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Celebrating our 50th Edition

March - April 2015 Volume 9, Issue 50

Australian Cross Disability Alliance – a voice for all people with disability

Five national, cross disability organisations welcome the funding provided by the Australian Government to form the Australian Cross Disability Alliance that will provide a voice for the 4.2 million Australians with disability.

The members of the Australian Cross Disability Alliance are:

- **Children with Disability Australia (CDA)**
- **First Peoples Disability Network Australia (FPDN)**
- **National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA)**
- **People with Disability Australia (PWDA)**
- **Women With Disabilities Australia (WWDA)**

Commenting on the cross disability model, PWDA President Mr Craig Wallace said, “The Cross Disability Alliance provides a modern, coherent and more comprehensive national voice for people with disability. This means that people with any kind of disability can directly join, elect and hold accountable the peaks who represent them to Government. We are at a crossroad for disability rights and it is right for us to come together at this vital time. We commit to working hard to provide all Australians with a disability with the voice we deserve.”

Executive Director of WWDA Ms Carolyn Frohmader highlighted, “Each Alliance member is widely respected in their own right for specialist expertise and representation of people with disability. Each of our organisations will continue to work independently on key issues for our members and constituents. However, we will join together as the Cross Disability Alliance to work on mutual issues of concern – this will build on and strengthen our expertise and representation.”

Mr Damian Griffis, Executive Officer of FPDN said, “Collectively, Alliance members have decades of experience in advancing the rights of people with disability, including the most vulnerable and marginalised. We have fought and advocated for the end to violence and abuse, to close institutions and provide genuine community living options, to implement inclusive education and pathways to mainstream employment, to establish culturally competent supports and services, to address indefinite detention, incarceration and over representation in the criminal justice system and to ensure the full roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme. We have been hardworking, strong and effective”.

Ms Stephanie Gotlib, Executive Officer of CDA said, “It is a significant time of reform for people with disability in Australia. Major initiatives include the establishment of the NDIS, the National Disability Strategy and reform in education for students with disability. The Alliance will have a collaborative approach to working with people with disability, governments and the broader community.”

“We look forward to working with the Australian Government to promote and advance the rights of people with disability,” said Mr Suresh Rajan, President of NEDA. “We are deeply committed to building on and strengthening representation of the interests and views of all people with disability in Australia. Any person with disability can join and participate in one or more of the Alliance organisations.”

Key Statistics: The [Australian Bureau of Statistics](#) (ABS) estimates that there are about 4.2 million people with disability in Australia. This does not include those with long-term health conditions.

Disability News

New disability reportable incidents scheme in NSW

Beginning on 3 December 2014, the Department of Family and Community Services NSW and funded disability services are now required to report allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation of people with a disability living in supported group accommodation to the Ombudsman, as part of critical reforms under the new Disability Inclusion Act. The disability reportable incidents scheme is aimed at protecting the rights of some of the most vulnerable people in our community through improving the response to serious allegations and incidents.

The scheme requires notification to the Ombudsman of the following types of allegations:

- Any sexual offence, sexual misconduct, assault, fraud, ill-treatment or neglect of a person with disability living in the accommodation by an employee
- An assault of a person with disability living in the accommodation by another person with disability living in the same place that is a sexual offence, causes serious injury, involves the use of a weapon, or is part of a pattern of abuse
- An incident involving the contravention of an apprehended violence order made for the protection of a person with a disability, and
- An incident involving an unexplained serious injury to a person with disability living in supported group accommodation.

Our role involves overseeing the actions of agencies to investigate and appropriately respond to these allegations.

A [range of resources](#) to assist supported group accommodation services to fulfil their new responsibilities are available on our website. We are also rolling out [training](#) to the disability sector to support the implementation of the scheme.

Featured Conferences & Special Dates

1 -31 March 2015

National Epilepsy Awareness Month - Nationwide - [Epilepsy Australia](#)

21 March 2015

World Down Syndrome Day <http://www.worlddownsyndromeday.org>

18 - 19 May 2015

Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity.

Waikiki, Hawaii. <http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/>

21 - 22 May 2015

Carers NSW Biennial Conference.

Novotel Sydney Olympic Park, Sydney. conference@carersnsw.org.au

Call for Abstracts and Registration

2015 Australian Social Policy Conference.

UNSW Randwick, Australia.

Closing Date: 20 April 2015

The Conference presents work from researchers, teachers, students and practitioners of social policy. Papers can report the results of research, discuss conceptual approaches to contemporary social policy, describe work in progress, or raise issues for debate. Discussion will be organised around themes that cover a wide range of social policy topics, including:

- Poverty, welfare and social inequality
- Communities, families and children

- Environment and social policy
- Disability, rights and care
- Human services
- Ageing, rights and entitlements
- Indigenous peoples
- Chinese social policy (special workshop on Monday 28 September)
- Open strand

Please submit an abstract of up to 250 words for consideration [here](#), nominating a theme from the list above. Criteria for selection will include academic quality, originality, accessibility, and relevance to current debates in social policy. Where papers are based on empirical research, preference will be given to abstracts showing evidence of research results. We welcome papers presenting all points of view. International contributions are particularly encouraged. We are also inviting proposals for special sessions, including groups of related papers within the contributed paper streams. Please send proposals to aspc@unsw.edu.au

Call for papers closes: 20 April 2015

Early bird registration closes: 30 July 2015

15 - 16 September 2015

26th PANDDA 2015 Conference,

Professional Association of Nurses in Developmental Disability Australia.

