

## Welcome to your latest edition of The Ripple

Hello again,

1 July 2018 marked the completion of the first transitional year into the NDIS for our region. Victoria will complete the first year transition in October, however, most of our Victorian customers have now transitioned to an NDIS package.

What an interesting year it has been as we have all learned to navigate through the new NDIS together, experiencing challenges together and learning new ways together.

Thank you to all of our customers, clients, staff, and supporters for being on this journey together ...we have all made it through the first year of this major National reform.

The first year has brought many mixed emotions and reactions from people. Whilst the inception of the scheme is challenging on many fronts, the philosophy and intentions of the scheme, to offer choice and control and to support a better life for people with a disability and their families and carers, is what drives us as an organisation. In this edition, the feature article looks at Support Coordination and how it works. There are two new Early Childhood Intervention Groups starting, as well as a number of Support Group Activities.

If you have any questions about any of the information provided in The Ripple, please feel free to contact us. We are here to support you.



Mardi Weber  
Acting CEO

# NDIS UPDATE - SUPPORT COORDINATION

## Do you need Support Coordination?

Not every NDIS participant is funded for Support Coordination but everyone can ask for it.

You may qualify for Support Coordination if you:

- Have circumstances that make it difficult to participate as much as you would like in meetings, and in making sense of information
- Are lacking confidence at this stage in your life and need support to connect you with your community
- Need support to make informed decisions, especially in a crisis

## What is Support Coordination?

According to the NDIS, Support Coordination is “a capacity building support to implement all supports in a participant’s plan, including informal, mainstream, community and funded supports”.

The NDIA will make a decision if you need Support Coordination. They will also decide what level of Support Coordination you might need.

This means that Support Coordination can help you to implement your plan, and find services and supports in your region.

There are four different types of Support Coordination:

- Support Connection
- Coordination of Supports
- Specialist Support Coordination
- SDA Support Coordination

## The primary role of a Support Coordinator

The primary role of a Support Coordinator is to:

- Support implementation of all supports in the NDIA plan, including informal, mainstream and community, as well as funded supports
- Strengthen and enhance the participant’s and their families abilities to coordinate supports and participate in the community



- Ensure mainstream services meet their obligations (i.e. housing, education, justice, health)
- Build the capacity of the participant to achieve greater independence to self-direct services and supports in the longer term
- Provide the NDIA with reports on outcomes and success indicators within the agreed reporting frequency
- Assist the participant with the scheduled NDIS plan review

## Aspire Support Coordination Services

Aspire offers Coordination of Supports and Specialist Support Coordination. Our Support Coordinators will work with you to assist you to understand and get the best out of your NDIA package and plan. We do this by providing you with information, support, and advice when you need to make decisions.

If you are eligible for Support Coordination, you can also access a range of assistance from our Support Coordinators.

## How do I access Support Coordination?

If you want Support Coordination in your plan, you need to mention it in your planning meeting.

Alternatively, talk to your Aspire Customer Service Team about your options if your plan is already in place without Support Coordination. T 02 6058 4000 or E [customerservice@aspiress.com.au](mailto:customerservice@aspiress.com.au)

For further information or get in contact with our Support Coordination team,  
E [supportco@aspiress.com.au](mailto:supportco@aspiress.com.au).

# NDIS QUALITY AND SAFEGUARDS COMMISSION

## NDIS QUALITY AND SAFEGUARDS COMMISSION

### Important Information

The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission is a new independent agency established to improve the quality and safety of NDIS supports and services.

The Commission will work with NDIS participants, service providers, workers and the community to introduce a new nationally consistent approach so participants can access services and supports that promote choice, control and dignity.

The Commission will progressively start operating around Australia on the following dates:

**1 July 2018:** New South Wales and South Australia

**1 July 2019:** Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory

**1 July 2020:** Western Australia

### The Commission will:

- respond to concerns, complaints and reportable incidents, including abuse and neglect of NDIS participants
- promote the NDIS principles of choice and control, and work to empower participants to exercise their rights to access good quality services as informed, protected consumers
- require NDIS providers to uphold participants' rights to be free from harm
- register and regulate NDIS providers and oversee the new NDIS Code of Conduct and Practice Standards
- provide guidance and best practice information to NDIS providers on how to comply with their registration responsibilities including how to provide culturally responsive and appropriate disability supports
- monitor compliance against the NDIS Code of Conduct and Practice Standards including undertaking investigations and taking enforcement action
- monitor the use of restrictive practices within the NDIS with the aim of reducing and eliminating such practices
- lead collaboration with states and territories to design and implement nationally consistent NDIS worker screening
- focus on education, capacity building and development for people with disability, NDIS providers and workers
- facilitate information sharing with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), state and territory authorities and other Commonwealth regulatory bodies.

