



NorthAble
DISABILITY SERVICES

NorthAble Information Update 15/02/2018

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.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/NorthAble

Email: drc@northable.org.nz.

Web: www.northable.org.nz

In the news

Human Rights Commission welcomes disability care review decision. TVNZOne. 9 February 2018. The Human Rights Commission is welcoming a decision by the Court of Appeal to overturn a Ministry of Health ruling on disability care, saying the area needs an overhaul. The court ruled on Wednesday that the ministry must revise its decision to only pay Diane Moody for 17 hours a week at minimum wage for the care of her 51-year-old severely disabled son Shane Chamberlain who required care 24/7.

www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/human-rights-commission-welcomes-disability-care-review-decision

More stories of caregivers struggling with system emerge. RNZ News. 8 February 2018. Ms Wright was concerned by the labyrinthine task of accessing help. "It's so complicated I don't think anyone really knows the system," she said. "You have to go through a needs assessor - I think they are contracted the Ministry of Health - and then someone else decides what hours you should get and they try to give you the minimum, or not at all."

www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/349962/more-stories-of-caregivers-struggling-with-system-emerge

Mum of disabled adult son 'delighted' to win pay appeal. Newshub. 8 February 2018. When health officials ruled Diane could only be paid 17 hours a week for her son's care, she took her objection all the way to the Court of Appeal. This week, they found out they won. www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2018/02/mum-of-disabled-adult-son-delighted-to-win-pay-appeal.html

Calls for overhaul of pay for parents caring for disabled children. Newstalk ZB. 8 February 2018. "The problem that emerges from that is that most parents have simply given up, it's too hard, it's not worth it and the process itself is demeaning because having to put the stopwatch on someone's toilet times is hardly consistent with human dignity." www.newstalkzb.co.nz/on-air/early-edition/audio/paul-dale-calls-for-policy-overhaul-regarding-pay-for-parents-looking-after-disabled-children/

Mother of disabled man wins full-time care appeal. RNZ. 8 February 2018. The Court of Appeal has issued a stinging rebuke to health officials, saying it doesn't want to hear any more disputes about adequately funding parents who care for their disabled adult children. www.radionz.co.nz/national/programmes/morningreport/audio/2018631122/mother-of-disabled-man-wins-full-time-care-appeal

Teen boy punches mum protecting son. Newstalk ZB. 8 February 2018. Erica Godfrey was punched at the seaside suburb's Thomson Skate Park in Christchurch after confronting a teenager who had pushed and threatened her son. Her son, Isaiah, 14, told her he had been threatened when she picked him up to go home. Isaiah has autism, ADHD and a laryngeal papillomatosis tumour in his throat. Godfrey then confronted the teenager, who was still at the skate park. www.newstalkzb.co.nz/news/national/teen-boy-punches-mum-protecting-son/

Halberg Awards. TVNZOne. 8 February 2018. And a winner is... Sophie Pascoe! Yet another win for Sophie Pascoe, another brilliant year for her, virtually unchallenged in the pool - at home and abroad. www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/sport/other/team-new-zealand-pick-up-supreme-award-year-55th-annual-halberg-awards

Labour Government deciding to cut charter schools. Newstalk ZB. 9 February 2018. Du Plessis-Allan points out this is a case of Labour putting politics ahead of children, expressing her disappointment about the matter. Du Plessis-Allan then explains a charter school does not do things the way the public system does, noting it is for kids who do not fit into the public system. She emphasises a charter school is for kids with learning disabilities such as autism and dyslexia who need more attention. www.newstalkzb.co.nz/on-air/mike-hosking-breakfast/audio/charter-school-disappointed-over-mixed-messages-regarding-future/

Information of Interest

Seeking applications from people interested in joining Te Ao Marama: The Maori Disability Advisory Group.

This group is responsible for monitoring the implementation of Whaia Te Ao Marama: The Maori Disability Action Plan, providing advice to Disability Support Services and, in some circumstances, to the wider Ministry of Health on the effectiveness of the Plan in improving the lives of tangata whaikaha Maori (Maori people with disabilities), and providing advice and support to the future design and implementation of the disability support system. If you're interested, please contact disability@moh.govt.nz by 16 February to apply.

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

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 online at www.leva.co.nz/training-education/scholarships

New Book: Understanding Autism. essential guide for parents. By Professor Katrina Williams & Professor Jacqueline Roberts. Reference for parents and carers of children with autism, written by two leading experts in the field. Published February 2018 and with a recommended retail price of \$19.99, Understanding Autism is available from www.exislepublishing.com and wherever good books are sold.

Situations Vacant

Situation Vacant: Community Development Adviser: Whangarei District Council. To promote community engagement and achieve Council's strategic outcomes for the community through collaborative relationships, capacity building, advice and liaison between the community and council. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact People & Capability team on: 09 430 4200 or [0800 932 463](tel:0800932463). To apply for this position go to www.careers.wdc.govt.nz Applications close 5.00pm Thursday, 1 March 2018.