Novotel Hotel, Parramatta, NSW.

Call for papers opening soon.

www.pandda.net

11 – 13 November 2015

Australian Society for Intellectual Disability 50th Annual Conference.

Crown Promenade Southbank, Melbourne. https://www.asid.asn.au/conferences/50th_annual_melbourne_2015

Disability News

80% of Australia's community services unable to meet demand: ACOSS report

http://acoss.org.au/media/release/80_of_australias_community_services_unable_to_meet_demand_acoss_report

The largest survey of Australia's community services sector to be released today, reveals that 80% of frontline agencies are unable to meet current levels of demand with the resources they have. The biggest gaps in meeting demand are in the areas of greatest community need. The survey of almost 1,000 community service workers from around the country shows that 43% of services are simply unable to meet the needs of people coming to them for help. A further 37% can 'almost' meet demand. Only 20% reported being able to meet demand fully. "Already 2.5 million people are living below the poverty line in Australia, including 603,000 children. Now is the time for us to work together as a community to turn this picture around. Australia's community welfare sector, which contributes 5% to our nation's GDP and employs nearly one million people, is working hard to meet this challenge.

The Facts - Across the community sector, services are struggling to meet demand.

- Overall, 80% of sector services reported being unable to fully meet demand.
- 43% of sector services reported being unable to meet demand.
- 37% of sector services reported being able to almost fully meet demand.
- Only 20% of sector services reported being fully able to meet demand.

Services that prioritise people on low incomes or with specific needs are least able to meet demand.

- 49% reported being unable to meet demand.
- Only 12% reported being fully able to meet demand.

Australia's Community Sector

Australia's community welfare sector makes an enormous contribution to Australian society, contributing 5% to GDP and 8% to employment annually. It employs 919,000 people and a further two million volunteers.

Media Release at

http://acoss.org.au/media/release/80_of_australias_community_services_unable_to_meet_demand_across_report

Download full report at http://www.acoss.org.au/images/uploads/ACSS2014_final.pdf

Disability News

NSW State Election March 2015 - Internet & Phone voting available

In the next NSW State Election in March 2015, the iVote® system will be offered as an alternate voting option to enable people who may have difficulty casting a vote at a polling place or voting independently. Electors can vote using their computer or telephone from anywhere they choose...work, home, on a mobile phone, anywhere.

The iVote® system is available to people on the NSW Electoral roll:

- a) who are blind or have low vision;
- b) have literacy needs;
- c) with a disability;**
- d) who live in remote locations; or
- e) who will be outside NSW on election day.

Steps in voting with the iVote® system using a computer or telephone.

If you do not have access to internet or just prefer to use the telephone, you can vote using the phone keypad via an automated system, or speak to a call centre operator to assist you through the stages.

1. Register –
 - i. confirm that you are on the electoral roll
 - ii. provide a Personal Identification Number (PIN)
 - iii. say where you want your iVote® number to be sent e.g. SMS Text, email or phone
2. Vote –
 - i. enter your PIN and iVote® number
 - ii. select your choices for Legislative Assembly
 - iii. select your choices for Legislative Council
 - iv. check your selections
 - v. submit your vote
 - vi. you will get a receipt number
3. Check –
 - i. You can use the telephone verification service during the election period to confirm your vote has been captured correctly.
 - ii. After the election you can use your receipt number to check that your vote has been included in the count.

Registrations for the iVote® system open mid February 2015

Further information about the iVote® system visit www.ivote.nsw.gov.au

Disability & Ageing Issues In The Media

Fears young people in nursing homes will miss out on NDIS

Most of Australia's 6,000 young people living in residential aged care will miss out on the National Disability Insurance Scheme as many lack the skills, advocacy and support networks to access the scheme, a senate inquiry has been told. Australian Ageing Agenda free e-news item

<http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/2015/02/18/fears-young-people-nursing-homes-will-miss-ndis/>

Long-term residential care demand strong: report

The trend towards more aged care delivered in the home will only marginally dampen long-term demand for residential services as care needs increase and the number of informal carers falls, according to a new industry report. Australian Ageing Agenda free e-news item

<http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/2015/01/21/long-term-residential-care-demand-strong-report/>

Seniors stuck in hospital awaiting aged care, inquiry hears

State and territory governments have voiced their concerns over unnecessary hospital stays by older people who are ready to move into residential aged care, suggesting a shortfall of places. (Australian Ageing Agenda news item)

Australian Ageing Agenda free e-news subscription at

<http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/subscribe/>

A great source of information and issues on ageing, dementia, community and residential care.

Featured Organisations

Members of the Australian Cross-Disability Alliance...

