 June, Community and Disability Services Ministers from all States and Territories met with myself and Jenny Macklin in Adelaide to discuss progress on a number of projects aimed at getting the State and Federal Governments to work better together. This CDSMC meeting made real progress on a number of issues which are set out below:

## **More Consistent Access to Aids and Equipment**

Ministers agreed to keep working to give people with disability more consistent access to the aids and equipment they need to live independently, participate in the community and reach their potential.

Ministers agreed to establish, by December 2010, a nationally consistent list of core equipment that all people with similar disabilities should be able to access, no matter where they live. All jurisdictions will also strengthen their portability protocols to allow people who move across state borders to retain their access to core equipment they need for their disability.

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## **Early intervention and Prevention Revised Framework**

Ministers endorsed a National Framework and work plan for Early Intervention and Prevention. This enables each jurisdiction to examine their systems and identify gaps to improve the effectiveness of their early intervention programs. This will lead to better outcomes for people with disability, their families and carers, particularly in the early years and at key transition points, such as the transition from early childhood settings to school, from primary school to secondary school and adolescence, and from school to post school settings and adulthood.

The Full CDSMC Communiqué is available at

[http://www.billshorten.com.au/more/index.cfm?Fuseaction=2010\\_CDSMC\\_Comm&section=more\\_56227](http://www.billshorten.com.au/more/index.cfm?Fuseaction=2010_CDSMC_Comm&section=more_56227) .

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## **Changes to the Disability Support Pension**

The Rudd Government recognises that the DSP is a key part of our welfare system, and provides for people with serious disabilities who are unable to find work. While we want to make sure that the DSP is only given to people who need it, it has become clear that red-tape is holding up legitimate applications longer than it should. We have decided to make it easier for people with serious disabilities, or diseases, to claim the payment quickly and solely on the basis of a medical report. I hope this eases the stress of applying for the DSP for people with these conditions. The changes will apply from 1 July 2010.

## Revision of the National Standards For Disability Services

People With Disabilities was one of several ACT organisations to attend a meeting convened by Disability ACT to discuss the review of the National Standards for Disability Services.

The National Standards for Disability services were first developed about 18 years ago and are the standards by which all disability service Providers, both government and non government should operate – to develop policy and programs, and to deliver the services themselves. There were 8 Standards, and you may recognise them as they are often displayed in the office or meeting room of a disability service provider.

Briefly they are:

- (1) Access to services [on basis of relative need and available resources]
- (2) Individual Needs [considered, catered for, and met]
- (3) Decision Making and Choice [client involvement in this]
- (4) [Treatment of clients with] Privacy, dignity and confidentiality
- (5) Participation and Integration [support for involvement in the community]
- (6) Valued Status [promoted both in the community and through the service]
- (7) Complaints and Disputes [a know, non retributational way of reporting poor service delivery and having it resolved]
- (8) Service Management [continuous improvement]

There has never been a national Quality Assurance framework for consistency of services. In contrast Disability Employment Services have been using the same standards, with the addition of several more, and have a stringent quality assurance framework. A Copy of the current Standards is at:

<http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sa/disability/standards/Pages/policy-nsds2007.aspx>.

Part of this revision process will be to set up a National Quality Framework for Disability Services in Australia. (Ironically the Interim Framework is in a table format NOT accessible to people using JAWS type programs.) WWDA supporter, Dr Leanne Dowse has been involved in developing the consultation instruments. The Revision is being conducted by the Department of Human Services in Victoria, and although the review period is drawing to a close, it is still possible to contribute. A discussion paper and more information is available at:

[http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/improving\\_supports/national-quality-framework](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/improving_supports/national-quality-framework).

If you want to give feedback, there is an online survey at:

[http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/improving\\_supports/national-quality-framework/online-survey-for-the-national-standards](http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/disability/improving_supports/national-quality-framework/online-survey-for-the-national-standards); and you choose the most suitable survey according to the degree of support needed to fill it out. ACT Department of Disability Housing and Community Services can mail you a hardcopy of the survey. Phone 6207 1061.

