



NorthAble
DISABILITY SERVICES

NorthAble Information Update 24/1/2018

NorthAble receives information from our many networks, which we disseminate through this Electronic Weekly Update. Feel free to share and use this information. For further information or to place a notice:

Phone: 09 430 0988 / 0508 637-200.

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Email: drc@northable.org.nz.

Web: www.northable.org.nz

In the news

Govt names head of mental health inquiry. Radio New Zealand News. 23/1/2018. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern and Health Minister David Clark announce a ministerial inquiry into mental health and addiction. The six-person inquiry team will be led by the former Health and Disability Commissioner Ron Paterson and will hear public submissions around the country. www.radionz.co.nz/news/political/348728/govt-names-head-of-mental-health-inquiry

Mental health inquiry: How will it work? Radio New Zealand News. 23/1/2018. Dr Clark said the government would respond accordingly to the outcome of the inquiry, including a potential boost to funding. The six-person inquiry team will be led by the former Health and Disability Commissioner Ron Paterson and will hear public submissions around the country. www.radionz.co.nz/news/political/.../mental-health-inquiry-how-will-it-work

Inquiry to improve mental health services. Scoop. 23/1/2018. "Mental health and addiction are issues for all New Zealanders," says Jacinda Ardern. "Most of us will know a friend or whānau member that has faced a mental health challenges. Plenty have reached out and received the support required, but too many still have unhappy stories to tell.

LOCAL. Whangarei woman's art brings pain relief. Northern Advocate 22/1/2018. Whangarei artist Alex Moise is holding her first solo exhibition, *Insomniart*, at the Yvonne Rust Gallery, Quarry Arts Centre. Ms Moise began creating her intricate, contemporary, pointillist illustrations of wildlife and plants as a meditative antidote to the insomnia caused by extreme back pain. www.nzherald.co.nz/northern-advocate/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503450&objectid=11976550

LOCAL. Whangarei women hope medical cannabis plan blooms. NZ Herald. 20/1/2018, Two Whangarei women are applying for a licence to grow medicinal cannabis on 2ha of land near the city. They said they expected their plans to grow crops for medical research will raise some "debate" and opposition. Their motivation was to help ease the suffering of people with a variety of illnesses or conditions. www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11978163

Improving access to beaches and shops goal of advocate. Stuff. 19/1/2018. Enough is enough for a Flat Bush resident battling every day to be a voice for disabled people. Former oil field operator Bob Reynolds is wheelchair-bound. The 47-year-old is advocating for disabled people struggling to enjoy life's simple gifts such as basking in the sand on the beach, or being able to go shopping at any store without restrictions. www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/eastern-courier/100619410/improving-access-to-beaches-and-shops-goal-of-advocate

A shocking tale of 'torture': Teen with disability 'unrecognisable' after bashing Stuff 19/1/2018. A teenage girl with a disability has allegedly been tortured for hours by three girls in a park in Australia, in a horrific attack described by senior police as the worst assault they've seen in 30 years. During the two-and-a-half-hour attack, the 17-year-old was forced to inhale glass believed to be from her smashed iPhone, had her hands burnt on a hot barbecue before her head was repeatedly slammed into a wooden table at the park in the town of Moe, in regional Victoria. www.stuff.co.nz/world/australia/100705755/a-shocking-tale-of-torture-teen-with-disability-unrecognisable-after-bashing

Inclusive NZ Media Watch have collated stories of interest that have featured in the media in over the holidays:

[Experts Propose Framework for Royal Commission into abuse](#)

[Attitudes towards young disabled must change](#)

[Mental health a serious public health issue in New Zealand](#)

[Liam Malone hopes to diversify tech](#)

[NZ squad for inaugural physical disability rugby league test](#)

Events and information of interest

Pacific Mental Health and Addiction Scholarships. Le Va's 2018 Pacific Mental Health and Addictions Scholarships are open. These scholarships are part of the Futures That Work programme: growing and upskilling the Pasifika workforce. It includes mentoring, coaching and cultural support options. Apply on line at www.leva.co.nz/training-education/scholarships