Children with Disability Australia (CDA) is the national peak body for children and young people with disability, aged 0-25 years. CDA's vision is that children and young people with disability living in Australia are afforded every opportunity to thrive, achieve their potential and that their rights and interests as individuals, members of a family and their community are met. www.cda.org.au

First Peoples Disability Network Australia (FPDN) is the national peak organisation of and for Australia's First Peoples with disability, their families and communities. The organisation is governed by First Peoples with lived experience of disability. FPDN proactively engages with communities around Australia and represents Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability in Australia and internationally. FPDN follows the human rights framework established by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability (CRPD), to which Australia is a signatory, and the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. www.fpdn.org.au

National Ethnic Disability Alliance (NEDA) is the national peak organisation representing the rights and interests of people from non-English speaking background (NESB) with disability, their families and carers throughout Australia. NEDA believes in an inclusive Australia where cultural diversity and disability rights are valued as essential aspects of an equitable society. www.neda.org.au

People with Disability Australia Incorporated (PWDA) is a national disability rights and advocacy, non-profit, non-government organisation. We have a cross-disability focus, representing the interests of people with all kinds of disability and our membership is made up of people with disability and organisations mainly constituted by people with disability. Our vision is of a socially just, accessible and inclusive community, in which the human rights, citizenship, contribution, potential and diversity of all people with disability are respected and celebrated. www.pwd.org.au

Women With Disabilities Australia (WWDA) is the national peak organisation for women with all types of disabilities in Australia. WWDA is run by women with disabilities, for women with disabilities. It is the only organisation of its kind in Australia and one of only a very small number internationally. WWDA's work is grounded in a human rights based framework which links gender and disability issues to a full range of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights. WWDA has affiliate organisations and networks of women with disabilities in most States and Territories, and is internationally recognised for its global leadership in advancing the human rights of women and girls with disabilities. www.wwda.org.au

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Disability News

[Criminal liability of carers in cases of non-accidental death or serious injury of children](#)

Lenny Roth | NSW Parliamentary Library. This paper discusses new legislation being considered in New South Wales, aimed at enabling prosecutions in cases where an injury to a child could only have been inflicted by one of two or more persons who were at home with the child, but where there is not enough evidence to prove which specific person was responsible.

Get Ready for Study and Work

The **National Disability Coordination Officer Program at UWS** has launched a total update and revamp of the popular **Get Ready for Study and Work** student workbook. The workbook is based on ten top tips for young people with disability and contains information, contacts and activities to help students make a successful transition from school into tertiary study, work or post school programs. It is relevant for students with disability across Australia and contains specific information and links for each state or territory.

You can find the workbook here: www.uws.edu.au/ndco/getreadytoptips

The updated workbook features:

- A brand new look and capacity to be completed electronically
- Fully updated content including a new section on inherent requirements, new case studies, and additional content on Registered Training Organisations, reasonable adjustments, the National Disability Insurance Scheme and online resources and tools
- Comprehensive glossary and useful links section
- Updated activities

The UWS NDCO Program welcomes your feedback on the new resource, and would love to hear how you are using it. Email ndco@uws.edu.au or find additional contact information at www.uws.edu.au/ndco

Disability Information, Linkages and Capacity-Building (ILC) policy framework

<http://www.ndis.gov.au/document/1421>

What is Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC)?

Policy document [ILC Policy Framework PDF](#)

Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) is the new name for “Tier 2” of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). It was agreed that this title better reflects the supports it would provide and removes potential for misinterpreting the NDIS as a hierarchy of supports, which was implied by the term “tiers”.

ILC is a key component of the NDIS insurance model and will contribute to the sustainability of the NDIS by building the capacity of the community, people with disability, their families and carers, and greater community inclusion. Over time, these can reduce the demand for and level of support required from individually funded responses. Disability Ministers have agreed on the ILC Policy Framework and have requested targeted consultations. This framework was developed by the Commonwealth, states and territories and is intended to guide the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) in developing a transition and implementation strategy for ILC. This framework explores the types of supports ILC will offer, how it could be implemented and how people might access ILC supports.

ILC supports will be delivered through five streams of activity (these are further outlined in the ILC Policy Framework):

1. Information, Linkages and Referrals
2. Capacity building for mainstream services
3. Community awareness and capacity building
4. Individual capacity building
5. Local area coordination

Why are we doing consultation and what will the findings be used for?

The findings of the consultations will be collated by Department of Social Services into a report for use by Disability Ministers, Commonwealth, state and territory government officials and the NDIA. Governments have noted that the findings will be considered in the context of transitioning to full scheme delivery of the NDIS,

including the rollout of ILC supports. In particular, the report will provide valuable insights from the disability sector during transition to full scheme and the development of implementation strategies.

What are we seeking from you?

We would like your feedback about the ILC Policy Framework. Key questions have been developed which aim to provide insights into stakeholder expectations, the scope of supports and implementation challenges of ILC. We encourage your response to be guided by these focus areas, in addition to any other issues you would like to raise.

