

Disability Service Standards ?

People who use the Services of Connect2Group have rights under the Disability Service Standards.

Each issue of GETConnected will highlight a standard.



Privacy, Dignity and Confidentiality

Connect2Group staff ensure that a client's personal information is only disclosed and discussed with the consent of the individual and only to other staff who need to know confidential information in the course of doing their job.

USEFUL LINKS



Axess.com.au provides the opportunity to bring people who experience physical challenges, their family and their friends together in an online community to offer support to each other through sharing information, experiences and advice from their own travels.

Axess.com.au is also about giving its users more comprehensive access to Information from non-profit organisations, what's happening in the news, and information and reviews for accommodation and entertainment venues around Australia.

Sportslease.com.au— strive to bring that Special Sporting Moment or hero into your collection. With a retail shop located at shop 3/120 Bay Terrace Wynnum and website www.sportslease.com.au they available for all Sports Memorabilia questions.

Youngdiggers.com.au is a not-for-profit organisation providing support services for serving and ex-service defence force personnel and their families.

Young Diggers is currently holding an appeal to assist war widows and their children by requesting for support from businesses and the local community in the way of donating Gift Vouchers for Christmas.

Contact John on 3200 6325 if you would like to lend a helping hand to the families of those who serve to protect our great country.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR VALUED SUPPORTERS

With limited funding available, our Organisation requires the support from businesses for a range of goods and services.

If your business is in a position to offer assistance we would love to hear from you.

We sincerely thank the following businesses for their support.



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GET Connected



FROM THE CEO

Our DisabiliTea in August was fantastic, with over sixty people in attendance. This was only exceeded by the announcement of the Federal Government committing to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and providing \$10m towards gaining agreement with the States. (10 August 2011)

COAG (Council of Australian Governments) has also committed to providing \$200m towards the development of the infrastructure for the scheme so it can be rolled out from 2014. However, we need to keep the pressure on the government until the NDIS is in place and to ensure that the scheme introduced focuses on the person, not on the system.

If you haven't supported the campaign, go to www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au

The goal is to reach 100,000 supporters, and with the current number being at 77,000, it would be great to hit this benchmark! Meanwhile, Connect2Group services continue to grow. At the Annual General Meeting, it was disclosed that we supported 987 people with disability and/or mental illness in 2010/11, 807 people in employment, 47 in Connect2Community Lifestyle Options and 20 in the Connect2Community Living Program.

The Community Arts Precinct is still operating a great variety of Visual and Performing Arts Programs and thanks to our tireless volunteers, Oaklands Street Community Garden is going from strength to strength.

Connect2Training provided training to over 70 people across the year and is now ramping up training for staff in the Disability Sector. A copy of our Annual Report is available on our website – www.connect2group.com.au

Keep an eye on our website for an increase in the number of programs available at the Oaklands Street Community Garden and the Community Arts Precinct. Over the next twelve months we will be working to increase the number of community members accessing these community facilities.

Connect2Group is always looking to improve the quality of the services it provides.

Thank you to the clients of Connect2Gate and Connect2Workline who replied to the survey held earlier this year. Over the next month or so, we will also be surveying the clients of Connect2Community and also the employers who support the employment of people with disability and/or mental illness. Please take the time to complete the survey or ask us if you need support to do so.

Remember, you can make suggestions on how to improve our service at any time but talking to your support staff, or any of our Leadership Team.

Our best suggestions come from the people we work for – our clients.

LYNN QUIRK
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Breast Cancer is still the most common cancer diagnosed among women with about 2,500 women being diagnosed each year in Queensland and almost 500 Queensland women dying from the disease every year.

During Breast Cancer Awareness month, we would like to encourage you to take proactive steps to help raise awareness about breast cancer prevention, early detection and the **FREE** Breast Screen Queensland Program.

The QLD Health Breast Screen Queensland Program is a population-based, public health program that offers **free** breast cancer screening and follow-up assessment services for women aged 50 to 69 years. This is the age group where research shows screening to be most beneficial. Women aged 40 to 49 years and 70 years and older can also attend if they choose. Services are also available for women with disabilities and their families.

For further information, please visit www.health.qld.gov.au/breastscreen or phone 13 20 50.



Working with Essentra Personnel, a Registered Training Organisation (RTO), over 30 staff are now undertaking their qualification in Certificate III or IV Disability. This will have a significant impact on the people we support, as well as recognising and acknowledging staff for their commitment to the disability and mental health sectors.

External Training has also commenced with Indigenous Culture Workshops being delivered to other community organisations throughout November and December.

