

Autumn 2023



Community

Contact us | 08 8212 7766 | admin@ldssa.org.au | www.ldssa.org.au



Welcome to our Autumn Edition!

A warm welcome to our community. In this edition hear from our CEO, celebrate fellowship, find out a new round of COVID vaccinations and mark the Family Forum into your diaries.

Congratulations to Wayne for being a finalist for Student of the Year in Community Education. Over the past year Wayne has improved his reading and writing in leaps and bounds and always attends his classes.

A massive congratulations to Wayne for all his hard work, commitment and dedication to his study.

(Photo: Wayne holding his certificate)

From the desk of the CEO

Dear clients, friends and families,

LDS continues to strive for our mission of enriching the lives of those we support and we could not do it without you. I hope you enjoy reading about some of the great stories and achievements in this edition of LDS Community while getting an insight of how we are working on our mission of connecting people with disability in Christian community.

At the organisational level, we have been strengthening our management layers and are now nearing full complement of 11 team leaders and 4 client services managers. By investing in these leaders we now have much greater capacity to continue to focus on developing our teams, delivering continuous improvements, building relationships with clients and families and maintaining high quality standards. I appreciate your patience over the past year or so as we have worked hard to find the right people with the right values to carry on our work on into the future.



Together with Matt and Ben our Senior Client Service Managers, the leadership team is committed to deliver the best services we possibly can. Finding and recruiting good quality workers continues to be a challenge but one we are managing. Most new staff comment how they are attracted to LDS because of our heart for our clients and because of the values that we truly live by.

LDS continues to invest in training for our staff including training in mental health first aid and positive behaviour support techniques. We are excited about our professional development days coming up in March where we can all get together and learn about our unique “Model of supports” and ways to improve the services we deliver.

On another note, we have some exciting opportunities we are pursuing of how we can continue to deliver outstanding affordable accommodation to secure long term happy homes for our clients. This is not an easy task given the current property market but we are working hard to develop these opportunities and partnerships with the Lutheran Church of Australia and other community housing providers to meet the needs of our clients. All of our property initiatives are predicated on the basis of how we can create housing opportunities that are linked to our mission and build strong connections with community where our clients can belong and have a purpose so they feel like they are a valued part of that community.

We appreciate the special relationships we have with many congregations, families and community service providers and thank you all for the part you play in creating the spaces for our clients to serve others in a way that demonstrates their awesomeness and unique abilities.

In His service, blessings,

JvR

FAITH

Our bible study below explores the benefit of Christian fellowship as believers and how this not only strengthens our family but also brings people together to support each other.

A perfect example of Christian fellowship was when Naomi, Genevieve, Kirstin and Jenny recently attended the Warradale Lutheran Church.

After enjoying and participating in the church service, the ladies enjoyed morning tea and socialising with Pastor Tim Klien and Tiffany.

Fellowship can come in so many different forms and being with likeminded people is one way to continue to build Christian faith at LDS.



Remembering Lyndal Buttress-Grove

It is with great sadness that we learnt of the passing of Lyndal Buttress-Grove on Thursday February 16, 2023. Lyndal passed away that evening in the Adelaide Hills surrounded with her family and friends. Her close and dear friends were proud of her determination, positivity and strength as she had a swift battle with her cancer.

Lyndal proudly served her clients at LDS since starting in 2015, we know she absolutely loved her job, supporting her clients at Woodside. Lyndal had a real passion for what she did, a determined advocate who loved life and a set of personal values that aligned closely with ours at LDS. Lyndal's active involvement in the community provided many connections and opportunities for her clients to get involved with the community in the hills.

Lyndal definitely holds a special place in our heart, always brought fun and happiness with her and will be dearly missed and fondly remembered by her work colleagues and her clients.

daily word

Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

Believers should help each other by encouraging one another. Encouragement here doesn't only mean to say "good job!" when another believer does well. It means to help each other to do right and grow.

Simple ways to do this include sharing Scriptures, praying together, or giving practical suggestions on how to grow, etc (Ephesians 5:19-20). In order to do this we must meet together. We must often put ourselves in contact with other believers so that we can both receive their encouragement and help them. We can meet at church, Bible study, our homes, for lunch, or for sports.

Make sure you are regularly meeting with other believers. Use this time together wisely and productively to encourage one another in the Lord.

EXCELLENCE

Book your vaccination appointment



With COVID-19 protection waning across the community, there is an increased risk of infection. The Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) have announced their COVID-19 dose update. Workers and people with a disability should be encouraged to have a 2023 COVID-19 booster vaccination before winter. Eligibility for a COVID-19 booster is not dependent on the number of previous COVID-19 vaccinations.

LDS is able to support clients to vaccination appointments - please see your Team Leader to arrange



Staff Training on Mental Health First Aid

Investing in our people is an important way that we value our staff and ensure that they continue to learn new skills. In February our northern team attended Mental Health training with Linda White from Whole People; enabling our staff through these important tools to help support our clients and each other.

Our West Lakes Team Leader, Matilda said "It was a great opportunity to build my skills. The training was very valuable and enlightening. I'll be ready now for the next time I need to use these new skills to support my team and clients."