At the Roundtable yesterday it was agreed that there is not much general knowledge about the existence of the standards amongst people in the disability sector, and that although incorporated into the policies and procedures of Provider organisations, the implementation of the standards is very haphazard at the level of the staff support workers.

The information above has been provided by Sue Salthouse of Women With Disabilities. I thank Sue for allowing us to include it in our newsletter.

There was a strong call from parents present, and WWDACT and PWDACT for external audits of Providers to be an additional checking mechanism, rather than relying on just self audits as is done now.

For more information contact the National Quality Framework Project Team:

Telephone: 1300 366 731 TTY: 1300 063 182 (Mon – Fri 8.30am – 5.00pm)

Email: National Quality Framework ([NQF@dhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:NQF@dhs.vic.gov.au))

Post: Address:

National Quality Framework Project Team

C/o Department of Human Services

Disability Services Division

Level 8, 50 Lonsdale Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

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## **Consultations on the Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) Quality Framework**

The Medicare Benefits Schedule (MBS) is one of the engines that drive the Australian health care system. The MBS provides financial rebates to consumers for medical services that they use on a fee-for-service basis. It provides the funding to allow consumers to visit their GP, medical specialists or a range of allied health services like optometry and some types of physiotherapy.

The MBS costs the taxpayer some \$14.3 billion each year. As part of the Federal Government's current health reform plan, the MBS is undergoing a major review and consumers are being asked for their input. The Government is spending \$9.3 million to develop and implement a new framework for the future management of the MBS. Called the "MBS Quality Framework", it aims to ensure that all services covered by the MBS do what they are supposed to do, are in line with the latest clinical evidence, are cost effective and affordable and result in improved health outcomes for Australians.

The Consumers Health Forum of Australia (CHF) is conducting a series of workshops. These workshops will allow CHF to engage, inform and consult with members to ensure consumer perspectives are adequately and effectively represented for consideration in the development and implementation of the new MBS Quality Framework.

The workshops are an opportunity for consumers to identify key issues regarding the proposed framework and to ensure that any new mechanisms put in place for listing, pricing and review of MBS items will be effective, safe and encourage better health outcomes for consumers.

The aims of the workshops include:

1. Identify key issues for consumers in the development of a Quality Framework for the Medicare Benefits Schedule and its key proposals:
2. Introducing time-limited listing
3. Evaluating time-limited items
4. Establishing a system for monitoring and review of MBS items
5. Strengthening systems for pricing and listing new services
6. Establish an evidence base about consumer concerns relating to the Quality Framework for the Medicare Benefits Schedule.

The Canberra workshop is to be held on Wednesday 11 August at a Venue to be advised.

For more information on the Project, please see the CHF Information Paper. It can be accessed here: <http://www.chf.org.au/pdfs/chf/info-601-mbs-quality-framework.pdf>

The Department of Health and Ageing have also released a Discussion Paper on the Quality Framework. It can be accessed here:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/MBRT-Discussion>

CHF is seeking workshop participants from health consumers who have experience with the MBS, or have a general interest in the area. No sitting fee will be paid for attendance at this workshop, however basic travel costs will be reimbursed.

Places are strictly limited.

For more information or to obtain an expression of interest form, contact Sarah Watt, CHF Project Officer at [s.watt@chf.org.au](mailto:s.watt@chf.org.au) or on (02) 6273 5444

## **Women Mental Health Carer Survey**

Are you a woman supporting someone with a mental illness?

Tell us your story, we're listening.

[www.surveymonkey.com/womenmentalhealthcarersurvey2010](http://www.surveymonkey.com/womenmentalhealthcarersurvey2010)

18,300 women in the ACT care for a close friend or relative living with a mental health issue.

