



National Disability Coordination Officer Programme
AN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

Newsletter

Spring 2016

National Disability Coordination Officer Program Region 17

Say hooray spring is almost here! It is nice to finally see the sun after a very long wet winter in Gippsland! Could you please share this newsletter with your networks.

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>



NETWORKS UPDATE

Wellington Disability Transition Network

The Wellington Disability Transition Network is proud to present:

'Let's have a Chat about the Future' - an event for young people with learning barriers, their families and educators on the 9th September 10.30am to 2.30pm at Federation Training Gtec Campus Sale.

Parents and educators will get to take part in the in the following activities:

- 1) Every Successful Journey starts with a MAP Self-determination - In this creative workshop participants will be explore how a MAP can provide direction for self-determination and self-advocacy.
- 2) What Next Speed Career options - Student will be split into small groups and will travel around each service provider station to hear what support they can provide students in regard to post school options. Service Providers will be encouraged to deliver a hands experience for students.
- 3) Empowering Session – students will hear from young adults who will share their post school journeys.

The students will be provided with activity/resource booklet which and will participate in a networking lunch which will be catered for by a community grant from the Wellington Shire.

Resources

For professional learning in my role as the NDCO I have been researching supporting people with disability in the workforce, reading a number of books which I could highly recommend:

- Career Training & Personal Planning for Student with Autism Spectrum Disorders- A Practical Resources for Schools, Vicki Lundine & Catherine Smith 2006
- Unemployed on the Autism Spectrum – Michael John Carley 2016
- How to Succeed in Employment with Specific Learning Difficulties, Amanda Kirby 2014
- Autipower Successful Living & Working with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, Herman Jansen & Betty Rombout 2014
- Helping adults with Asperger’s Syndrome get and stay hired, Barbara Bassinette 2015
- The Wonderful World of Work, Jeanette Purkis 2014

This research is supporting a request from the Central Gippsland Careers Network to deliver professional a development session to the network on ‘Supporting ASD students getting ready for further study and work. This PD session will be delivered on the 18th October 2016.

Websites

New JobAccess website

The new JobAccess website www.jobaccess.gov.au was introduced on 1 July 2016.

The new website aims to improve access to information, funding and services that support disability employment for people with disability, employers and service providers. It builds on the old JobAccess website to make it easier than ever for people with disability to find the right job and keep it. There are also a number of posters and information sheets which are available for download on the JobAccess website. These resources provide valuable information about the support available through JobAccess.

Funding / Scholarships

Vision Australia awards Further Education Bursaries

Each year, Vision Australia awards Further Education Bursaries to a select number of students who are blind or have low vision.

The bursaries provide adaptive technology to help the students fully participate and succeed in their chosen studies. Assistive technology can eliminate barriers to education and enhance access to information. It enables students to read course material, conduct research and improve their student life. Please distribute this information to any interested individuals.

Eligibility Criteria

Students of any age can apply for a Vision Australia Further Education Bursary. Applicants must:

- Be or become, a client of Vision Australia
- Have a current (within the last 12 months) eye report on file with Vision Australia
- Be an Australian citizen or permanent resident
- Be living or moving to Victoria, the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, the Northern Territory or Tasmania
- Be enrolling to study at an institution in Victoria, ACT, NSW, Queensland, the Northern Territory or Tasmania enrolling to study in at least Certificate IV or higher accredited courses including undergraduate and postgraduate degrees (not a Foundation or Enabling course) at the start of the

year or be already enrolled in such a course (preference may be given to those in the early stages of a course). The course must have a minimum 12 months remaining for those already enrolled.

- Be willing to be involved in publicity events and provide feedback and provide updates on their academic progress

Applications will be available on the below website on August 1st. Applications will close October 28th, 2016. www.visionaustralia.org/bursary

Policy, Research & Reports

Gippsland Jobs and Training Needs Report

This report summarises skills and training needs in the Gippsland region. It combines the region's labour market analysis with existing government funded training activity to provide insights on the level of future training needs, for specific occupations. The report also flags courses of specific regional or niche occupation need.

<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/skillsfirst/Documents/JobsandTrainingNeedsReports/GippslandJobsandTrainingNeeds.pdf>

Autism in the Workplace Report

Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre has released a report on a recent project into Autism in the Workplace. Employing an adult with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) provides benefits to employers and their organisations without incurring additional costs.

<http://business.curtin.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2016/04/bcec-autism-in-the-workplace.pdf>

Children and Young People with Disability Australia (CYDA) Education Survey

The results of CYDA's national survey on the education experiences of students with disability have been released. The survey of 1396 students and families provide a national snapshot of current experiences. The majority of participants stated that the level of support the student receives at school is inadequate. High rates of bullying, exclusion, restraint and seclusion are also reported. CYDA also recently requested information about cases of abuse of students with disability through freedom of information legislation from each state and territory education department.

<http://www.cda.org.au/cyda-education-survey-2016>

Disability Standards for Education Exemplars of Practice

These exemplars of practice demonstrate the Standards in practice across various education settings: early learning, schools, vocational education and higher education.