- What are the most important elements of ILC?
- What is missing?
- How will we know the ILC streams are meeting their objectives/vision?
- What would be the implementation challenges?
- Which aspects of a person's life do you think ILC could have the greatest impact on?
- What are some of the principles that should guide investment across ILC streams?
- How do you see the interface between ILC functions and activities and the interaction with the mainstream service system? (housing, education, employment, health, family, accessibility and transport)

Why is the policy on the NDIA website?

A targeted consultation is being conducted primarily by jurisdictional governments. In consultation with relevant governments, NDIA will also support this process by publishing the policy framework on our website.

Feedback provided on the ILC policy framework via the website will be sent directly to DSS for inclusion within the national process. NDIA will not filter responses and is not responsible for the final decision on how the feedback will be adopted.

Provide feedback

We would appreciate all feedback on the Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Policy Framework. You can submit your comments [via this feedback form](#) until 15/3/15.

Train The Trainer Program

P.A.R.T. TRAIN THE TRAINER for the

Predict, Assess and Respond To Aggression/Behaviours of Concern Course.

The P.A.R.T. Staff Training Course is recommended by a number of government agencies, work safety bodies and non-government services around Australia as key staff training to ensure both client and staff safety and appropriate levels of response when working in environments where there is a risk of aggression and serious behaviours of concern.

Each organisation has the opportunity to have your own key experienced staff member or staff training officer trained to deliver the P.A.R.T. course to your own staff. All Train The Trainer Participants receive a comprehensive Trainers Manual, Course Powerpoint Presentations, Participants Manual, Participants Workbook and Trainers Certificate. An excellent completely developed staff training program ready to deliver to all your staff.

These courses fill quickly so don't delay in registering directly with MTU Training Concepts. <http://www.mtu.net.au/> or email Anna at info@mtu.net.au or phone 02 9743 2392.

Next Course: 20 - 24 April 2015

P.A.R.T. Train The Trainer. Sydney. Predict, Assess and Respond To Aggression/Behaviours of Concern Course. MTU Training Concepts. <http://www.mtu.net.au/>

Other dates for P.A.R.T. Train The Trainer.

Brisbane 4th – 8th May, 2015

Darwin 25th – 29th May, 2015

South Australia 13th – 17th July, 2015

Victoria 17th – 21st August, 2015

Western Australia 21st – 25th Sept, 2015

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http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/work_with_global.html

Disability News

CentreLink Department of Human Services New Protocol

At the end of last year the Department of Human Services released a new Protocol for engaging people with disability.

The Protocol outlines our commitment to make sure people with disability have access to our services and their needs are considered when dealing with us. This includes face to face, on the phone or online.

Our videos, which are accessible through our website and [YouTube channel](#), deliver audio and visual information complemented by a live captioning option. Every video and audio file on our website includes transcripts which can be downloaded. The content on our website can be read by an integrated screen reading application.

We have also developed a range of videos to help customers better understand how to claim [Disability Support Pension](#). These videos are accessible not only on our YouTube channel but also on self-service terminals at Centrelink Service Centres. Customers who have a hearing impairment can watch these videos in Auslan.

<http://www.humanservices.gov.au/corporate/publications-and-resources/protocol-for-engaging-people-with-disability>

Disability News

UNICEF: Ten million childhood disabilities prevented in campaign to end polio

The annual number of polio cases has fallen from 350,000 in 1988, to 416 in 2013, and 243 so far this year – an extraordinary drop of more than 99 percent. All but three countries where polio was firmly entrenched – Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan – have eliminated the virus within their borders. And multiple outbreaks have been contained over the past 26 years. “In 1988 polio was a leading cause of childhood disability,” said UNICEF Executive Director Anthony Lake. “In country after country since then, a generation of children has grown up without the spectre of polio.” (http://www.unicef.org/media/media_76424.html)

Books & Publications

Music Therapy Social Skills Assessment and Documentation Manual (MTSSA): Clinical guidelines for group work with children and adolescents

Jenni Rook, Rebecca West, Jeffrey Wolfe, Pan Ho, Alana Dennis, Yayoi Nakai-Hosoe and Kimberly Peyton. Foreword by Angela M. Snell. Music Therapy Social Skills Assessment and Documentation Manual (MTSSA) is a comprehensive handbook for assessing and documenting social skill development in group music therapy for children with neurodevelopmental disorders. It assists therapists in: 2014, Paperback: ISBN: 978-1-84905-985-5, [more »](#)

The Elephant in the ADHD Room: Beating Boredom as the Secret to Managing ADHD

Letitia Sweitzer. Boredom and boredom avoidance drive the behaviours of inattention, impulsivity, and hyperactivity – the diagnostic criteria of ADHD. This is the first ADHD resource to thoroughly explore the connection between the two. 2014, Paperback: ISBN: 978-1-84905-965-7, [more »](#)

[Supporting children living with fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: practice principles](#)

Online publication at <https://www3.aifs.gov.au/cfca/node/11760>

Sara McLean, Stewart McDougall, Vicki Russell, Child Family Community Australia & Australian Institute of Family Studies. Describing some of the consequences for children's development, this paper discusses fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) is a non-diagnostic umbrella term that is used to cover the full range of possible birth defects and developmental issues that can be caused by prenatal exposure to alcohol.

