

Diversity South News

www.diversitysouth.org.au

“**Exciting changes**”

Julie Waylen, CEO

Message from the CEO, Julie Waylen

The past few months have been an extremely busy time here at Diversity South and we have implemented a new client records management system called Brevity. This means all staff have the information and documents they need at their fingertips. In addition it means staff can log on and log off via their mobile phone and also receive roster information easily. Many thanks to everyone for working so tirelessly on this and supporting the smooth implementation of the new system and we prepare to realise its full potential in streamlining information and administration.

Acknowledgement to Country

Diversity South would like to acknowledge the Binjareb Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the Mandurah region.

Rebranding and new website

Diversity South would like to announce we have rebranded the organisation's logo and website with new colours and style. The changes came into effect as of 1 July 2023.

Check out the new logo below and website: www.diversitysouth.org.au

Vol .03

● Newsletter ●



Recruitment and new employees

There was a continued recruitment drive throughout May and June with more support workers joining the Diversity South Team. Meet some of our new staff.

- Clinical Lead – Gayle Webber
- Team Leader – Cara Curtis
- Senior Support Workers – Jamie Hunter, Lisa King, Remo Pacitti and Melissa Turner.
- Support Coordinators – John Mason and Krystal Ruland.

Ongoing Staff Training

Staff training to build their knowledge and skills continues to be a strong focus here at Diversity South – some of the training through our on-line induction and also face to face training includes:

- NDIS modules: Supporting Effective Communication
- NDIS module: Supporting Safe and enjoyable eating
- Mealtime Management
- Medication skill set
- Food Safety module
- Annual Manual Handling Refresher
- NHHI Basic Infection and Prevention
- NHHI Hand Hygiene

Employee Reward Gateway is here!!

New employee benefits

We are pleased to announce that Diversity South has introduced a new employee benefit in conjunction with Reward Gateway., **Diversity South Savings.**

Reward Gateway offers the largest employee discounts program in the world, leveraging unmatched buying power to give unbeatable savings at hundreds of Australian retailers to help extend your income.

This employee benefit will provide access to significant monthly savings from essential and everyday purchases to special items like gifts for the holidays and is an important recognition of the value we have in our staff in providing quality and safe services with improved outcomes for people with disability.

We are moving to the SCHADS Award on 7 December 2023.

Moving to SCHADS Award

Provided notice to all staff that we will be moving to Social, Community, Home Care and Disability Services Industry Award (SCHADS) on 7 December 2023.

We also introduced a New Employee Benefit Program – Reward Gateway. In other exciting news, I am very pleased to advise that Diversity South has introduced a new employee benefit in conjunction with Reward Gateway. Reward Gateway offers the largest employee discounts program in the world, leveraging unmatched buying power to give unbeatable savings at hundreds of Australian retailers to help extend your income.

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New Strategic Plan

The new plan provides a clear set of goals for us over the next two years and provides us with new and refreshed purpose, values with a single vision for people with disability in the Peel and surrounding regions to lead the life they choose.

Importantly the Strategic Plan incorporates our Home and Living, Community Participation and Support Co-ordination services, the actions we will implement and the outcomes we achieve.

Key focus areas:

- Deliver outstanding service and supports
- Maintain financial viability and sustainability
- Build community connections
- Foster a skilled, inclusive, and engaged workforce
- Ensure good governance and strong leadership

Community Access - The Collective

The Collective” at 87 Anstruther Road for providing community access activities is well underway.

Mondays: Innovation Dance

- This is running successfully, so much so we have moved to another larger venue. This is now at the Greenfields Community centre. We hope to see more of you there grooving to the music!!

Tuesdays: Live, Laugh, Craft

- This is a fabulous group that has been established and led by people with disability.
- Cost is \$5 per person

Fridays: Music Jam

- Is a fun and interactive music session.
- Cost is \$10 per person

**Innovation
Dance is
running
successfully**



MUSIC JAM \$10 per person

Friday 10AM - 12PM

Join us for morning tea and a fun & inclusive music session.
Connect with others through movement, rhythm games and a song circle.

Diversity South
87 Anstruther Road, Mandurah
0477 410 213
communityaccess@diversitysouth.org.au

Community Access The Collective continued..

Sandra Holland is engaged with Community Access with Diversity South and has combined her passion of crafts and making new friends to create and host a regular activity at The Diversity South Collective.

I am Sandra Holland.

I'm 53 and was looking for something to do with my support worker and have had no luck. So I have started **LIVE, LAUGH, CRAFT.**

I have found there wasn't enough groups for people with disabilities so I was inspired to create this art group for all disability, middle aged and older people.



I have multiple psychosocial disabilities and the LIVE LAUGH CRAFT group is important to me as a place to make friends and use my talent in art and craft making.

The local community including Office Works and Salvation Army have been fantastic in supporting me and This is a fantastic group for people with disability, established and led by people with disability.

If you'd like to join in come to Diversity South at 87 Anstruther road, Mandurah, on Tuesday 10-12 midday.

The cost is \$5 and come and meet some talented artists and make lots of new friends. You can also contact Nancy Hartnett on 9582 6105.



Healthy Eating Project

The Healthy Eating project has been rolled out and visits to the houses by the Dietician finished at the end June 2023.

Demonstrations, cooking lessons and healthy eating guides were well received. Many resources were provided such as recipes, menu plans.

The project aimed to increase the literacy around food and healthy eating for both Support Workers and people with disability.

Increasing the literacy around food and healthy eating

People with Disability and Family Advisory Group

The People with Disability and Family Advisory Group recently met to discuss issues and provide feedback to Diversity South staff.

- The Pet Policy was approved by the Advisory Group.
- Ideas for new activities for the Diversity Collective included movies, sausage sizzles, hair and make-up days, more parties like Diversity Day, outings, visits to other houses, friendship morning teas, animal/dog therapy, meet older people such as visiting aged care, holidays, outings such as going to Bunbury for the day. More activities related to cooking and menu planning – an extension of the Healthy Eating Project.
- Reviewed the policy for Participant Rights
- Feedback provided for improved/increased communication with families.

The next meeting is scheduled at 3:30pm on Thursday 23 November 2023.

Diversity South participated in NAIDOC celebrations



NAIDOC Week

This year, NAIDOC Week was celebrated from 2 July - 9 July 2023 with the theme "For Our Elders". Diversity South participated in NAIDOC celebrations by hosting art and craft at The Collective where individuals were able to get creative and embrace the cultural activities.



Thank you to the individuals and their support workers who participated in the NAIDOC activity and produced some fantastic artwork.

