

ISSN 1146-9154

Volume 16, No. 1

Person Centred Supports

CONTENTS

“By ourselves for ourselves” Hunter DSO

NDIS Consultations

Mentors Matter

Educating Others

Educating PDCN

1
2
3
4
4



“We’re doing it by ourselves for ourselves.”

The development of the Hunter Disability Service Organisation (DSO) has been supported through funding PDCN received from the Federal Government’s Practical Design Fund, and hosted by the *Physical Disability Council NSW, In Control Australia* and *Resourcing Families*. The experience will be documented to create a record of learning for establishing DSOs in other areas of Australia.

The decision to establish the Hunter DSO came from a local event for people with disability, their family and allies last November. In just two months there were more than 20 members in a local working group who meet fortnightly, with a growing number of people interested in being involved.

The working group is currently focusing on defining key values, functions and what they hope the DSO will achieve.

Upcoming workshop

The Hunter DSO will be holding workshops throughout March in the lead up to the NDIS. Leading a good life; goals and aspirations, individualised funding and what is needed to ensure people with disability have voice choice and control.

Workshops will be of interest to people with disability, their families and friends and will be held in Charlestown on 3 April, Maitland, on 9 April and Newcastle on 10 April. Further information will be coming out soon or email info@mind-the-gap.net.au

To read more about this go to www.ndishunter.net.au

The Hunter DSO has captured the interest of the local media. See below

[Empowerment Vital for an Equal Society. Newcastle Herald, Sat Feb 1, 2013](http://www.theherald.com.au/story/1273961/editorial-empowerment-vital-for-an-equal-society/?cs=308) (<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/1273961/editorial-empowerment-vital-for-an-equal-society/?cs=308>)

[New organisation to help People with Disability. ABC News, Wed Jan 23, 2013](http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-01-23/new-organisation-to-help-the-disabled/4479738) (<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-01-23/new-organisation-to-help-the-disabled/4479738>)

[NDIS Information Forum. Newcastle Herald, Nov 19, 2012](http://www.theherald.com.au/story/1129198/hunter-ndis-information-forum/?cs=305) (<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/1129198/hunter-ndis-information-forum/?cs=305>)

Check out
Our Website
www.pdcnsw.org.au

National Disability Insurance Scheme

On 6 December 2012 the NSW and Australian Governments reached agreement that fully establishes the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) across NSW from July 2018. The agreement ensures that all people with disability across NSW will have access to a scheme, based on insurance principles, that guarantees lifetime coverage for the cost of reasonable and necessary care and support.

Work towards the NDIS sits alongside *Stronger Together 2*. The implementation of *Stronger Together 2*, and the associated review of disability laws, will ensure NSW models key elements of individual choice and control and reform which underpin the NDIS.

How can you contribute?

To inform the development of new disability legislation, many people will have ideas to share. They include, but are not limited to:

- people with disability, their families and carers
- service providers
- advocates
- peak disability and representative organisations
- government departments, local government and community agencies.

The NSW Government is interested in hearing from as many people and groups as possible and welcome all contributions. There are several ways you can contribute, through either a face to face consultation session or written feedback.

Consultation sessions have been arranged for both regional and metropolitan areas. Each session will run for 2.5 hours and include up to 40 participants: Consultations sessions are below

Location	Venue	Date	Time
Coogee	Crowne Plaza Coogee	Monday 4 Mar 2013	9.30am - 12.00pm
Queanbeyan	Queanbeyan Kangaroo Leagues Club	Tuesday 5 Mar 2013	10.30am - 1.00pm
Penrith	Penrith Panthers	Monday 11 Mar 2013	9.30am - 12.00pm

Or, you can click on the links below:

http://www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/about_us/legislation_agreements_partnerships/nsw_disability_services_act_review



Why *Mentors Matter* ?

ABS statistics on the education of those with a physical disability, show 30% of participants had completed year 12 and only 13% had completed a bachelor degree or higher. This is compared to 49% and 20% for people without a disability. For some high school students with physical disability it can be difficult to: recognise their own attributes and skills; see academic opportunities, and future employment opportunities; identify people who can be role models

What ?

Mentoring is about relationships based on encouragement, constructive comments, openness, mutual trust, respect, and a willingness to learn and share.

Mentoring elements include:

Supporting the student with individual goal setting

Assisting the student to appreciate the connection between tertiary education and employment

Explaining to the student the opportunities that the mentor perused in achieving their goals

Transferring knowledge in such areas as critical thinking, responsibility, flexibility, gaining support and resilience

Mentors?

Professional people who happen to have physical disability:

Each Mentor has completed high school, tertiary education, and is employed.

Each Mentor is known to this organisation

Each Mentor will have appropriate checks completed

Each Mentor will have completed a training session regarding the role of a Mentor

Gathering Dates in 2013

Sydney Metro: 9 March 23 March 6 April 20 April

Other dates and locations are available. If you have a group of five or more students, Mentors Matter will come to you, just contact us on 02 9552 1606

If you want to register for Mentors Matter 2014 let us know

Please help by distributing the Mentors Matter Flyers that came with this newsletter to organisations or individuals you think may be interested, or place flyers in your local \ Library, Community Centre or Town Hall

More information? Contact

Ruth Robinson ruth.robinson@pdcnsw.org.au

Lachlan Hazelton lachlan.hazelton@pdcnsw.org.au

Educating Others Come & visit us at these Expos

Newcastle: Newcastle Entertainment Centre Showground
Friday 3 and Saturday 4 May 2013
Brown Road, Broadmeadow.

Rose Hill: Rosehill Race Course
Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 May 2013
Rosehill Gardens

Educating PDCN: Information you provide PDCN via surveys helps inform our work.

To complete a survey, please go to the link below. (or call 02 9552 1606 and we will send one to you.)

[Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme Survey \(TTSS\)](#)

Taxi Transport Subsidy Scheme (TTSS) **Survey Link:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TTSSsurvey>

[Local Government Elections Survey](#)

PDCN believes that Polling Places must provide all community members with the opportunity to vote. PDCN has identified, from the information available, which polling places were identified as accessible. However, PDCN is uncertain as to how many Polling Places were actually universally accessible. (ie that anyone entitled to vote is able to do so.)

Survey Link : <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9FQSPCB>

[PDCN Transport Survey](#)

Due to the continuing importance of transport, PDCN often identifies its importance even in submissions not directly relevant to transport, in order to reinforce its role as part of facilitating community participation and inclusion, demonstrating the additional costs associated with disability, and its importance as people age. PDCN would appreciate your input to inform our work on transport. **Survey Link:** http://www.pdcnsw.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=98:specific-issue-consultations&catid=38&Itemid=119

[Employment Survey](#)

PDCN strives to improve open employment opportunities for people with a physical disability. PDCN would appreciate your input to help inform our work. **Survey Link:** <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8N3H99L>

HAVING AN **Impact**

in support, design
and delivery

Take a look at this great new website with plenty of info and resources on person centred planning and best practice in NSW and elsewhere.

<http://www.impactnsw.com/>