[Fetal alcohol spectrum disorders: current issues in awareness, prevention and intervention](#)

Sara McLean, Stewart McDougall, Vicki Russell, Child Family Community Australia & Australian Institute of Family Studies.

<https://www3.aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorders-current-issues-awarenes>

The aim of this paper is to inform practitioners and other professionals working in a range of fields about the implications of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders (FASD) for children and their families. Full article at <https://www3.aifs.gov.au/cfca/publications/fetal-alcohol-spectrum-disorders-current-issues-awarenes/what-are-fetal-alcohol>

Specialist homelessness services 2013-14

This is the third annual report of the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection. Over the past three years, agencies have supported more than half a million Australians who were homeless or at risk of homelessness. In 2013-14, specialist homelessness services assisted around 254,000 clients, a 4% increase from the previous year. The report describes the clients that have received specialist homelessness support, the assistance they sought and were provided, and the outcomes achieved for those clients. For the first time, data about clients with a disability are included in the report. AIHW catalogue number (HOU 276). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

Web Journal of Current Legal Issues: Special Issue on Disability

The Web Journal of Current Legal Issues (WebJCLI) is the oldest open access legal eJournal in Europe, first published in 1995. It is refereed, focusing on issues which are topical and important within the field of law. VOL 20, NO 3 (2014), is a Special Issue on Disability. <http://webjcli.org/>

Policies & Guidelines

ADHC NSW Practitioner Standards

Promoting respiratory health: This standard looks at the physiotherapists role in preventative chest care, respiratory assessment and supports, and the intersections between the community physiotherapist and other services in respiratory care. A practice guide and appraisal have been developed for promoting respiratory health:

- [Promoting Respiratory Health Practice Guide \(PDF\)](#)
- [Promoting Respiratory Health Appraisal \(PDF\)](#)

- See more at:

http://www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/sp/delivering_disability_services/core_standards#sthash.yjPf5pkc.dpuf

Motivational interviewing: this looks at what motivational interviewing is, and how it can be applied best when working with those who have, or support a person with, an intellectual disability. Resources will be available by October 2014.

- [Motivational Interviewing Practice Guide \(PDF\)](#)
- [Motivational Interviewing Appraisal \(PDF\)](#)

- See more at:

http://www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/sp/delivering_disability_services/core_standards#sthash.yjPf5pkc.dpuf

Person-Centred Health Care Assessments and the Development of Health Care Plans:

will outline the different health care assessments to use which provides systematic nursing care when supporting people with disability ensuring standardised nursing practice, and consistent documentation. It will also build upon a practitioners' knowledge, understanding and confidence to collaboratively complete a health care plan. A practice package and appraisal have been developed for Person Centred Health Care Assessments and the Development of Health Care Plans:

- [Person Centred Health Care Assessments and the Development Of Health Care Plans Practice Package \(PDF\)](#)
- [Person Centred Health Care Assessments and the Development Of Health Care Plans Appraisal \(PDF\)](#)

- See more at:

http://www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/sp/delivering_disability_services/core_standards#sthash.yjPf5pkc.dpuf

Communication and Behaviour Support: highlights the complications that nurses are faced with daily when working with people who have difficulty communicating. It covers the importance of using good communication strategies and builds participants' knowledge of the plans, principles and strategies put in place to support complex behaviours when supporting people with disability. A practice package and appraisal have been developed for Communication and Behaviour Support:

- [Communication and Behaviour Support for Nurses Practice Package \(PDF\)](#)
- [Communication and Behaviour Support for Nurses Appraisal \(PDF\)](#)

- See more at:

http://www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/sp/delivering_disability_services/core_standards#sthash.yjPf5pkc.dpuf

Directories Online

Plain language law search

<http://www.lawfoundation.net.au/pllsearch>

Browse by key words or by law type.

Search 1183 abstracts of NSW plain language legal information, including books, factsheets, videos, community legal education programs and material in other languages [[More](#)]. If you want to keep up to date with plain language law resources [subscribe](#) to the Foundation's [Plain Language Law newsletter](#).

Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show with Ross (Your Editor of the Global Gazette)

*Proudly sponsored by **Global Disability & Health Care Services***

Tuesday night 9 to 12 pm for all Australian blues, roots, jazz, folk and contemporary music. Weekly studio guests. Blues, Folk and Jazz Gig Guide and music.

Internet Radio Streaming worldwide online at www.alive905.com.au [follow the Listen Live links]

Over 150 Australian artistes have been featured studio guests on the Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show.

The studio guests coming up include: = Sally Street, Ever Women's Festival, The Rockwells, Toongabbie Music Club, Jasmin Jones, Luke Escombe, Marilyn Steale, Chich, Hornsby Bugs Uke Group, Keith Hall & Pat Dow Band, Rosie McDonald RAPT, The JHD Revival band, Harry Brus Band, Phun Uke, Isaiah B Brunt, Wolf Mail, Dubious Blues Trio, Cameron James Henderson, The Pigs, Glen Bidmead, Kerosene, Finn, Arc Riders, Sydney Blues & Roots Festival and many more in 2015. **Join our 5,000+ Facebook Likes** or follow our studio guest announcements at <https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Spectrum.Show.Alive90.5fm>

Grant News

Telstra's Disability Equipment Program

We have a range of products to help our customers who have difficulty accessing standard telephone services. Our Disability Equipment Program is for customers who are deaf or blind or have a hearing, speech, vision, mobility or dexterity impairment.