As a consequence of their caring role, women mental health carers often experience poorer

Health and wellbeing, social isolation and reduced income and employment compared to their non-carer counterparts.

Despite this disadvantage, there is limited ACT-specific and women-specific information relating to the unique needs and life experiences of women mental health carers in the ACT. Consequently the Women's Centre for Health Matters and the ACT Women and Mental Health Working Group has developed this Women Mental Health Carer Survey 2010.

By completing this survey you'll be helping ACT services better meet the needs of ALL women.

For more information regarding this research project, please contact Kate Judd at the Women's Centre for Health Matters. k.judd@wchm.org.au or 02 6290 2166

## **Cyber Security- Everyone's Concern**

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As part of National Cyber Security Week, the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network held the first Roundtable on Cyber Security for People with Disabilities at Parliament House. Representatives from the disability community and the information and telecommunications industry came together to exchange information, and to explore the issues of personal safety and security for people with disabilities who use the internet.

### **The issues raised included:**

- ❖ lack of web content in AUSLAN;
- ❖ Websites which are inaccessible to screen readers used by people who are blind or vision impaired;
- ❖ Passwords which are difficult to use by people with intellectual disability or brain injury;
- ❖ Feelings of inadequacy experienced by people with communication disabilities who cannot keep up with fast paced discussions in chat rooms; and
- ❖ Feelings of insecurity experienced by people with intellectual disabilities.

In addition people with disabilities suffer particularly at the hands of scamsters, fraudsters and cyber bullies

### **There were also solutions including:**

1. Safe sites for use by people with intellectual and communications disabilities; and
2. user friendly alternatives for passwords and identity verification.

The important outcome of the conference was the agreement that ACCAN and industry participants would continue the dialogue on internet security issues faced by people with disabilities and work closely to solve them. For more information go to <http://www.accan.org.au>

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

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### **Project Worker for people with disabilities**

Advocacy for Inclusion is looking for a project worker. The project will provide self advocacy training to people with disabilities living in group homes, through a nutrition framework. There will also be training for support workers in empowering people with disabilities to be strong self advocates.

**Position:** Project Officer  
**Level:** MEA/SACS Award Level 5.1  
**Term:** Two year contract to June 2012  
**Hours:** 30 hours per week

The Project Officer is accountable to the General Manager and is supervised by her. Advocacy for Inclusion works within a human rights framework. We acknowledge the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and our obligations under the ACT Human Rights Act. All staff are expected to understand these instruments and work to support them.

For more information contact the Manager on 02 6286 9422

#### **How to apply:**

Please send your application addressing the selection criteria to:  
The General Manager  
Advocacy for Inclusion  
PO Box 3653  
Weston Creek ACT 2611

### **MARYMEAD KIDS' COMPANIONS PROGRAM**

The Kids' Companions Program is seeking a person/persons to facilitate the Friday evening Boy's Group and Girl's Group. The groups cater for approximately 10 children affected by disability within their families and are usually supported by 3-4 volunteers. The groups are held during school terms between 6pm and 8pm on Fridays and working time is 4pm - 9.30pm or 10pm. During school holidays we hold activity days (3 per week) and ideally the facilitator needs to be available to attend on those days.

If you are interested in this position and genuinely like working with children and adolescents with a wide range of needs and abilities. A drivers license is essential.

The position becomes vacant EARLY JULY.

To apply contact, Amy Tulloh Kids Companions Coordinator Marymead Child & Family Centre on 6162 5800 or email on [Amy.ulloh@marymead.org.au](mailto:Amy.ulloh@marymead.org.au)

## **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNITY EVENTS**

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### **Morning Tea with Therese Rein Organised by ACT Community Living**

Entry to the Therese Rein morning tea is free for people with disability and their family or carer. It is to be held at the Reid CIT. This venue has wheelchair access

On 26 July between 10am and 12 noon CLP will have 2 hours of not only the Prime Minister's wife Therese Rein time, but also a number of other influential people.

