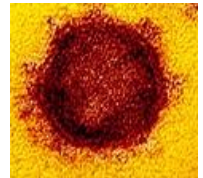


DAPA Sept-October (COVID-19 special) Newsletter

COVID-19 events:

COVID-19 Restrictions Eased.



The coronavirus was first identified in 1965 and later found various types of human coronavirus including the dangerous NL63 and HKU1. Its seriousness was realized in 2003 in Hong Kong. World Health Organization (WHO) found several Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome coronavirus like Sars-Cov, Sars-Cov-1 and Sars-Cov-2 existed in human and animals like bats etc. In December 2019, coronavirus emerged in China and spread to the rest of the world and declared pandemic by WHO on 11th March 2020. The only effective way is to enforce wearing mouth mask and practicing social distancing restrictions and border controls.

In NSW, the government has had regularly updated COVID-19 status and service information like current coronavirus testing sites and available services and restrictions are accessible at <https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19>. Please watch www.nsw.gov.au for latest news about coronavirus situations in New South Wales.

COVID-19 Procedures

DAPA has already started a lockdown environment since 24th March 2020 with three meetings at all levels of our staff, MC's and participants and notifications to their carers as follows:

1. Office disinfection procedures with hand wash
2. Keep a social distance with seating at 4m apart
3. Only pre-arranged visitors are allowed in the office
4. Participants should avoid public places and shopping centres
5. Extending office hours and preparation for supplying all meals to participants
6. Listing all necessary goods and food for group purchasing by our staff for all participants and staff
7. Some of our participants living in group accommodations will work remotely
8. Staff will be trained to work remotely through Microsoft Teams platform.
9. No more than 5 persons in a room

DAPA COVID-19 Activities

Data Entry work and day services continues to help participants staying away from infections.

Since March 2020, we implemented the procedures On the left and followed strictly.

DAPA has now been allowing some participants to travel on public transport to work in our offices.

DAPA Post COVID Plan

Data Entry work and day services continues to help participants staying away from infections.

Since March 2020, we implemented the procedures on the top and followed strictly. Although restrictions would be relaxed by the government gradually according to the infectious situations, yet we have already started a post COVID plan since June.

Up to date, DAPA has recruited 10 trainee support workers to assist the need when COVID-19 restrictions will be lifted. We will continue recruit more trainees in the new year.

NDIS–Where DAPA can help

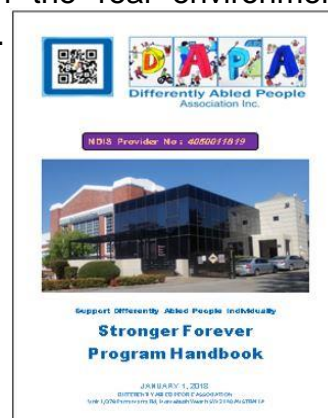
DAPA, through our *Stronger Forever Program*, is a registered provider of NDIS funded supports. We provide day care and training in all aspects of independent living skills. We have stressed the importance of care workers having empathy to assist our members in enabling them to develop employment skills in IT areas as part of their involvement in our program.

By working in a commercial office but in an inclusive environment, participants are gradually grasping what work and productivity really mean and how to adapt to work in a regular real office slowly. For example one participant may find others are a bit too noisy for him without being told that his own loud music in his ear phone being too noisy as well. He has gradually learned to work quietly and has got used to the noise around him too. This will prepare them to get meaningful employment in the future like some of our ex-participants. There are a lot of behaviour problems that we have contracted specialists to visit us as often as once a week to help our participants.

We are continuing to develop courses and utilities for support services. We found that learning is easier when the participants have been put in the real environment particularly in the area of speech and relationship improvement.

Stronger Forever Program

DAPA has upgraded the *Stronger Forever Program Handbook* to be in line with NDIS service delivery. It now shows all the services we can provide under different Categories, such as Core Support, Capacity Building Support and Transportation.