NZSL Week 2018 is coming! Applications are now open for Taster Class Tutors! Hurry! Applications close soon, the deadline is in one week until Wednesday January 31. Find out more and apply at www.nzslweek.org.nz

Outward Bound – course spaces available Outward Bound have spaces available on two of its upcoming eight-day Horizon's Course specifically designed for people with a disability aged 18+. This course includes various outdoor activities which are designed to provide different learning opportunities and help participants improve their confidence, independence and team work skills. **Course Dates:** Thursday 15 February – Thursday 22 February 2018, Sunday 20 May – Sunday 27 May 2018. Full funding is available to all Work and Income clients and internal sponsorship is also available. To find out more www.outwardbound.co.nz/courses/horizons/ or email: lhealy@outwardbound.co.nz.

Next round of Educator dates for 2018. The Educator programme is an innovative and exciting qualification which registers you able to develop, teach and assess NZQA Learning Outcomes (new language for unit standards or credits). The educator program is a 40 credit NZQA course consisting of three 2 day blocks with follow up practise based assessment. Auckland dates 22,23 February, 22,23 March, 19, 20 April. Contact michael@praxis.org.nz

Could your organisation benefit from a Social Work Student Intern? Massey University are now offering the chance for organisations to take on a Bachelor of Social Work or a Masters in Applied Social Work student. Placements for the coming year are scheduled for: **BSW (third and fourth Year students): 60 days between July - October (480 hours).** **MAppSW: 60 days between April - November (480 hours).** Organisations can request a student to carry out a research project whilst on placement, but note that the project would need to be approved by an ethics committee prior to the field research. All students undertaking placements will be screened in accordance with the requirements in the Vulnerable Children's Act (2014). For more information and to register your interest, email M.Moffat@massey.ac.nz.

Pasifika Public Health Workforce Grants. The purpose of these grants is to grow the size and skills of the Pasifika public health workforce. If you work in public health, and want to upskill – or have plans to – then these grants could be for you. Receive support from Le Va to help with your fees or course related costs. www.leva.co.nz/training-education/publichealthworkforcegrants

Māori stroke prevention needs assessment. The Stroke Foundation of New Zealand invite you to contribute to the Māori stroke prevention needs assessment for the Far North region. Date: Tuesday 13th February 2018. Time: 9.30 – 12.30pm. Venue: REAP Far North. 33 Puckey Ave, Kaitaia. Complete registration form and RSVP by Friday 2nd February 2018. E: nita.brown@stroke.org.nz P: (04) 815 8970. M: 027 556 9997.

New website seeks ideas from users. A new national website is asking users what they want to be able to find out about when it comes to disability in a new campaign called #AskFirstport. The recently launched Firstport website currently provides information, tips and advice to users about a whole range of topics including funding assistance, education, grants and subsidies and support groups. But the site wants to widen its offering by asking users what else they want to know about and what topics they want to see featured. The campaign is running from the 11th January until the 12th February. To get involved you can go to @FirstportNZ on Twitter or Facebook and take part using the hashtag #AskFirstport. You can also visit www.firstport.co.nz/askfirstport for more information about how you can contribute.

Medico pak. Do you or a loved one have a lot of medication to take? Have trouble remembering when to take your medication? Right medicine, right dose, right time, with Medico Pak. See www.medicopak.co.nz or ask your pharmacy.

Have your say on transport. The Regional Transport Committee for Northland, is seeking feedback on a three-year review of the region's land transport plan – effectively the blueprint for transport spending across Northland and our bid for central government transport funding assistance. The plan details local roading projects proposed by Northland's three district councils, state highway projects put forward by the NZ Transport Agency, and strategic projects and public transport matters dealt with by Northland Regional Council. To find out more – and to have your say – visit www.nrc.govt.nz/transportplan. If you need help, call us on 0800 002 004. Feedback closes 4pm, Wednesday 31 January 2018.

Newsletters

Parkinson's Northland Newsletter January 2018 has information on activities coming up including Parkinson's Northland Whangarei Morning Tea 2nd February 10.30 – 12 noon The Kamo Club Rooms, Meldrum Street, Kamo. This is an important meeting in regards to Restructure of Parkinson's NZ. See www.parkinsons.org.nz/our-divisions/northland