How to apply

Find out more by contacting our Disability Enquiry Hotline:

[1800 068 424](tel:1800068424) (Voice)

[1800 808 981](tel:1800808981) (TTY only)

[1800 814 777](tel:1800814777) (Fax)

[Email us](#)

Disability Equipment Program brochure

- [Disability Equipment Program brochure](#) (PDF, 1.45MB)
- [Disability Equipment Program brochure](#) (RTF, 124kB)

Web page

<http://www.telstra.com.au/aboutus/community-environment/community-programs/disability/disability-equipment-program/>

Research & Demographic Reports

[The spatial dynamics of homelessness in Australia 2001–2011](#)

Gavin Wood, Deb Batterham, Melek Cigdem, Shelley Mallett | Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute
1 September 2014 | Examines the impact of housing and labour market factors, demographics and service availability on rates of homelessness across Australia over the past decade.

[Arthritis and disability](#)

Shona Bates, Charlotte Smedley, Melissa Wong, Rosemary Kayess, Karen Fisher | Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW). This research examined the lived experiences of people in Australia with arthritis related conditions.

[A new approach to national child protection data: implementation of the Child Protection National Minimum Data Set](#)

Over the past few years, the AIHW, with dedicated national resources made available through the Australian Government, has worked with all jurisdictions to implement a new Child Protection National Minimum Data Set (CP NMDS) for reporting on child protection. This working paper describes the development and implementation of the CP NMDS and highlights key new analyses able to be reported for the first time at the national level. It also outlines the need for ongoing development work. AIHW catalogue number (CWS 50). Download the [full report](#) for free online.

[Improving Recognition of Carers' Skills Literature Review](#)

In 2014 the Department of Social Services commissioned a literature review to examine:

- * the skills and knowledge of carers and the transferability of these to employment
- * the role of and approaches to supporting education and training
- * approaches that support carers' transition into education, training and employment.

[Download the review here.](#)

[Social Action Partners: Peer support for children and young people with intellectual disability and their families in Victoria](#)

Purcal, C., Fisher, K. R., Bevan, N., Meltzer, A., & Robinson, S. (2014). [Project plan] (SPRC Report 22/2014). Sydney: Social Policy Research Centre, UNSW Australia.

Using social action research for children and young people with intellectual disability and their families.

Opportunities for autonomy and decision making among children and young people with intellectual disability and their families remain limited despite the general trend from agency- to self-directed disability support. This report tracks the establishment of local peer support groups for children and young people with intellectual disability and their families in Victoria through social action research and the effectiveness of these groups from the perspective of the participants.

Australian hospital statistics 2012-13: private hospitals

Australian hospital statistics 2012-13: private hospitals is a new report in AIHW's series of summary reports describing the characteristics and activity of Australia's hospitals, focussed on the role of private hospitals in Australia. In 2012-13, 41% of all separations occurred in private hospitals. From 2003-04 to 2012-13, the total number of private hospital separations increased by 46% from 2.6 million to 3.8 million. During this period, the number of same-day separations in private hospitals increased 60% from 1.7 million to 2.6 million separations and overnight separations increased 21% from 986,000 to 1.2 million. AIHW catalogue number (HSE 152). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

Placebo Response in Antipsychotic Clinical Trials: A Meta-analysis

Bret R. Rutherford, MD, Emily Pott, BA, Jane M. Tandler, BA, et al. *JAMA Psychiatry*. Published online October 08, 2014. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2014.1319 The average treatment change associated with placebo treatment in antipsychotic trials increased since 1960, while the change associated with medication treatment decreased. Changes in randomized clinical trials leading to inflation of baseline scores, enrollment of less severely ill participants, and higher expectations of patients may all be responsible. Access full article and ead abstract at [JAMA Psychiatry online](#).

Transition care for older people leaving hospital: 2005-06 to 2012-13

Transition care for older people leaving hospital examines the outcomes for the 87,000 people who received care under the Transition Care Program from 2005–06 to 2012–13. More than three-quarters of care recipients improved their level of functioning. Two-thirds of care recipients living in the community had not entered aged care 12 months after finishing their first episode of care under the program; and more than half did not enter residential aged care at all over the life of the program to June 2013. AIHW catalogue number (AGE 75). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

Featured Course

30 - 31 March 2015

I-CAN v5 Facilitator Training Workshop. Sydney.

Hosted by the Centre for Disability Studies. Presented by Sam Arnold.

The **Instrument for the Classification and Assessment of Support Needs (I-CAN) v5** is a support needs assessment, planning and resource allocation tool designed to assess and guide support delivery for people with disabilities including people with mental health concerns. Version 5 of I-CAN has improved user friendliness, flexibility and wider applicability. Research shows I-CAN is a valid, reliable tool.