<https://docs.education.gov.au/documents/exemplars-practice>

Ticket to Work (TTW) pilot outcomes study 2016

Study shows long-term benefits of supporting young Australians with disability to prepare for work. The outcomes study by independent consultants, ARTD, compares past Ticket to Work participants with other young people with disability and shows impressive outcomes across a broad range of indicators including levels of job satisfaction, independence and social participation. - See more at: <http://www.tickettowork.org.au/research/study-shows-long-term-benefits-supporting-young-australians-disability-prepare-work/#sthash.p41Mp92y.dpuf>

Programs

Youth Jobs PaTH

The Youth Jobs PaTH is a flexible new approach to youth employment. The \$752 million initiative is designed to support young people under the age of 25 years to gain the employability skills and real work experience they need to get and keep a job, and provides incentives for employers to take them on. The Youth Jobs PaTH provides three elements: Prepare – Trial – Hire.

For more information go to: <http://www.employment.gov.au/youth-jobs-path>

Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) State-wide Portal has been launched

Find current work placements offered by employers across Victoria, Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) is on-the-job training that allows students to develop their work skills and understand employer expectations. SWL is available to Victorian school students undertaking a VET program as part of their VCE or VCAL studies, including School-based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBATs). <http://www.workplacements.education.vic.gov.au/>

Professional Development

Pathways 13 Conference Website - Celebrating 25 years of Pathways 30 November - 2 December 2016 Canberra

The ATEND Pathways Conference is a bi-annual event organised by the Australian Tertiary Education Network on Disability (ATEND). The conference brings together disability practitioners, NDCOs and a range of other professional, academic staff and students with disability to identify and remove barriers for people with disability participating in higher education and training.

Pathways provides a unique opportunity to improve our knowledge and plays a pivotal role in supporting practitioners and the sector in general with an opportunity for professional development. It encourages discussion and debate which informs the sector and ensures that we are all working towards an improved practice model. Pathways 13 centres around the theme; Changes, Challenges and Choice – embracing the future. The Pathways 13 conference will celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Pathways in Australia.

Register your interest here <http://www.pathways.consec.com.au/register.html>

Doing School Differently National Flexible + Inclusive Education Conference

Doing School differently is an exciting new Australian conference for everyone who is interested in flexible and inclusive education. The conference will bring together educators, researchers, policy makers and young people who are committed to developing and sustaining successful educational opportunities and pathways for disenfranchised young people. We're providing a platform for advancing a national conversation on practice and research in flexible and inclusive education. We hope you will join us in Melbourne on September 15th and 16th 2016 and add your voice to the conversation. <https://www.cvent.com/events/doing-school-differently/registration-204c9930b4a543ea9d3f520537b463ba.aspx>

Leadership Program for Women with Disability

Are you a woman with a disability interested in participating in a two-day leadership workshop? Do you know a woman with a disability who would like to attend?

"Women Leading by Example" is a unique leadership program that will be held in Melbourne on the 20th and 21st September for a maximum of 30 women with disabilities. High-profile female leaders, mentors, and workshop facilitators from corporate, government, and non-profit sectors will present and interact with participants. Participants will explore their self-leadership as well as their ability to lead others. This includes identifying and sharing leadership goals and working to increase confidence to take the next step in community leadership. Each applicant will be assessed on the total of their experiences and goals in life.

More information: http://www.wdv.org.au/our_work.htm#wlbe

Learning Difficulties Australia

- *Dr. Maryanne Wolf*-Tales of the Reading Brain: Reading Development, Dyslexia and the Digital Culture
- *Prof Pamela Snow* - Psychologist, Speech Pathologist, Head of School of Rural Health at Latrobe University

- *Hannah Stark* - Speech Pathologist, Murdoch Children's Research Institute and PhD candidate, Melbourne Graduate School of Education
 - *Alison Clarke* - Speech Pathologist, Vice-President LDA, author of the Spelfabet website
- Melbourne, Friday 9 September 2016, Collingwood Town Hall, 140 Hoddle St, Abbotsford
For more information: <https://www.ldaustralia.org/pdm-wolf.html>

Australian Disability Clearinghouse on Further Education and Training (ADCET) Free Webinar

Engaging Students on the Autism Spectrum in Tertiary Settings: An Evidence-Based Peer-Mentoring Program at Curtin University, presented by Theresa Kidd and Dr Jasmine McDonald (Joint Program Managers of the Curtin Specialist Mentoring Program (CSMP)).

Thursday 8 September, 2016 1pm - 2pm AEST.

For further information go to: <http://www.adcet.edu.au/resource/9402/adcet-webinar-engaging-students-on-the-autism-spectrum-in-tertiary-settings-an-evidence-based-peer-mentoring-program-at-curtin-university/>

Creating Confidence....For Educators Workshops

The NDCO can deliver a 2 hour professional development session to your staff. The aim of the Creating Confidence....For Educators Workshop: To gain a basic understanding of the current theory that informs accessible education. This workshop will cover the VIT requirements for special needs training certificates will be supplied.

The Workshop was delivered to Sale Catholic College on the 8th August 2016. Feedback from those that attended:

How will your learnings from this training effect your teaching practise?

"I will defiantly change my strategies"

"Try to be more inclusive but more concerned"

"Think about the specific students who may not 'fit the box' "

"Patience, seeking personalised strategies from the students"

What made the biggest impact on you?

"Reminder that disabilities need to be discussed and dealt with rather than ignored and treated with annoyance."

"Understanding breaks down barriers."

"Hearing about her son's story and his success"

In one sentence sum up today's training:

"Friendly, open approach and innovative way of conducting PD."

"Some useful practical advice on how to try and operate with students with learning difficulties"

"It was an eye opener but too short."

"Raises more questions, a basis of knowledge but so much more to do"

"Informative, interesting, thought provoking"

If you would like the NDCO to deliver this PD free of charge to your school staff make contact:

andrea.evansmccall@skillsplus.com.au