

協能自生會

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DAPA February Activity Report

NDIS in Implementation

As NDIS is gradually rolling out to every part of Sydney and New South Wales, our Vincent Yu has been offering help to many families and parents: how NDIS plan can best benefit for each individual with any kind of disability. Many families have younger children relying on schools and service providers to place their names on the NDIA waiting list. However, some of them may have been left out, for some reason. Note: these families may have to give NDIA a call or to remind their school or service providers, to raise their child's name with the NDIA (especially if your previous services have been terminated).



Vincent demonstrated what a NDIS planner might ask and how each question should be answered. The key goal for a person with a disability may be to acquire independent living skills, so perhaps having special equipment or personal assistance is important. Vincent also suggested what a planner would be looking for that is reasonable and achievable goals, for each client for the individual plan.



Ready for the NDIS

Following our second audit, DAPA is now recognised in meeting the NSW Disability Service Standards.

The next step is to be registered with National Disability Insurance Agency so that we can then accept NDIS clients in our Day Program (see below).

This is a giant step for DAPA: enabling us to offer more young people with a disability a simulated job environment and to establish the possibility of independence. We will continuously develop the facilities and teaching materials for living skills training. Our participants start at DAPA and we grow their motivation to work in order to earn a living. They

become interested in our work. Gradually through the Strong Forever Program, they could progress to mainstream work places for employment.

Stronger Forever Program

DAPA continues to refine our program handbook regularly, so that our clients are better informed on what DAPA does.

The handbook lays out our rules, our activities and procedures with which we will operate. It also introduces some of our staff and our programs. With it, our mission, objectives and vision are clearly stated. It also includes how your comments and complaints can be lodged and actioned.

As our participants grow in number, we will add more support staff and volunteers.

Our newest trainer, Nabil, arrived in Australia as a refugee from Iraq. He has four lovely mature-aged children doing very well in university. Nabil is a qualified chemical engineer, but has relinquished his family business and home in Iraq. He now helps others to get out of war torn countries.



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(Welcome from Nabil)

Knowledge-Based Skill Programs

In our Stronger Forever Program, knowledge-based skill programs form part of our daily activity sessions. During these activities, peer interaction plays a very important role in the entire group. We are planning for other creative knowledge-based skill programs to be introduced, pending available funding arrangements.

Mathematics Skill

Some participants are learning how to count using games such as Mahjong cards, Computer maths program, simulated life experience at the shops, and challenging work (like budgeting and financial reports) where we engage invited experts to come to train our participants.

Recently we started a tough task to teach money matters to a participant. We use real money (and drawings) so that various coins can be recognized and added. As a goal, we intend to visit the shops to show how money is used to buy things.

Reading Skill

Newspaper reading sessions have been introduced and proved to be successful for especially when one Participant, whose reading skill was not strong. He learned to find out the price of a fridge from an advertisement. Now he enjoys reading without distraction.

An interesting story

Bowman has started to draw a series of sketches from one of the famous story books written in the Ming Dynasty. The "Water Margin", is one of the four great classical novels of Chinese literature. It describes a corrupt Song society which forced many heroic figures to collaborate as a gang against the authority in the Water Margin. Each of the 108 people had a long story telling how and why they went to the Water Margin.



The stories are varied and very detailed.

Bowman's imagination has been captured by the complex story, and this is demonstrated by his many beautiful sketches of the conquests.



Drama Class

We are lucky to have Mr. Larry Boyd coming to lead our drama class. The class will give us another performance opportunity. It also gives our participants some communication skills and a bit of brain work for stimulation. Larry is a well-known director and has been involved in many works in the Fusion Theatre, in Melbourne. We are looking forward to an exciting time for our participants.



Chinese Year of the Rooster

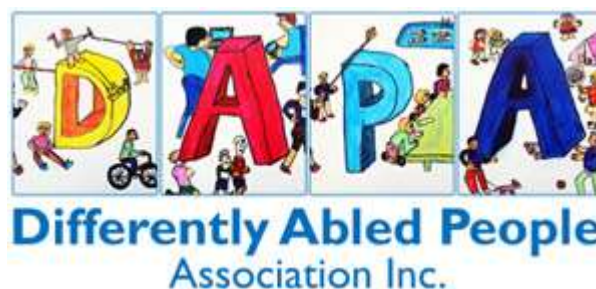


Ku-ring-gai Chase Fun Run

Please join our athletic group: **DAPA team** in the fun run to support Special Olympics by registering through www.kuringgaichase.com.au

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Differently Abled People Association (DAPA) is a not for profit charity organisation founded in Sydney in early 2013. It encourages and supports people with any disadvantage, with **special emphasis** on autism & intellectual disability, to follow their dreams and to live independently.

Stronger Forever Program

We **employ known psychological techniques** in a **normal living environment** for people with a disability to adapt and to enrich their lives in creating social and multicultural inclusion:

Employment : We **start** the morning **to train** their **fresh mind** to learn typing and to work as computer data entry tasks for **ManyMindsLink (Mobile App)**. We **will pay** them according to Supported Wage System when their productivity rate can be measured. Their work rate will be **revealed** at Monday progress meetings chaired by participants. **Positive Reinforcement technique** is frequently used to encourage participants to reach their weekly targets.

Recreational Programs - Having fun and socializing with friends is a major part of DAPA. We try to **embed the element** of recreation across all our programs in between working hours. In this way, we avoid Repetitive Strain effect and open up new interests. We encourage arts, music, dance, drama, internet research, sports and we support Special Olympics.

Life skills - We provide support and training to enable people with a disability to develop skills required to assist in living as independently as possible in a home of their choice:

- cooking and nutrition
- home maintenance and hygiene
- healthy lifestyles (swimming, gym **etc**)
- communication and social skills & development of social networks
- confidence building

Your Support : Please support our cause and vision with action to:

- Be a **Friend of DAPA**.
- Tell other people about this venture
- Download our MMLink App to get familiar which can help people cared by **DAPA**
- Be a **volunteer of DAPA**

Go to our website www.dap.asn.au or Scan our QR Code

