



Newsletter

Summer 2018

National Disability Coordination Officer Program Region 17

Welcome to the summer 2018 edition of the NDCO program newsletter for region 17. I am really excited about 2018 and the opportunities that lie ahead. I am very honoured to be the recipient of the Committee for Gippsland (Barry Rogers) Scholarship to undertake the Gippsland Community Leadership Program 2018. The scholarship is funded by Committee for Gippsland and is awarded each year to a Gippslander who demonstrates outstanding leadership potential. This scholarship is traditionally provided to someone who has demonstrated an exceptional contribution to the community and/or education sectors, in recognition of the Scholarship's namesake Barry Rogers.

*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>



NDCO News and Events

New for 2018: Empowering Leadership Program

As an NDCO I have been working with the members of the Learn and Share network since 2014 during this period the issue of leadership development for students with disability has been identified as an opportunity for Region 17. Evidence shows that young people who are exposed to leadership development opportunities are likely to have a positive wellbeing and are more likely to reach their full potential. As the NDCO I have brought together stakeholders to form a reference group to deliver a Gippsland wide leadership program. The aim of the program is to develop leadership capacity in students with a disability in years 10 to 12 in both specialist and main stream schools across Gippsland. The program will deliver three one day seminars during 2018, participants will be exposed to a number of *Leader Mentors* who will provide strategic leadership. The leader mentors will be made up of professionals from the program partners and guest speakers sharing their insights and wisdom, engaging in interactive activities and enjoy networking opportunities that will provide a rich development of leadership skills which will have long lasting benefits. For more information email andrea.evansmccall@skillsplus.com.au

NDCO Program Evaluation

The Australian Government Department of Education engaged ACIL Allen Consulting (ACIL Allen) to undertake an evaluation of the NDCO program in 2016. The scope of the evaluation was to examine the policy rationale for the NDCO Program, its operation to date, and make recommendations for the future operation of the

program. This included examining the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of the NDCO Program, and its intersection with the Australian Government policy and other government programs, particularly the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

This evaluation found that the NDCO Program provides a valuable resource and range of activities at a local area that help service providers to improve education and employment outcomes for people with disability. Additionally, the NDCO Program is unique in its mandate to provide 'whole-of-system' expertise across different sectors. We can now confirm that the NDCO program has been funded to June 2022.

The evaluation report and the Australian Government response to the report are available at the links below:

[NDCO Evaluation Report](#)

[Government Response](#)

NDCO Inclusive Learning Conference

Keynote Presenter Sarah Barton

Award winning producer of 'Defiant lives' a documentary that explores the history of the Disability Rights Movement <https://defiantlives.com/>

Date: Friday 1 June 2018

Target: Professionals with an interest in inclusive education and employment for people with complex learning needs and disability aged 15 years and over.

Venue: Monash University Peninsula, Campus McMahons Rd, Frankston

Workshop Streams

- Educational Inclusion Theory and Practice
- Educational Inclusion Pathways

Important dates

Call for Presentation Papers Open 15 January 2018

Early Bird Registrations open 15 January 2018

Call for Presentation Papers Close 29 March 2018

Early Bird Registrations Close 30 April 2018

Registrations Close 7 May 2018

Registration

Participant Registration Early Bird Registrations \$100, full fee \$150

Stallholder Registration (Stalls will be open during lunch break) \$50

[To purchase tickets](#)

[For more information:](#) contact Sally Bailey on (03) 9784 0400 or [email](#)

Tips, Tools, Clips & Websites

Jeremy the Dud

Jeremy the Dud is a new comedy set in a world where everyone has a disability, and those that don't are treated with the prejudice and condescending attitudes people with disabilities sometimes face in our own society. Jeremy (Nick Boshier - Soulmates, Bondi Hipsters, Trent from Punchy) is a dud, or "without specialty". He has been living in assisted government housing his whole life after the death of his parents when he was young. Now, too old for assisted living, he is off to live with his auntie and cousins, and ready to make something of himself. The only trouble is the outside world isn't very accepting of "Duds".

[To watch:](#)

Policy, Funding

Reforms to strengthen the capacity of the education system to support students with disabilities

Victorian Government Schools are currently undertaking reforms to strengthen the capacity of the education system to support students with disabilities and additional needs, and to facilitate the full and active participation of all children and young people, through the inclusive education reform agenda. The agenda builds on the 2014 Special Needs Plan for Victorian Schools which sets out a nine-step plan to maximise outcomes for students with disabilities, and the Government's commitment to deliver recommendations from the Review of the Program for Students with Disabilities (PSD), outlined in its response: Inclusive education for all students with disabilities and additional needs.

For more information:

[About the Review of the Program for Students with Disabilities](#)

Supporting Victorians Living With Autism

The Andrews Labor Government will invest more than \$22 million as an immediate response to the Inquiry into Services for People with Autism Spectrum Disorder. More than \$19 million has been set aside for education initiatives, including: Further training and scholarships through the Autism Teaching Institute for government teachers. Piloting a new funding model for schools to meet the needs of students with disabilities. This is a boost to all Victorian specialist schools to better support children with autism.