This is to be a simple arrangement and fairly informal occasion. Ronnie from "Ronnies Succulent Snails" will be bringing some of his snails to race and a number of other families have things to share with us already.

We look forward to hearing from you - all of you - soon - ASAP. We need to know numbers for catering and space.

Esther Woodbury, President  
ACT Community Living Project  
PO Box 4215  
Ainslie 2602

Call: 0418 480527

### **Invitation to a NAIDOC Film Night**

In the summer of 1965 a young man is filled with the life of the idyllic old pearling port Broome - fishing, hanging out with his mates and his girl.

However his mother returns him to the religious mission for further schooling. After being punished for an act of youthful rebellion, he runs away from the mission on a journey that ultimately leads him back home.

Date: Wednesday 7 July 2010  
Time: 6.00pm - 8.30pm  
(film will commence at 6.30pm)

Where: ACT Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Cultural Centre, Lady Denman Drive, Yarramundi Reach

RSVP: Limited seats available. Please RSVP by Friday 2 July on  
02 6202 7200 or [actcoss@actcoss.org.au](mailto:actcoss@actcoss.org.au)

## **ACT Chronic Conditions Alliance**

July Meeting presented by MS Society  
Improving the Relationship with GPs

**When:** Wednesday, 14 July, 7pm - 8:30 pm

**Where:** Woden Community Services Rooms, 26 Corinna Street Woden

For more information contact: ACT ME Society on 6290 1984 or by emailing [admin@mecfscanberra.org.au](mailto:admin@mecfscanberra.org.au)

## **Cycling for People with Disabilities**

As part of the DBR Australia 2010 Junior and Women's' Tour, the ACT Cycling Federation will be conducting an Individual Time Trial for Cyclists with a Disability on Sunday 4 July 2010.

All cyclists with a disability aged 10 and older are encouraged to participate (boys, girls, women and men) are welcome.

All types of cycles and self-propelled cycle-like machines are welcome, including tandems and handcarts will be catered for. A participant will need to bring their own roadworthy cycle and helmet.

Enquiries to David by phone 0419 414200 or go to <http://canberratour.actcyclingevents.com.au/index.asp?IntCatId=29>.

## **Singing Performances during Floriade**

Rehearsals are just starting for an extraordinary production which voices the deep concern in the Canberra community about the crisis of climate change.

We seek your help in filling The Museum of Australian Democracy in Old Parliament House with the sound of a big Chorus of Citizens.

We are preparing three performances during Floriade of /The Gifts of the Furies, /a dramatic story-song by local composer Glenda Cloughley about relations between people and Earth.

All voices are welcome. Tenors and basses are especially encouraged. If you are interested, please contact: Johanna McBride 62471948, [johanna@incanberra.com.au](mailto:johanna@incanberra.com.au) or 0402 050 885) or Meg Rigby [megrigby@pcug.org.au](mailto:megrigby@pcug.org.au)).

### **Belconnen Community Services Bridges Program**

**BRIDGES IS AN ACT-WIDE PROGRAM SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY, TO PARTICIPATE WITHIN THEIR COMMUNITY TO REDUCE SOCIAL ISOLATION**

**COMMUNITY ACCESS AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IS A PROGRAM WHICH COMBINES SOCIAL INTERACTION WITH A RANGE OF RECREATIONAL AND LIVING SKILLS ACTIVITIES**

#### **TERM 3 PROGRAMS 2010**



#### **CASTAWAYS**



**9 Week Program Tuesdays, from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Group Lunch 12:30 to 1:30, buy from the café or byo \$50 PER TERM**

For people with disabilities who want to enjoy a range of social & recreational activities. Participants meet for lunch first at the Belconnen Community Centre café, and then begin our activities such as ball games; craft activities or creative movement.