To find out more about the Commission, please visit their website,  
<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/about>

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Patterns of Autistic Traits Within Families: Grandparents Survey



The Telethon Kids Institute are seeking grandparents who have a child with autism and/ or a grandchild with autism.

### The purpose of the study

is to measure patterns of autistic traits across generations within a family, as well as understanding the experience of grand-parenting in the context of ASD in their family. Participation involves the completion of two surveys, completed either online, by return post or via interview (telephone or in person).

It is our hope that this information will help improve standards for the timing and quality of early interventions in children with ASD and/or with social-communication differences.



### Further information:

If you have any questions or would like to participate, please visit our website or contact us:

**Website** | <http://bit.ly/2BTQNUG>

**Email** | [rebekka.jooste@telethonkids.org.au](mailto:rebekka.jooste@telethonkids.org.au)

**Phone** | (08) 9489 7673





# COMMUNITY EVENTS (CONT')

## Rotary Club Of Albury Inc.

Proudly Presents...



### **FREE Non-Animal Circus for Local Disadvantaged & Underprivileged Kids!**

International Entertainment's **Non-Animal CIRCUS QUIRKUS** is a contemporary take on your favourite, traditional circuses of ages past. It is an eclectic and entertaining mix of Circus acts brought to you from all over the world.

Internationally renowned Clowns, Jugglers, Acrobats, and more deliver funny, hugely engaging and sometimes death-defying acts of unbelievable skill.

This Show has been generously sponsored by the Business Communities of the Albury / Wodonga Region & its surrounding areas.

**Tickets are FREE** for local disadvantaged & underprivileged kids, their families, carers, teachers, etc. We hope it provides a wonderful day out together that otherwise may not be possible.

The show is suitable for audiences of all age. The venue supports & accommodates wheelchair access & seating. Circus Quirkus does not use animals in its performances. For further information, please visit the websites...

<http://www.circusquirkus.com.au/>

<http://alburyentertainmentcentre.com.au/your-visit>

### **WHERE & WHEN!**

**ALBURY ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE (Main Auditorium)**

**525 Swift Street, Albury NSW TUESDAY 24 JULY 2018**

**12.30pm & 5.30pm**

**(Show Duration approx. 90 minutes - Interval Inclusive)**

**Please contact your Aspire Customer Service team to book your tickets**

**Phone: 02 6058 4000**

**Email: [customerservice@aspire.com.au](mailto:customerservice@aspire.com.au)**

# ASPIRE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES



## Early Childhood Intervention

Terms 3 and 4 Groups

This group is specifically aimed at children aged between 0-2 years old

### Babies - Books, Bounce and Bubbles (Albury/Wodonga)

The group focuses on a variety of play experiences and opportunities to explore the environment to support and enhance your child's skills.

Your child's early childhood educator will use goals set in your NDIS plan to work with you to develop play based therapy that will foster and develop skills each week.

We provide ideas for play, tummy time, movement, visual development, hand-eye coordination and music in simple practical ways that can easily be repeated at home.

We also use a combination of original and traditional songs and rhymes to develop early communication skills.

Each week we set up the exploratory play area so that you can meet other parents, make new friends, share tips and experiences and support each other through the early stages of parenthood.

Your baby also enjoys happy social play, which sets the tone for the acquisition of future skills such as cooperation, turn taking and sharing.

At the end of each term you will have a one-on-one session with the educator to reflect together about the shared goals and develop new objectives for your child.

### Group details

**When:** Mondays, 9:30am to 11:00am during NSW School Terms

**Price:** \$104.40 per week

**NDIS Support Item:** Specialised Group Early Child Interventions

### To enquire about this group

Contact the Aspire Customer Service Team - ask for Sally or Linda.

T 02 6058 4000

E [customerservice@aspiress.com.au](mailto:customerservice@aspiress.com.au)

[www.aspiress.com.au](http://www.aspiress.com.au)

Version date 21.6.2018



# ASPIRE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES (CONT')



## Early Childhood Intervention

Terms 3 and 4 Groups

This group is specifically aimed at children aged between 3-6 years old

### Play and Learning (Albury/Wodonga)

The group focuses on supporting children that have difficulty in their social communication, social interaction and play and behaviour.

The group program is aimed to introduce children and families to a range of social and emotional regulation skills that are thought to be relevant at this age group.

The group focuses on skills that children will develop in the preschool years and offer a safe and nurturing space to practice.

Your child's early childhood educator will use goals set in your NDIS plan to work with you to develop play based therapy that will foster and develop skills each week.

At the end of each term you will have a one-on-one session with the educator to reflect together about the shared goals and develop new objective for your child.

### Group details

**When:** Mondays and Thursdays 1:00pm to 2:30pm during NSW School Terms  
Wednesdays and Thursdays 9:30am to 11:00am during NSW School Terms

**Price:** \$104.40 per week

**NDIS Support Item:** Specialised Group Early Child Interventions

### To enquire about this group

Contact the Aspire Customer Service Team - ask for Sally or Linda.