For further information on Connect2Training, contact Angela Jarrett on 3286 7166.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

HOW TO CONTACT US

NAME:

ADDRESS:

EMAIL:

Contact method preferred:

Post Email

PH: 07 3286 7166

DEPARTMENT: Community / Employment

POST: PO Box 326
Cleveland QLD 4163

WEB: www.connect2group.com.au

We recognise there may be news and events which you haven't known about.

By advising us of **your contact information**, we will be sure to keep you updated of the very latest news. Simply fill out the form to the left and get it to us either by phone, email or via your support staff.



AND THE AWARD GOES TO...

The ASIN (Australian Screen Industry Network) is dedicated to fostering the vast pool of new and existing talent in Australia and is

actively promoting Queensland as the centre of film making in Australia.

Australia is full of creative minds, involved in all aspects of the film industry at various levels. This portal has been developed to provide a neutral meeting place for our vibrant film community to share their ideas and experiences.

Connect2Group is proud to share the achievements of a client - **Brad Higgs**, who has been nominated in two categories at the upcoming ASIN Awards.

Members Choice Award:

Shadow of the Gryphon Project

Best Screenplay:

Shadow of the Gryphon Feature Film

The Winners will be announced at the Awards Evening on the 7th Dec 2011, and we wish Brad the best of luck.

www.australianscreenindustry.com

Oaklands Street Community



Gardens, Alexandra Hills

You may have seen some great exposure for the Oaklands Street Community Garden in recent local newspapers.

With help from the Building Supportive Communities Grants, we were able to invest funds into making this a great day out in support of Disability Action Week and promoting a healthy and active lifestyle at the beautiful Community Garden.

With loads of activities and families present, it was a magnificent day with the first of the lovely spring days being enjoyed by all. The face painters and jumping castle were a hit with the kids (of course), and the garden produce and plant sales sold like hot cakes, as did the delicious goodies at the Tea House.

MIND IN ART

The Mind in Art group have been very focused on preparing works to be displayed at the recent Brisbane Festival.

Due to funding received from Self Help Qld, much needed art materials were purchased and the group worked toward exhibiting works at "Art from the Margins" in a range of mediums such as Acrylic on canvas, sketches and markings.

Art from the Margins is a creative initiative of Wesley Mission Brisbane with the goal of creating an artistic outlet for artists who are homeless, living with mental illness or physical disability or are challenged by similar adverse circumstances. The groups art work was displayed at the Ann Street Church in Brisbane City, with hundreds of people attending the exhibition.

Individuals used the materials to create works which are emotive, based on life experience and in some cases, communicative for people who are non-verbal. The group have exhibited works in a range of public forums such as Redlands Hospital and "Art in the Park". For further information on the Mind In Art Program, please contact 3286 7166.



Prizes for the raffles were donated by a host of generous companies and services with all proceeds from the day being reinvested to keep the garden growing.

The inaugural scarecrow competition was held at the Open Day with some really wonderful entries from Macleay Island State School, Vienna Woods State School and Hilliards State School. The Grand Champion award in the Traditional Category went to Hilliard State School with their entry of "Hector" and Grand Champion in the Creative Category went to "Macca" entered by Macleay Island State School.

Once again the Open Day was a great success due to the dedicated volunteers and families who offered their help.

Stay tuned for next years Garden Open Day scheduled for September 2012.

NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS)

In support of raising awareness of the National Disability Insurance Scheme, Connect2Group held a DisabiliTea in August at the beautiful Oaklands Street Community Garden.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to ensure people with a disability, their families and carers finally get the support they need. The Productivity Commission's recently released report into Disability Care and support, condemned the current system as "inequitable, underfunded, fragmented and inefficient" and recommended introducing a NDIS to ensure people received the vital support, equipment, therapy and care they needed to get on with their lives.

The goal to make *Every Australian Count* was certainly felt with attendance from a range of local Services and Organisations from the Redlands.

For further information on the National Disability Insurance Scheme, please visit www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au



CERAMICS EXHIBITION

The Annual Ceramics Exhibition was once again a great success, with record sales and a lot of new faces from the Community coming along. This is a fantastic opportunity for the participants of the Community Arts Precinct to showcase their work, make sales and be commissioned for private pieces.

The works were completed at a professional level and the set up was fantastic as always with Graeme Gough and the crews' creative displays and coordination of the event.

For more information on the range of workshops available at the Community Arts Precinct, including art, music and pottery, please visit our website www.connect2group.com.au or contact 3286 7166.



Absolutely everybody: enabling Queenslanders with a disability

The Queensland Government has launched *Absolutely everybody*, a 10-year plan to improve access and opportunities for Queenslanders with a disability.

The plan sets out a vision, 10 priorities and a range of strategies to increase the capacity of mainstream services to respond to the needs of people with diverse abilities and improve the delivery of disability services.

You can download the plan and other related documents on the Department of Communities website - www.communities.qld.gov.au/disability/key-projects

