

# Newsletter

## Summer 2016

### National Disability Coordination Officer Program Region 17

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Welcome to the summer 2016 edition of the NDCO program newsletter for region 17. This year as the National Disability coordination officer for region 17 Gippsland I have been involved in a range of activities in relation to people with disability transitioning from into further education/training a subsequent employment. With many of these projects I have partnered with other organisations and could not have done without their support. As this is my final newsletter for 2016 I would like to celebrate the achievements of the past 12 months.

An evaluation of the NDCO program has been completed and we await the report that will determine the future of the program beyond June 2017. If you are still not sure what the NDCO program is about take a look at this clip:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IzO\\_ryz7Yk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4IzO_ryz7Yk)

I wish you and your families a safe, happy festive season and a very Happy New Year! I look forward to working with you all in 2017.

*Yours Sincerely*

*Andrea Evans-McCall*

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

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



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### The NDCO's highlight from 2016

The highlight from my work as the NDCO in 2016 was the **Passport 2 Employment (P2E) Pilot Programs Baw Baw and Latrobe.**

Research has shown the life-long negative scarring effect that a sustained period of unemployment can have on a young person's life with this in mind the NDCO as the coordinator lead the P2E partnership in adapting the a one day a week/ seven week P2E program to suit the local region with the view to motivate participants to succeed in education, find and keep jobs, and equipped them with the confidence achieve their potential.

For young people to be work ready they need to recognise the skills that they already possess and how these can be transferred to the workplace. Students need to understand the term 'employability skills' in relation to the world of work and to realise that certain skills are common to many types of work coupled with careers exposure.

The P2E program was redesigned with the eight employability skills integrated into the programs nine sessions. The program also incorporated guest speakers from the community, role models, an amazing race of service providers, mock interviews, an industry tour and the program concluded with a makeover session, graduation ceremony and a *What Next? Post School Options* expo.

The participants of the P2P program received their own workbooks at the commencement of the program which they worked their way through during the program filling in activities and ticking boxes each week.

The program was delivered by the P2E partnership and supported by a range of organisation along with key facilitators from within the community.

The Latrobe program sessions were held at Latrobe City Council, Morwell facilities each Tuesday from 9.30 am– 2.45 from 26th April 2016 running for seven weeks to 7th June 2016. The Baw Baw program sessions were held Federation Training Warragul facilities each Thursday from 9.30 am– 2.45 from 28th April 2016 running for seven weeks to 9th June 2016.

Invitations to participate in the program was extended to 15-19 year old students with disability or multiple learning barriers enrolled at Baw Baw and Latrobe secondary schools.

A total of 18 participant over the two delivery locations from the following schools:

- Drouin Secondary College
- Neerim Secondary College
- Warragul District Specialist School
- Marist- Sion College
- Baringa Specialist School
- Lowanna College
- Kurnai College
- Lavalla Catholic College

Feedback from the schools on the program:

*“My student who attend the program now stands tall and speaks confidently with a range of familiar and unfamiliar people. She is able to see the benefits of broadening her network and making connections with a range of people in the community. Through the P2E program my students made connections with a group of young people experiencing similar reservations and barriers to employment, together they grew and supported each other this was a really beneficial part of the P2E program.”*

*“This was a fantastic opportunity for our schools participant in the program to step out of her comfort zone in a completely supported environment.”*

*“The student from our school who attended the program is still thanking me for sending him to the program!”*

Watch this space in 2017 for further developments with the P2E program in region 17.

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## Tips, Tools & Websites

### 12 Tips for training older teachers to use technology

I would actually prefer the word mature rather than old!

<https://www.english.com/blog/training-older-teachers-to-use-technology>

### Children with ASD & Disability app

This free app on children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and disability to get funding and services help, parent stories and reliable, easy-to-understand information. Proudly produced by Raising Children Network, the app is available for iOS and Android.

[http://raisingchildren.net.au/asd\\_disability\\_app/autism\\_and\\_disability\\_app.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/asd_disability_app/autism_and_disability_app.html)

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## Clips Worth Watching

**Apple** believe that technology should be accessible to everyone — including Sady Paulson, who uses Switch Control on a Mac to share her thoughts on doing what you love.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XB4cjbYywgq&feature=youtu.be>

### Job Searching on the Autism Spectrum with Tony Attwood and Zach Zaborny

In this video Tony and Zach share their knowledge about the skills you'll need for a job interview. They discuss important aspects of personal presentation, responding appropriately to open-ended questions, planning your journey to the interview location, and most importantly, practicing the interview scenario.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HfjangycORI>

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## NDIS

The NDIS will become available in the Inner Gippsland area from 1 October 2017. The Inner Gippsland area covers the local government areas of:

- Bass Coast
- Baw Baw
- Latrobe
- South Gippsland

The NDIS will become available in the Outer Gippsland area from 1 January 2019. The Outer Gippsland area covers the local government areas of:

- East Gippsland
- Wellington

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

[https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/Accessing%20the%20NDIS%20video.html?utm\\_source=National+Disability+Insurance+Scheme+eNewsletter&utm\\_campaign=0602485a30-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2016\\_12\\_08&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_85b9cee0c8-0602485a30-50875613](https://www.ndis.gov.au/news/Accessing%20the%20NDIS%20video.html?utm_source=National+Disability+Insurance+Scheme+eNewsletter&utm_campaign=0602485a30-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2016_12_08&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_85b9cee0c8-0602485a30-50875613)

## School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES)

School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES) is an early intervention approach to employment for Year 12 school leavers with disability. The aim is to provide eligible NDIS participants with a supported pathway from school into employment. Find out more about SLES by downloading the fact sheet:

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

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

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

Find out more by downloading the fact sheet:

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

## Starting my plan

Do you need more information on how to start your NDIS plan?

The National Disability Insurance Agency has developed some useful fact sheets that will help you to navigate your NDIS journey. Once your first plan is finalised you will be contacted by an NDIS representative to discuss how to put it into action. The NDIS will then work with you to implement your plan; this support could be provided by a Local Area Coordinator, a Support Coordinator, an Early Childhood Partner or another party who will help you to connect with community and mainstream or funded supports.

Find out more about starting your plan by downloading the fact sheet:

<https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants/startingmyplan.html>

## NDIS Scheduled plan reviews – 1 December 2016

The National Disability Insurance Agency is committed to ensuring that participants continue to receive funding so they can exercise choice and control over the services they receive and has implemented a number of processes to support this. Some participants who have scheduled plan reviews due during the months of September 2016 to February 2017 have had their plans extended. This will enable participants to continue to exercise choice and control over their supports, flexibly utilise their core supports and ensure continuity of supports. Some participants may have extensions of 90 or 130 days. Others for 6 or 12 months, depending on their circumstances. Find more about plan extensions by clicking on this link: <https://www.ndis.gov.au/participants.html>

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## In the News

### Radio National Story: Hiring more people with autism in IT

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/hiring-more-people-with-autism-in-it/8025754>

### Government spending on education: the winners and losers

When it comes to government spending, all parts of education are not treated equally, new research shows:

<https://theconversation.com/government-spending-on-education-the-winners-and-losers-70264>

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## Conferences, Workshops and Training

### CEAV Biennial Conference *Career Education Contemporary Approaches to Transitions*

30 Nov to 1 Dec 2017

### National Disability Services VIC Conference 2017

Melbourne Park Function Centre

27/03/2017 to 28/03/2017

With the continued rollout of the NDIS, planning for change is something our sector understands. With a diverse variety of insightful keynote speakers, professional development workshops and exhibitors, you'll learn innovative and practical strategies that you can implement to: enhance opportunities for NDIS participants in their daily lives, strengthen disability culture and develop your organisation in a market environment.

#### Contact information

For registration and sponsorship/exhibitor queries, please contact Alyssa Mason at [Alyssa.Mason@nds.org.au](mailto:Alyssa.Mason@nds.org.au) or on 02 9256 3133

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## Reports / Resources

### What do people with intellectual disability think about their jobs and the support they receive at work?

A comparative study of three employment support models

[https://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/SPRCFile/Comparative\\_study\\_of\\_three\\_employment\\_models.pdf](https://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/SPRCFile/Comparative_study_of_three_employment_models.pdf)

### The Foundation for Young Australians-The New Work Mindset Report

There is an urgent need to shift mindsets in our approach to jobs, careers and work. New big data analysis of 2.7 million job advertisements provides insights into the patterns of skills young people now require to navigate complex and uncertain working lives. <https://www.fya.org.au/report/the-new-work-mindset-report/>

### NCVER Research Report: Uptake and utility of VET qualifications

Informing policy and practise in Australia's training system.

[https://www.ncver.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0024/61845/2894-Uptake-and-utility-of-qualifications.pdf](https://www.ncver.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0024/61845/2894-Uptake-and-utility-of-qualifications.pdf)

### myskills: Preparing Secondary Students for Work

The Preparing Secondary Students for Work framework helps to do this by outlining a vision for 'all students to have access to quality vocational learning and VET that is integrated into secondary schooling and is valued by students, parents, teachers and employers'. <http://www.pssfw.myskills.gov.au/>

### Yarning about disability

Psychology Masters Candidate Caris Jalla has published this beautifully illustrated book, which explores Indigenous perspectives on disability, health and wellbeing.

<http://healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/faculty-news/pvc-message-july-2016/yarning-about-disability/>

### NCVER Good Practice Guide: Supporting tertiary students with a disability or mental illness

Through the implementation of the principles outlined in this good practice guide, teaching staff and disability services staff in tertiary institutions will be better positioned to provide additional supports for students with a disability or mental illness. <https://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/publications/all-publications/supporting-tertiary-students-with-a-disability-or-mental-illness-good-practice-guide#>

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## Victorian NDCO's

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

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