

Family Support Program-St George Newsletter

Future Planning continues.....

The next dates for the continuation of the presentation by Annette Mayer from Parent 2 Parent will be 1st August in St George and 2nd August in Tara. For those of you who attended the first presentation, this will move onto the next stage of future planning for you child with special needs and, for those parents who were unable to make the first presentation, you will be able to join in as Annette will do a quick re-cap on her previous work.

The Conference for Families run by Parent 2 Parent is to be held in Toowoomba on the 24 & 25 October. The theme is *Through The Looking Glass – widening our view for the future.*

More details of the Conference will be in later newsletters – please pencil in the above dates in your diary.

Q & A on the STANDARDS

This is a small test to check if you were listening or remember when I went over the standards with you some time ago. See if you can match each up with the appropriate Standard.

- Q1. When you fill out the personal information forms do I**
- Pin the forms up in the office so that all the information is on view to whoever comes into the room;
 - Take out an ad in the local paper or;
 - Place the information into individual files which are kept in a locked filing cabinet in my office which is locked when I am not in the office.
- Q2. When you are informed that your Plan is \$1,000 over budget, you are able to**
- Fill out the 674 forms required to check what has been paid out or;
 - Call myself and discuss the outgoings and get an itemised list of all expenditure;
 - Through our ongoing contact, know how your Plan is tracking;
 - b & c.
- Q3. You are not happy with how things are travelling – you are able to**
- Get a copy of the complaints process;
 - Discuss your concerns with an independent person;
 - Discuss with Pauline;
 - a, b & c
- Q4. You are wanting you child to participate in a school trip away. You are able to**
- Have your child go on the trip as a valued member of the school community;
 - Discuss with me the ways and means to be able to have your child participate happily, successfully in the least obtrusive way on the school trip;
 - You are able to go as a carer;
 - All of the above.

- Q5. You child is wanting to join the local Scouts. You are able to**
- Expect that your child CAN join the Scouts;
 - That the Plan can accommodate the additional financial costs to your family budget to include fees, uniforms, excursions, aids and equipment;
 - To have the support and encouragement for your child to participate;
 - All of the above.
- Q6. I contact you re the discussion and writing up of your families next Plan. I then**
- File the Plan away;
 - Say you cannot see the Plan as it is Confidential;
 - Acting on effective Corporate Governance through sound and visible management, forward a copy to you for your records.
- Q7. I have just employed a Family Worker who is able to work on an individual basis with families over a given time on specific family problems. This person was successful in getting the job because**
- They picked the short straw;
 - They won the job in a lottery;
 - The position was advertised, applications were scrutinised via applicants background, training and experience to match the job description to be able to work with families with a child with special needs.

OUR WEBSITE

I would like you to send into me any information you feel would be good, informative and useful re the building of OUR website. This website belongs to you and I need your participation. Please put on your thinking caps and phone, fax or email me any ideas you may have or if you are familiar with any other websites out there that you feel are really helpful.

I will be in the St George office all of this week and am available via the office phone 4625 3415, my mobile 0427 734 950 or via email pstewart@lifelinedarlingdowns.org.au. With my new super duper mobile, I can receive emails so I am even more contactable than ever. Looking forward to hearing from you all. I will shortly be catching up to discuss the next six monthly Plans.

Cheers..... *Pauline*