#### **BE ACTIVE**



**9 Week Program Wednesdays, from 1:30pm to 3:30pm. Group Lunch from 12:30 to 1:30, buy from the café or byo \$50 PER TERM**

A program designed to act as a bridge to community activities and interests. Participants meet for lunch first at the BCC café then begin our activities such as outings to various places of interest and organised activities at the Belconnen Community Centre.



#### **LIVIN SKILZ 4 U part 2**



**9 Week Program Thursday mornings, from 10:00am to 1:00pm \$60 PER TERM**

For people with disabilities who would like to enhance their domestic skills. The first half of the session will focus on nutrition, budgeting. The second half of session will involve cooking a tasty nutritious meal to share.



#### **CERAMICS**



**9 Week Program Monday Afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30. Group Lunch from 12:30 to 1:30, buy from the café or byo \$50 PER TERM**

What will our students and tutor dream up this term? All we know is that this popular class just rocks with creativity and fun. Come and join in this fabulous class. To give you a clue –we will be tackling ceramic sculptures.

**Bookings essential      PHONE: 6264 0232 FAX: 6251 9952**  
**EMAIL [bridges@bcsact.com.au](mailto:bridges@bcsact.com.au) WEBSITE: [www.bcsact.com.au](http://www.bcsact.com.au)**  
**VENUE: Belconnen Community Centre at Swanson Court Belconnen.**

## FREE MEMBERSHIP

**PWD ACT Memberships are FREE for people with disabilities!**  
**Please contact us if you would like to be a member.**

### FREE PWD ACT MEMBERSHIP DEFINITION OF DISABILITY

PWD ACT uses the Disability Discrimination Act definition of disability, this broad definition includes:

- Physical
- Intellectual
- Psychiatric
- Sensory
- Neurological, and
- Learning disabilities, as well as
- Physical disfigurement, and
- The presence in the body of disease-causing organisms.

This covers a disability which people:

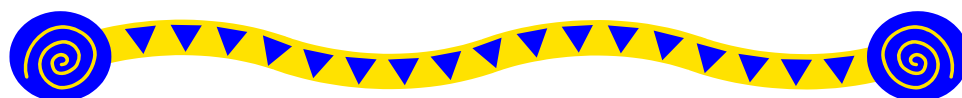
Have now,

- Had in the past (for example: a past episode of mental illness),
- May have in the future (eg: a family history of a disability which a person may also develop).

### PWD ACT' ORGANISATIONAL MEMBERS

<b>Organisational Name:</b>	<b>Address:</b>	<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
<b>ACT Down Syndrome Ass.Inc</b>	PO Box 717 Mawson ACT 2607	<a href="mailto:admindsa@actdsa.asn.au">admindsa@actdsa.asn.au</a>	6290 0656
<b>ACT Mental Health Consumer Network</b>		<a href="mailto:accountant@actmhc.org.au">accountant@actmhc.org.au</a> <a href="http://www.actmhc.org.au">www.actmhc.org.au</a>	6230 5796
<b>ACT TPI</b>	PO Box 5792 Lyons ACT 2606	<a href="mailto:secretary@acttpi.org">secretary@acttpi.org</a>	6286 3593 / 629191 85
<b>Advocacy for Inclusion</b>	PO Box 3653 Weston Creek ACT 2611	<a href="mailto:info@advocacyfoinclusion.org">info@advocacyfoinclusion.org</a>	6286 9422
<b>Arthritis ACT</b>	PO Box 4017 Weston Creek ACT 2611	<a href="mailto:info@arthritisact.org">info@arthritisact.org</a>	6288 4244
<b>Australian Railway Historical Society</b>	PO Box 1615 Queanbyan NSW 2620	<a href="mailto:trains@trains.org.au">trains@trains.org.au</a>	6284 2790