Events

FEBRUARY

19th and every 3rd Monday each month: Supporting Someone with a mental illness or addiction? Come to our SUPPORT GROUP in 2018 for Family, Whanau and Friends. Supporting Families offer a safe place to share experiences, gain practical resources and strategies, and hear from guest speakers with mental health and addiction expertise. 3rd Monday of every month, 10.30am – 12pm, 7 Donald Street, Regent, Whangarei. Cost: FREE. Refreshments provided. Contact: Francil, 0800 732825. Francil@sfauckland.org.nz. www.supportingfamilies.org.nz

19th and every 1st and 3rd Monday of the month: Alcohol and Drug Whanau Support Group. What: a group for people who have whanau with alcohol and drug issues to come together to talk about their experiences, be provided with information and offered support. When: First and Third Monday each month 4pm – 5.30pm. Where: Alcohol & Drug Service 5 Three Mile Bush Road Kamo Group Room (Kai Papahu). Tea and Coffee Provided. Please call the following for more information: Steve (09) 470 2706, Northland DHB Alcohol and Drug service, Cath 027216383 or Francil 0800732825. Supporting Families Northland.

Look Good Feel Better – referrals by February 21 for March 6 event! The Look Good Feel Better organisation has grown, and this year we are offering four workshops across the year - two in Kerikeri and two in Paihia. Here is an opportunity for any woman who has a journey with cancer ; past or present in the mid north area.

Kerikeri - Tuesday March 6th, Tuesday September 11th, Kingston House, Hone Heke Road, Kerikeri: 1:00pm - 3:30pm.

Paihia - Tuesday June 5th, Tuesday November 13th. Venue: Kingsgate Hotel. Duration: 1:00pm - 3:30pm.

We would welcome any enquiry re attendance. Registration forms can be delivered to you if you need extras, or you can photocopy some of your existing ones, or attendees can register online. For the first workshop (March 6th), we would need attendees to be registered with us by February 21st. The most important point is the meeting with 'fellow travellers' in a caring and understanding environment. For more information, phone Jo Wood. 0274 549391.

NZ Human Rights Universal Periodic Review. LOCAL opportunity – Kaitiaki. Date: Tuesday 20 February. Time: 10am - 12pm. Location TBC. New Zealand participates in a five-yearly Universal Periodic Review in the UN Human Rights Council for a report covering New Zealand's progress on a broad range of human rights issues. Seeking views from New Zealanders. This has a strong focus on youth engagement and New Zealand's progress on particular human rights issues. Contact UPR2019@mfat.govt.nz if you have any queries.

Outward Bound – course spaces available. Outward Bound have spaces available on two of their upcoming eight-day Horizons Course, specifically designed for people with a disability aged 18+. This course includes various outdoor activities - designed to provide different learning opportunities and help participants improve their confidence, independence, and team work. **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, see www.outwardbound.co.nz/courses/horizons/ or email lhealy@outwardbound.co.nz

Waimamuku Wild West Fest 2018. Date: Saturday 24 February 2018. Time: 10am – 2pm. A unique, family-friendly free event in South Hokianga. All welcome! Come and join in the Western fun. See more at www.wildwestfest1.wixsite.com/2018

Northland Pasifika Fusion Festival 2018. Date: Saturday 24 February 2018. Time: 10am - 3pm. Accessible celebration of food, music, arts of the Pacific in Tai Tokerau. Join for the day with a line-up of local talent on the stage, a variety of stalls, information and services, and a vibe you can't get anywhere else! See their Facebook page for more info www.facebook.com/northlandpasifikafusionfestival/

MARCH

Ruakaka Surf day 2018. A great event for people with disabilities! Date: Saturday 3 March. Time: 10am – 2pm. Ruakaka Surf Lifesaving Club, Ruakaka Beach. Registration essential - spaces are limited. Sign in starts at 9am. To register, please contact Arlene at Tiaho Trust - ph 430-3406 or email arlene@tiaho.org.nz

Whangarei Youth Space Talks 2018. Date: 12 March 2018. Time: 12.30pm - 5pm. Forum North, Whangarei. This is going to be an awesome afternoon for Youth Workers to hear directly from the Commissioner for Children and the Minister of Youth about their vision for youth in Northland. Don't miss out on starting your year with some inspirational thinking. Save a spot by emailing WYSTalks@youthspace.co.nz or enquire at ph 09 972 7248. Tickets \$30, available from www.youthspace.co.nz

Age Concern Seminar. March 15, 9.30-11.30am. What entitlements are available for you from Work & Income? What you need to know about Work & Income. Speaker: Lorna Child Services for Seniors Manager Work & Income. Registrations are essential. Please contact Age Concern Whangarei Inc. (09) 438 8043 Fee: \$5 donation for those on Superannuation & unemployed; \$25 for waged; to assist with costs, please. Venue Age Concern, Whangarei. Please note: 2-hour parking zone in Wallace Street on Age Concern side of road, Free parking in Age Concern Car Park. Please do not park in the staff car parking area.