It provides a support services and family friendly holistic assessment conceptually based upon the internationally recognized ICF (WHO, 2001) framework, person-centred approaches and Active Support. Families use the I-CAN when applying to NDIS and to coordinate and liaise with support and health professionals. Support services can use the I-CAN for an independent costing estimate (assisting the transition to the NDIS), and to ensure quality services, integrated with health care and person-centred plans. Government can use the I-CAN to allocate resources and predict costs. An individual support needs report is generated online which helps guide service delivery and planning.

For more information regarding the I-CAN see <http://www.i-can.org.au> and for this event visit the CDS website at <http://cds.med.usyd.edu.au/i-can-v5-facilitator-training>

Time: 9:30am – 4:45pm (Registration from 9.00am) Morning Tea, Lunch and refreshments will be provided

Venue: Medical Foundation Building, Auditorium (ground floor, accessible from outside courtyard) 92-94 Parramatta Road, Camperdown.

Cost: \$350.00 GST Inclusive (Includes one year facilitator certification on completion of certification requirements). Please see www.i-can.org.au for I-CAN license costs.

Bookings: Phone: 02 9036 3600 Fax: 02 9036 3613 Email: michele.bewsher@sydney.edu.au

To register for this event please download our flyer and complete the registration form

<http://cds.med.usyd.edu.au/i-can-v5-facilitator-training>

For information on **Parking and Public Transport** go to <http://cds.med.usyd.edu.au/index.php/contactcds>

ONLINE EDUCATION DIRECTORY

Online professional development is an easy way to access further education – especially valuable for shift workers – so we have researched some options and put them on our web site at

http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/online_education.html

Introducing the Disability Induction Program

NDS is pleased to announce the introduction of an industry endorsed online* employee induction program which has been specifically designed to grow and upskill the disability sector workforce.

The **Disability Induction Program** prepares people to be **ready for work** in the disability sector; it explains and demonstrates the practicalities of placing a person with a disability at the centre of all decision-making and operational activities.

The online program goes live in NSW on [carecareers](#) at the end of February. The program, which can be completed by individuals in their own time and at their own pace, contains realistic scenarios and engaging activities which give participants a clear insight into what it is like to work in the disability sector.

The program will also be of great benefit to many employees who already work in the sector. The scenarios and activities provide them with the opportunity to focus and enhance their skills and knowledge in preparation for working within the NDIS.

Community Services & Health Industry Skills Council News Item –

At

<http://link.coremotivesmarketing.com/v/306/f019a478117199a0a520311afd4121030ccd56751bf81807>

Subscribe to CS& HISC Newsletter directly at <http://www.cshisc.com.au> for this and more valuable education and training resources and references.

Deafness Forum of Australia - Resources for RTOs

The Deafness Forum of Australia has developed an instructional video 'Assistance to Hearing Impaired Aged Care Residents', with an associated training pack and reference manual (Good Practice Guide) to assist staff and others to address under-managed hearing care. Further information may be accessed [here](#).

Positions Vacant

Residential Support Workers - Disability & /or Mental Health Care (Agency Casual Work)

Email: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com **Free phone: 1800 009 292**

We are a leading casual staff agency offering a variety of shifts to support workers throughout the greater Sydney region, Central Coast, Illawarra, Southern Highlands and Blue Mountains. Currently we are seeking experienced care workers to work with people who have a disability. Plenty of shifts available. Weekly pay. Choose your own days & shift availability. Must have previous experience in a similar role. Drivers License and First Aid Certificate required. Ability to communicate effectively with people who have a disability is essential. Must be able to work as part of a team. For more information call 1800 009 292 or forward your resume along with contact details of two referees to: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com

Registered Nurses & Endorsed Enrolled Nurses specialised in disability, mental health and general (casual agency work)

Email: Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com **Free phone: 1800 009 292**

One of the market leaders in the public, private mental health, disability, and general health fields. Global can offer you plenty of shifts in private and public hospitals, disability, mental health services, dual diagnosis and disability special care areas. An agency founded and run by Registered Nurses, we can assist you in finding work in a variety of locations. Choose the hours and shifts to suit your lifestyle. Must be registered to practice in Australia. **Excellent pay rates. Weekly pays.** Why not forward your resume to Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com or phone to speak to one of our friendly consultants who can help you make that great career move. Free phone: 1800 009 292.

See Current Positions Vacant at <http://www.globalcarestaff.com/plugins/job.cgi>

Conference Calendar

See a more comprehensive listing of conferences and international events at our web site
http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

1 -31 March 2015

National Epilepsy Awareness Month - Nationwide - [Epilepsy Australia](#)

4 - 6 March 2015

Australian and New Zealand Addiction Conference. Surfers paradise, Queensland.
www.addictionaustralia.org.au

5 - 6 March 2015

AAG & ACS Regional Conference. Bateman's Bay Soldiers Club, Bateman's Bay, NSW. Australian Association of Gerontology NSW & Aged & Community Services NSW & ACT. <https://www.etches.com/ehome/103934>

10 - 11 March 2015

Transitioning to the Commonwealth Home Support Programme. Mecure Sydney. [More info](#)

