

NEW DIMENSIONS

Volume 3 • March 2016



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

- | **R J McWhinney Panel Beating**
for repairing damages on vehicles free of charge.
- | **Harringtons Pharmacy**
for providing Sunnyhaven Clients with Webster packs free of charge.
- | **Rotary Club Hurstville**
for providing 24 tickets for Clients and staff to attend International Entertainment Australia's World Festival of Magic.
- | **Lioness Club of Sutherland Shire**
for inviting the Client and staff to The Circus Quirkus Show. Special thank you to Dr. Nicholas Cunio, Peter Clisdells and Yilmaz Huseyin for sponsoring the tickets to attend the event.

- | **BBQ Rescue**
for replacement of fat absorb free of charge at every BBQ service.
- | **Kogarah Library and Cultural Centre Quilt Group** for donating 20 quilts.

message from the CEO



Welcome back to all our previous Clients and a huge welcome to our new Clients in our Day Programs.

After a long wait we have now gained approval from Rockdale Council to build our 10 bed unit complex at Turella. It has been an arduous journey to get the complex approved through council. My thanks goes to our Board member Simon Fenton who played a key role in getting the building to this stage. We look forward to providing supported housing options for people with a disability in the St George area.

The dates for the rollout of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) have been announced for this area and they will be in 2017. Our Clients will begin the transition into this new model. Please feel free to contact us if you require any further information on the NDIS. We will be conducting information sessions over the next six months. Sunnyhaven will be there to support you all the way to assist with a smooth transition. I would like to thank the Kogarah Quilters for the donation of 10 beautiful quilts that now hold centre stage on a number of Clients beds.

I would like to welcome Paul Lappin who is the Accommodation Manager for Park Street, Leeder Ave, Frederick Street and Box Road. Paul comes with a wealth of experience from Wesley.

I look forward to working with you over the next year and please don't hesitate to call if you have any concerns.

Maree Mullins

Chief Executive Officer

Quality manager



The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) NSW roll-out plan has been announced and as a result we know now that participants in the

South Eastern Sydney district areas of Botany Bay, Hurstville, Kogarah, Randwick, Rockdale, Sutherland Shire, Waverley, and Woollahra will be able to access the NDIS from 1 July 2017. The NDIS NSW website contains lots of useful information and links to help you to get ready for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, at www.ndis.nsw.gov.au

Sunnyhaven has purchased the MYP client management system to ensure we meet the requirements of the NDIS.

Sunnyhaven would like to say thank you for the surveys received from the Clients, Families and Carers. We really appreciated your feedback and your suggestions to improve the quality of our services and we are taking action to make sure improvements will be made.

In order to respect the culturally and linguistically diverse background we designed the Client handbook that also contains the feedback and the complaint form into Arabic, Mandarin and Greek

WE ARE LISTENING TO OUR CLIENTS

Clients have been attending a bimonthly meeting with our CEO, a Board member and the Managers to share their thoughts and feelings about our services so that Clients are able to inform us of their achievements and offer suggestions on how to improve the quality of our services in both the houses and the Day Programs.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with Families, Carers and Clients so if you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact us by email at: alessandra.luz@sunnyhaven.ngo.org.au or by phone 9588 5066.

Staff Christmas Party

The staff Christmas Party was held on the 18th December 2015 at Kareela Golf Club. Staff who have been working at Sunnyhaven for over 10 years were given a certificate of appreciation and a watch as a gift for their dedication to the organisation.

Thank you to the following staff for your dedication:

- Maria Arango – 10 years of service
- Michelle O'Leary – 10 years of service
- Annette Smith - 11 years of service
- Desmond Burns – 13 years of service
- Dane Williams - 13 years of service
- Leonie Wild – 15 years of service
- Angela Nicol – 15 years of service
- Belinda Hemsley – 20 years of service
- Kathy Skibola – 20 years of service



Spotlight

MEET AND GREET

Meet and greet with Foreign Minister Julie Bishop for local community groups organised by David Coleman MP Federal Member of Banks.



Community Connexions Program

THE CIRCUS QUIRKUS SHOW

Clients and Staff from Community Participation attended The Circus Quirkus Show on the 3rd of October 2015 and had a great time. Thank you to Lioness Club of Sutherland Shire. A great song everyone sang was called "Rules of the Centre".

ARTS GROUP

Our Arts group is facilitated by Robyn O'Neil, who works with our Clients in day programs and brings out their wonderful abilities. Sunnyhaven's Community Access Program participated in knitting a quilt in response to the devastating earthquake in Nepal. The quilt was donated to a 3 year old boy who lost his parents in the earthquake.



DANCE CLUB

Clients from our Community Participation Program attend Wednesday Dance Club dancing lessons at Hurstville City Dance Studio. Performance, Videoshoot and Celebration was held on the 18th November 2015 where the Clients had a great time.