For more information: [Supporting Victorians living with autism](#)

Australian Government Plan to Improve Outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People with Disability

The Plan outlines actions the Australian Government is and can take to provide sustainable mainstream and disability services, delivered within a cultural framework for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability, their families and carers.

For more information: [Plan to Improve Outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People with Disability](#)

Scholarships

Regional Storyteller Scholarship for someone with a lived experience of disability

ABC Regional is seeking to champion emerging voices in the disability community in rural and regional Australia. This is an early career opportunity for someone with a lived experience of disability and an interest in telling factual stories that connect with Australians. The scholarship recipient will spend three months working in an ABC regional station, developing their ability to create high quality, compelling content for a variety of ABC platforms.

Applications Close: 15 February 2018

For more information: [Regional Storyteller Scholarship](#)

NDIS

365 days of the NDIS

2017 was a huge year for the NDIS, with 119,000 people now benefiting from support and 71% of participants saying they now have more choice and control. Hear from participants, families, carers and providers.

To watch: [365 days of the NDIS](#)

Reports / Resources

Student Volunteer Workbook

The Hands Up! Volunteer program workbook has been designed by the BGK LLEN specifically for the use of young people with varying degrees of intellectual disabilities and learning differences. This workbook provides (in easy to read language and the use of visual cues) an opportunity for users to explore their interests, passions and skills whilst also participating in activities that introduce and consolidate learnings around how to source a volunteer opportunity and workplace safety. This workbook also includes a very simple practise volunteer registration form, that when completed, may assist a young person in future, to complete real life volunteer registration forms, using the practise form as a reference.

For more information: [Student Volunteer Workbook](#)

After The ATAR: Understanding How Gen Z Transition into Further Education and Employment

This report combines the fascinating results of four surveys into Australian high school students. Year13 saw over 7300 responses to questions regarding the ATAR, parents and career advisors, VET, employment and education and how their post-school trajectory made them feel.

To read full report [After The ATAR:](#)

Skilling for tomorrow

This paper provides a summary of research and discussion on the future world of work, drawing out points relevant to the theme of the 26th National VET Research Conference 'No Frills'

To read full report [Skilling for tomorrow](#)

Engaging students: creating classrooms that improve learning

When students are engaged in class, they learn more. It is vital that teachers create the right classroom climate for learning: raising student expectations; developing a rapport with students; establishing routines; challenging students to participate and take risks.

To read full report: [Engaging students](#)

Not working: Experiences of Refugees and Migrants with JobActive.

This report focuses on the barriers faced by refugees and migrants imposed by the main federal employment program, Jobactive.

To read full report [Not working](#)

VET student outcomes 2017

This NCVET report presents information from the National Student Outcomes Survey on the outcomes of students who completed their vocational education and training (VET) in Australia during 2016.

To read full report: [VET student outcomes 2017](#)

State of the Disability Sector Report 2017

This report reflects a sector under pressure. Key findings in the report include: Disability service providers report their key concerns as low NDIS prices; the costs of change; and uncertainty about their financial sustainability. Two-thirds worry they won't be able to provide services at NDIS prices. Growth in demand for services continues to outstrip supply.

To read full report: [State of the Disability Sector Report 2017](#)

Conferences, Workshops, Forums and Training

Reasonable Adjustments in Online Learning

Online learning can provide many benefits to students with disability, particularly for those who may prefer not to disclose their disability, such as those with a fluctuating mental health or medical condition. Online learning can also allow students to access teaching and learning at a time that best suits them, and for students with mobility disability, can allow them to engage with learning at a location of their choice, without the need to attend campus.

For more information: [Reasonable Adjustments in Online Learning](#)

The Map Your Future

The Map Your Future is a new project designed to start building, or further develop advocacy skills in students (15 – 25 years old) - to improve participation in, and ownership over, their NDIS plans.

For more information: [The Map Your Future](#)

Dyslexia, Language and Learning to Read

Those who have not yet listened to her presentation would do well to access the recent lecture by Professor Maggie Snowling, President of St John's College Oxford and Professor of Psychology at the University of Oxford, who recently visited Australia and spoke at the Australian National University on 'Dyslexia, Language and Learning to Read'. She outlined the history of the term dyslexia, and provided an overview of studies of those at risk for dyslexia. It was a fascinating and highly relevant presentation. The audio can be accessed or downloaded from the LDA website homepage.

For more information: [Dyslexia, Language and Learning to Read](#)

Koories in Post-Compulsory Education and Training State-Wide Conference

Policy and future directions / Pathways and transitions / Best practice

Date: Friday the 9th February 2018.

Venue: Mantra Bell City, 215 Bell Street, Preston

For further information please contact Bobby Wise-Moore on bobby@vaeai.org.au or phone 9481 0800

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