Meet a staff member - Ying

Hi, I'm Ying and I have worked at LDS since 2019 and I really love working here to be able to support clients as well as spend time with my family. Originally I'm from Northwest China where it snows in the winter!!

I love outdoor activities and here is a picture of my sons and I at the beach.



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MORE NEWS

Reminder of LDS' Cancellation Policy

Please be advised that shift cancellations are billable when made without sufficient notice. If a shift is cancelled less than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the shift, it is considered a short notice cancellation. If short or no notice of the shift cancellation is provided, 100% of the full fee will be charged against the client's NDIS plan.

This policy is in place because LDS are still obligated to pay the staff member for the hours they were rostered for, regardless if the shift is worked or not.

Family Forum - May



Join the LDS Community at our annual Family Forum to be held at our Head Office at Payneham and streamed live on Teams.

This year hear from our CEO, John van Ruth on how LDS is continuing to focus on quality and the long term future; hear from our Senior Client Services Managers, Ben Natt & Matthew Stevens about our new structure and our focus on supporting clients; and meet all of our new CSMs.

When: Tuesday 9 May

Time: 6pm

Where: LDS Payneham (2 Portrush Road) or via teams

RSVP at admin@ldssa.org.au by 1 May

EMPOWERMENT

One of the important jobs we have at LDS is making sure we do everything we can to help our clients thrive in their homes. From recruiting good staff, ensuring we have the right training, good communication and finding fun things to engage with at home & the community - there is a lot that goes into this.

But the very first area we need to get right is matching clients so that we can enable each person to thrive in their own individual way.

Recently our Mersey Street House welcomed two new housemates to join Naomi: Kristin and Genevieve.



Having lunch together in the backyard

While everyone has their own schedule, just like all houses we come together at meal times and have outings into the community.

The matching process is not just about whether the housemates will get on together, but can they form real, enduring friendships so that shared experiences of family & friends visiting, sharing meals or going to the beach becomes a part of the way we live and share our house together.

At LDS we take the time to allow all housemates to get to know each other before deciding to move in and then work with each client to respect their individually as well as supporting to foster and develop great friendships that are enduring.



The MER ladies visiting the beach this summer



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FUN

LDS has four values that we use across our work everyday. They are: Faith, Empowerment, Excellence and Fun. We believe that fun is an important value because everything we do should incorporate fun - it helps us to work and it should shine through us when we work with our clients.

This summer we have had a lot of sun, smiles and tonnes of fun.

Australia Day brought together DOR, MER, DUN and ROS houses, along with Jack to celebrate the day as a community. The Dorene St housemates hosted the day and provided a wonderful lunch to their guests.



The fun was surrounded by friendship, laughter and coming together to build even better relationships through the delicious food.

The annual Fringe Event is a highlight on many client's calendar. Getting out and about in the city to see the amazing shows (this year circus and magic have been a keen theme), to be a part of the community and to have fun has been a key reason why clients are happy to be at the Garden or Glutteny.

Shimron recently visited the Fringe and got an added bonus of meeting some of the performers - see Christina in the adjacent photo.

Fun is in the LDS DNA because we all want to have fun at work, but it's also because our clients demand to have fun and make sure that everyone who attends has the time of their life!



VACANCY ALERT



Hillcrest - Snell Street

House mate required to shared with a male in their 40s.
This quiet house is situated in a cluster of 4 other LDS houses and enjoys community and friendships. 1:2 and passive overnights.

FUTURE LOADING



Expressions of Interest being taken for future homes at: Tea Tree Gully and Tanunda.

Looking for a safe and secure happy home? Or interested in any of these properties, then please contact Jordan Matthews :
jmatthews@ldssa.org.au or 0431 685 808

Building purpose for people

living with disabilities

Find accommodation.
Live independently.
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08212 7766

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Make sure that you follow LDS on our facebook page. It is wonderful to see clients out-n-about and experiencing life to the full.

[Click Here](https://www.facebook.com/Lutheran-Disability-Services-SA-227010588122374) or
<https://www.facebook.com/Lutheran-Disability-Services-SA-227010588122374>



Happy
Birthday
James!

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE LDS MISSION



PRAY FOR OUR MISSION

Include LDS in your prayers and ask God to bless our mission of delivering Faith, Empowerment and Excellence to people living with disability.



VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Do you have a special skill that you'd love to share with a LDS Client? Our Clients love to cook, create, play sport and help in the community. If you'd like to be involved in our mission please contact us on 08 8212 7766 or visit our website.



SERVING COMMUNITIES

Do you have community activities, projects, jobs where people living with a disability can be involved? Reach out to us as our community is looking to serve the wider community and to work with you to build strong, integrated communities.



HELP BUILD OUR NETWORK

LDS wants to positively impact in the lives of people with disability. If your community has a disused building, land or other facility that could be converted to disability housing please talk to us.



DONATE & OFFERINGS

You can donate direct to LDS by calling 08 8212 7766 or visiting our website. You can donate to LDS through leaving a legacy, setting a bequest or investing in housing for people with a disability. If your Church would like to dedicate a special offering to our mission please feel free to get in touch with us.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.LDSSA.ORG.AU OR 08 8212 7766