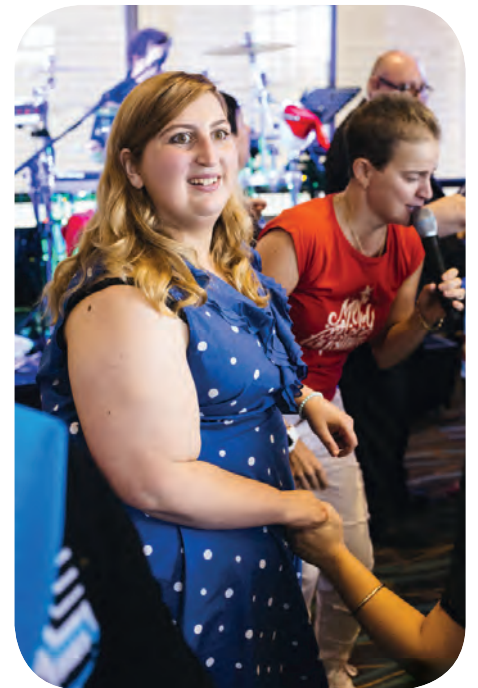


COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP (CBP) PROGRAM

We have been successful in our application for a grant from the Community Building Partnership (CBP) Program. The program demonstrates the NSW Government's commitment to improving local facilities. Our worthwhile project 'Community Connexions Arts Facility' will receive funding of \$60,000. The aim of the project is to further support the artistic aspirations of Sunnyhaven Clients by providing an accessible space that is dedicated to the arts. The Arts Facility will be built at our Community Participation Program Kogarah.

CLIENTS CHRISTMAS PARTY

The Clients Christmas Party was held on the 17th December 2015 at St George Rowers Club, the Clients enjoyed and danced to the live band "The Frocks". Santa presented the Christmas gifts to the Clients.



Community Connexions Program

ARTS + DISABILITY EXPO – CARRIAGEWORKS

Our Community Participation Program participated in the Arts + Disability Expo which was held from the 18 – 19 September 2015. The expo showcased 27 organisations within the NSW arts and disability sector, promoting their programs and services.



SUNNYHAVEN OPEN DAY

Sunnyhaven Open Day was held on the 26th August 2015, it was a very successful event, Clients and families had a wonderful time.

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

Sunnyhaven is proud to welcome the following new Clients to Community Participation this year:

- Gabriella Nappa
- Casey Hall
- James Forester
- Andrew Reid
- Philip Kapsimallis
- James Guerreiro
- Sheona Mcmillen

Sunnyhaven is also proud to welcome the following new Clients to Community Access Program this year:

- Helen Sapora
- Susan Ford
- Chris Hollaway



accommodation

PRINCES STREET

Chris Hollaway celebrated his birthday and the theme of his birthday was "Batman". Clients from Frederick St, Tavistock, Park and Leeder joined in to celebrate his birthday.



HEATH STREET

The Development Application has been approved for the 10 bed project at Heath St. it's a very exciting project for Sunnyhaven and construction will start soon.



accommodation

BOX ROAD

Alan, Valda and Helen will be getting a new house mate in a couple of weeks. Her name is Judith Howe's. Valda already knows Judith as they go to the same dancing group every second Saturday. Judith came to afternoon tea at Box Rd last Saturday and Judith mentioned that she was very happy with her new home. Sunnyhaven has totally renovated the en suite bathroom attached to her bedroom and it looks amazing. Judith's bedroom is being painted to give it the wow factor. Staff and Judith's housemates at Box Road are really looking forward to Judith moving in.



On the 20th October 2015 our dear client Leslie Donnelly passed away, she was much loved by all the Clients and staff at Sunnyhaven. Leslie's funeral was held on the 30th October 2015 at the West Chapel Woronora General Cemetery and Crematorium.



LEEDER AVENUE

The house went through major renovations, all four bathrooms were renovated and the interior and exterior of the house painted. The house has also been rendered.

TAVISTOCK RD

Dianne Hugh celebrated her 50th birthday at the St George Leagues club on the 17th February 2016 with other group homes.

BEACH STREET

A development application has been lodged with Rockdale City Council for renovations to the front area of the building to add a new reception area and to add a demountable on site for Community Participation as the program has seen amazing growth.

Therapy services

Our Early Childhood intervention service is building itself up slowly. We continue to focus on delivering evidence based practices to children with a developmental delay and support to the families. This service is delivered in the child's home, child care and school environment. We can also provide workshops to schools on topics relevant to early childhood intervention.

Our Psychologist has developed a Carer support group for all Sunnyhaven Carers for the opportunity to interact with individuals who are experiencing the same as them and an opportunity to relax. There will be group activities and workshops available in each session. The support group will take place every last Tuesday of each month from 10am-11.30am at our Sunnyhurst location.

NO MEANS NO

Some of our Clients attended 4 sessions of "No Means No" training conducted by Cerebral Palsy Alliance and were excited to receive a certificate of completion.



RESPITE

Respite now has a sail shade so the Clients are able to enjoy more time outside and in the pool as it covers half the pool and half the concrete area.

Respite held a BBQ for Australia Day where some of the group homes came along for a aussie bbq and swim.

Glenn's 60th Birthday was also held at Respite due to Park Street having renovations. Glenn's birthday was held at Respite on 27th Feb where he was happy to have Respite, Frederick St, Box Rd and Tavistock Rd celebrate his big day with him.

Respite is running at full capacity and in the last month, 3 new potential Clients have been shown through the house and are keen to come on board and join in the fun and activities that respite has to offer.



Other News

TAVISTOCK HOUSE HAS A NEW GUEST

Richard, Diane, Victor, Teresa and Ciara have been caring for Team Leader Michele's dog (Stackie) this month. Stackie was a rescue dog from the RSPCA and she has issues trusting people due to a history of abuse. But due to the kindness that the Tavistock Clients have shown Stackie, she is now much more relaxed and less anxious.

Richard, Diane, Victor, Ciara and Teresa love to carry Stackie around in a little bag, sit on the lounge for cuddles and feed her tuna (Stackie's favourite). This week they are planning to give Stackie a bath and a blow dry.

We are hoping that the Real Estate Agent will let us get our own dog for the house but at the moment they are happy to have Stackie as a new house guest.

Here is a picture of Victor and Richard when they took Stackie in to meet Victor's friends at Day Program.