10 - 16 March 2015

International Brain Awareness Week - Nationwide - [Brain Foundation](#)

13 - 14 March 2015

Cultural Diversity & The Law Conference. Sofitel Sydney Wentworth. <https://www.cdlc.org.au>

14 March 2015

Understanding Borderline Personality Disorder. University of Sydney. <http://cce.sydney.edu.au/course/UBPD>

14 - 18 March 2015

PASSING: Social Role Valorisation Course. Sydney, NSW. Foundations Forum.
<http://www.foundationsforum.info/current-workshops.html>

16 - 17 March 2015

Independence Australia Conference: Delivering On The Promise. Melbourne Cricket Ground.
<http://www.fetchingevents.com.au/deliveringonthepromise/>

18 - 19 March 2015

Towards A Better Life: An Intro to Social Role Valorization Theory & Possibilities. Burwood, NSW.
Foundations Forum. <http://www.foundationsforum.info/current-workshops.html>

18 - 19 March 2015

6th Annual National Disability Summit. Sheraton Hotel, Melbourne.
<http://www.informa.com.au/conferences/health-care-conference/national-disability-summit>

18 - 19 March 2015

Towards a Better Life - Two Day Introduction to Social Role Valorisation. Brisbane QLD. Contact: [Values in Action](#)

18 - 20 March 2015

LASA Q State Conference. Jupiter's Hotel, Queensland. Leading Aged Services Association.
<http://www.qld.lasa.asn.au/events/lasa-q-state-conference-trade-exhibition-2015>

21 March 2015

World Down Syndrome Day <http://www.worlddownsyndromeday.org>

23 - 24 March 2015

NDIS ACT Conference. National Convention Centre, Canberra, ACT. <http://www.ndp.org.au/act-conference-2015>

24 March 2015

Valuing the Role of Frontline Workers In Disability. Launceston. NDS Tasmania.
<http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/3391>

26 March 2015

Valuing the Role of Frontline Workers In Disability. Devonport. NDS Tasmania.

<http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/3391>

26 March 2015

Ideas for Self Directing Supports for persons with a disability and their families. Sydney. Resourcing Families. http://familyadvocacy.formstack.com/forms/practical_pathway_sydney_copy_copy_copy_1_copy_1

26 March 2015

Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness - Nationwide - [Epilepsy Australia](http://www.epilepsyaustralia.org.au)

28 March 2015

Disability Support Awards. Awards Gala Dinner, Crown Perth. National Disability Services & Disability Services Commission. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1412136932>

30 March 2015

Valuing the Role of Frontline Workers In Disability. Session 1, Hobart. NDS Tasmania.

<http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/3391>

30 - 31 March 2015

NDS Queensland Conference: 450 Days And Counting. Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre.

<http://www.nds.org.au/events/1416263260>

30 - 31 March 2015

I-CAN v5 Facilitator Training Workshop. Sydney. Instrument for the Classification and Assessment of Support Needs (I-CAN) v5. Centre for Disability Studies. information regarding the I-CAN see <http://www.i-can.org.au> and for this event visit the CDS website at <http://cds.med.usyd.edu.au/i-can-v5-facilitator-training>

31 March 2015

Valuing the Role of Frontline Workers In Disability. Session 2, Hobart. NDS Tasmania.

<http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/3391>

2 April 2015

World Autism Awareness Day <http://www.un.org/en/events/autismday/>

7 – 9 April 2015

Introduction to Social Role Valorization. Halifax PA, USA. Contact: [Betsy Neuville](mailto:Betsy.Neuville@usd.edu)

11 April 2015

World Parkinson's Day www.parkinsonsnsw.org.au/parkinsonaus

15 - 18 April 2015

Alzheimer's Disease International Conference. Perth, Western Australia. <http://www.alzint.org/2015>

20 - 24 April 2015

P.A.R.T. Train The Trainer. Sydney. Predict, Assess and Respond To Aggression/Behaviours of Concern Course. MTU Training Concepts. <http://www.mtu.net.au/>

28 April 2015

[International Guide Dog Day](http://www.internationalguide.org)

29 April 2015

Is It Behaviour or Is It Communications Workshop. Sydney, Family Advocacy. www.family-advocacy.com

30 April 2015

Working With People with an Acquired Brain Injury. National Disability Services, WA. Osborne Park WA.

<http://www.nds.org.au/events/1414645290>

2 - 5 May 2015

Print Disabilities Conference. Adelaide, South Australia. <http://printdisability.org/conference/>

3 – 7 May 2015

The Royal Australian & New Zealand College of Psychiatrists' Annual Congress. Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland. www.ranzcp2015.com

4 May 2015

Inclusive Communities Symposium Sydney. Aerial Function Centre, University of Technology, Sydney
<http://nationalrespiteaustralia.com.au/national-conference/inclusive-communities-conference-2015/>

4 - 8 May 2015

P.A.R.T. Train The Trainer. Brisbane. Predict, Assess and Respond To Aggression/Behaviours of Concern Course. MTU Training Concepts. <http://www.mtu.net.au/>

To list your conferences on our **Global Conference Calendar**

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