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# ASPIRE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES (CONT')

## Aspire Events

Bookings for all Aspire events are essential. Please RSVP to the Aspire Customer Service Team.  
T 02 6058 4000, E [customerservice@aspiress.com.au](mailto:customerservice@aspiress.com.au)

### New Support Group - Carers Victoria NDIS Support Group

The Carers Victoria NDIS Support Group has been running for over two years as a closed group.

They meet monthly to talk about all things NDIS and have guest speakers on varying topics to support your NDIS journey.

This group is now being opened to all Carers and you are invited to join.

The July meeting will cover Implementation of NDIS Plans. The guest speaker is Loretta Caunt, Community Engagement Officer from Intereach. See Aspire Events for date and time details.



### Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder and/or Oppositional Defiant Disorder and Related Conditions Support Group

This group is taking a break in July due to the school holidays.



### Autism/Aspergers Family Network Group

**Where:** La Maison, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga

**When:** Tuesday 24 July, 10:00am to 12:00pm

**What:** Join us for a relaxing morning tea and a chance to catch up after the school holidays. We will take time to discuss future events for the group, including guest speakers, and share information.



# ASPIRE EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES (CONT')

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### Carers Victoria NDIS Support Group

**Where:** La Maison Café, Lincoln Causeway, Wodonga  
**When:** Wednesday 25 July, 12:30pm to 8:30pm  
**What:** Information Session and light lunch.



### Caring Grandparents Group

**Where:** Café Borellas, 117 Borella Road, Albury  
**When:** Friday, 27 July, 10:00am to 12:00pm  
**What:** Morning tea and an opportunity to meet other grandparents living similar experiences.



### Dads Group

**Where:** Elgins, 51-53 Elgin Boulevard, Wodonga  
**When:** Thursday, 19 July, 6:30pm to 8:30pm  
**What:** Dinner and a catch up with other Dads who are carers.

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## Aspire Events

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### Down Syndrome Family Network

**Where:** Aspire, 220 Borella Road, Albury  
**When:** Tuesday 31 July, 10:00am to 1:00pm  
**What:** Elizabeth McGarry (NDIS and Me Project Co-ordinator) will be joining us again to share an update on the NDIS as well as information from Down Syndrome Victoria.

Registration from 9:30am..



### Down Syndrome Family Network

**Where:** Venue to be confirmed  
**When:** Tuesday 31 July, 6:30pm to 8:30pm  
**What:** Elizabeth McGarry (NDIS and Me Project Co-ordinator) will be joining us again to share an update on the NDIS as well as information from Down Syndrome Victoria.

Registration from 6:00pm..



### Family Network Group

**Where:** Café Borellas, 117 Borella Road, Albury  
**When:** Thursday 26 July, 10:00am to 12:00pm  
**What:** Join us for a relaxing morning tea and the opportunity to catch up with other Carers in the group.

# UPCOMING EVENTS (CONT')

## Aspire Events

Bookings for all Aspire events are essential. Please RSVP to the Aspire Customer Service Team.  
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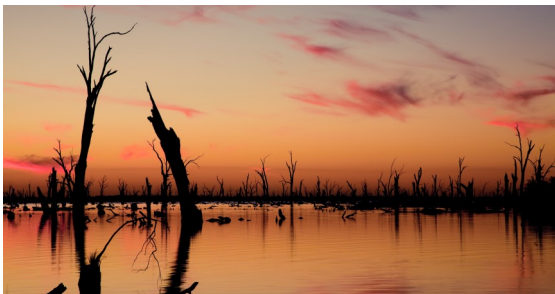
### Healthy Mothers Healthy Families Support Group - Special Event

- Where:** Oddies Creek Park, Wodonga Place South Albury
- When:** Monday 9 July, 11:00am to 1:00pm
- What:** Come along to a family BBQ for the Healthy Mothers Healthy Families Support Group and share in some relaxing family time during the school holidays.



### Home Schooling Family Network Group

- Where:** Venue to be confirmed
- When:** Thursday 19 July, 10:30am to 12:30pm
- What:** Crafts session including Quilling and Origami.



### Solo Parent All-ability Support Group

- Where:** Mulwala Ski Club Holiday Park, Melbourne Street, Mulwala
- When:** Friday 13 July to Sunday 15 July
- What:** Join us in a shared weekend in Mulwala. Camping or Cabin Accommodation is available.

For detailed information on upcoming Aspire events and activities, go to the online calendar on the Aspire website, [www.aspiress.com.au](http://www.aspiress.com.au), or contact your friendly customer service team.

T 02 6058 4000, E [customerservice@aspiress.com.au](mailto:customerservice@aspiress.com.au), W [www.aspiress.com.au](http://www.aspiress.com.au)



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