<b>Organisational Name:</b>	<b>Address:</b>	<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
<b>Brocklebank's Woodcraft</b>	8 Fitzherbert Pl Bruce ACT 2617	<a href="mailto:hugh_brocklebank@hotmail.com">hugh_brocklebank@hotmail.com</a>	6251 6369
<b>CHC Affordable Housing</b>	PO Box 6239 O'Connor ACT 2602	<a href="mailto:chc@chcaffordablehousing.com.au">chc@chcaffordablehousing.com.au</a>	6248 7716
<b>Community Events Calendar</b>	<a href="http://communityeventscalendar.com.au">communityeventscalendar.com.au</a>	<a href="mailto:communityeventsteam@communityeventscalendar.com.au">communityeventsteam@communityeventscalendar.com.au</a>	62558287
<b>Komarri</b>	PO Box 262 Woden ACT	<a href="mailto:reception@koomarri.asn.au">reception@koomarri.asn.au</a> <a href="mailto:mgarnett@koomarri.asn.au">mgarnett@koomarri.asn.au</a>	6239 1603 / 6280614
<b>Nationsheart Christian Community</b>	PO Box 3125 Belconnen ACT 2617 27 Rae St Belconnen	<a href="mailto:office@nationsheart.org.au">office@nationsheart.org.au</a>	62531672
<b>Nican</b>	PO Box 110 Mitchell ACT 2911	<a href="mailto:info@nican.com.au">info@nican.com.au</a>	6241 1220
<b>Organisational Name:</b>	<b>Address:</b>	<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
<b>Sharing Places INC</b>	PO Box 704 Mawson ACT 2607	<a href="mailto:admin@sharingplaces.com.au">admin@sharingplaces.com.au</a>	6290 1964
<b>Stroke Association of ACT</b>	PO Box 220 Deakin West ACT 2600	<a href="mailto:mobeirne@email.com.au">mobeirne@email.com.au</a>	6269 2636
<b>Tandem</b>	PO Box 3510 Manuka ACT 2603	<a href="mailto:admin@tandem.org.au">admin@tandem.org.au</a>	6287 2870
<b>TAS Housing</b>	PO Box 4056 Weston Creek ACT 2611	<a href="mailto:admin@tashousin.com">admin@tashousin.com</a>	6287 4344
<b>Volunteering ACT</b>	55 Chandler St Belconnen ACT 2617	<a href="mailto:volact@volunteeract.org.au">volact@volunteeract.org.au</a>	6251 4060
<b>Woden Community Service Inc</b>	PO Box 35 Woden ACT 2606	<a href="mailto:emma-walter@wcs.org.au">emma-walter@wcs.org.au</a>	6234 6820
<b>Women's Centre For Health Matters</b>	P Box 385 Mawson ACT 2607	<a href="mailto:admin@wchm.org.au">admin @wchm.org.au</a>	6290 2166



## PWD ACT CONTACT DETAILS

### POSTAL ADDRESS

PO Box 717  
Mawson ACT 2607

### OFFICE LOCATION

SHOUT  
Building 1  
Pearce Community Centre  
Collett Place  
Pearce

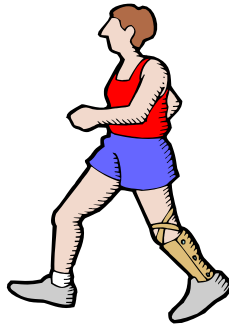
**Phone:** 02 6286 4223

**Fax:** 02 6286 4223

**Email:** [pwdact@shout.org.au](mailto:pwdact@shout.org.au)

**Website:** [www.pwdact.org.au](http://www.pwdact.org.au)

“For people with disabilities,



by people with disabilities.”

## PWD ACT NEWSLETTER

PWD ACT's newsletter is an easily read, compact and timely way of keeping members and supporters informed about our advocacy work, issues and coming events. We strongly encourage people with disabilities to send feedback on systemic advocacy issues directly to us on the above contacts. Please send us an email if you would like to receive your PWD ACT newsletter 'Out & About With Ability' electronically, as this will save our environment. This newsletter is provided with the assistance of the ACT Government through Disability ACT.