DAPA will now restructure to provide a special Inclusive workplace MMLink enterprise to begin working with **Sunnyfield Differently Abled Team** marketing to develop an open employment process for people with intellectual disability in the future. We are now getting Federal Government's Boosting Local Care Worker program funding to assist our strategy planning for that purpose.

MMLink Program + new LogBook App

DAPA has developed an App so that entry to our doors can be logged by a single touch on an iPad at the door. Person can then be traced if he has left the premise without signing off when he also downloads our MMLink App. It can also be used to record a user the time taken and mileage travelled to transport someone to and from work.

A new accessible budgeting program is being added to the MMLink App for people with intellectual disabilities.

Living Skills Training continues with Social Distance

Our Inclusive Workshop & Day Service Timetable

Differently Abled People Association / Many Minds Link Weekly Timetable

WEEK PERIOD:					
DAY/TIME	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
9:00AM	WORKSHOP OPEN Sign In Rowbook and Check necessary person care tasks (hygiene etc)	WORKSHOP OPEN Sign In Rowbook and Check necessary person care tasks (hygiene etc)	WORKSHOP OPEN Sign In Rowbook and Check necessary person care tasks (hygiene etc)	WORKSHOP OPEN Sign In Rowbook and Check necessary person care tasks (hygiene etc)	WORKSHOP OPEN Sign In Rowbook and Check necessary person care tasks (hygiene etc)
9:30AM	tidy desk and start computer and data entry skills	tidy desk and start computer and data entry skills	tidy desk and start computer and data entry skills	tidy desk and start computer and data entry skills	tidy desk and start computer and data entry skills
11:00AM	Weekly Meeting Everyone	Living Skill Start Music session	Living Skill Start	Living Skill Start Arts or sometimes require full day arts	Living Skill Start
11:30AM	Discussion/Meeting Cont'd		Cooking		Painting
12:00PM	LUNCH TIME	LUNCH TIME	LUNCH TIME	LUNCH TIME	LUNCH TIME
12:30PM	Newspaper Reading	Music session	WORK FOR LIFE Cleaning Kitchen	WORK FOR LIFE Arts	Free Activity, movies, maths & English work
1:00PM	Cleaning	Work Cont'd	Work Cont'd	Work Cont'd	
2:00PM	Departure Preparation ' Cleaning Desk	Departure Preparation ' Cleaning Desk	Departure Preparation ' Cleaning Desk	Departure Preparation ' Cleaning Desk	Departure Preparation ' Cleaning Desk
2:30PM					
3:00PM	WORKSHOP CLOSED	WORKSHOP CLOSED	WORKSHOP CLOSED	WORKSHOP CLOSED	WORKSHOP CLOSED

Living Skills:

COVID-19 Safe

On Monday mornings, Hong showed participants how to make Hygiene cleaning to be COVID-19 safety as she wiped and moped everywhere where people could possibly touched. The coronavirus was proved to live for days in the open.



Reading + Phonetic Spelling

KM has English problems that Jennifer has to show him how a sound is made by joining letters. She also breaks a sentences into groups, so reading becomes easier to understand. JR talks well but he has some phobia in spelling and writing. Jennifer uses more encouraging words so he understands phonetic spelling to get over the fear and to gain confidence.



Jennifer has used her letter cards and books that she helped Many people to improve in reading and talking.



JR Cooked Chilli Con Carne

One day, JR demonstrated how he cooked Chilli Con Carne for his family at home. To suit for most other people in DAPA, he used less spice. He was quite skilful and a good family man style with a little help from Jennifer and Hong.

Our new volunteer David enjoyed his dish.



JR decorated DC's Birthday Cake.

On DC's birthday, our talented JR did the cake decoration beautifully. The cake was baked professionally by Hong.

Everyone enjoyed the party, especially DC.

David also gave JR a present.



Mid-Autumn Festival Gift

Mrs. Li generously donated a big box of lovely Moon Cake



Every day we enjoyed a bit during morning tea time for nearly two weeks.

Thanks so much Mrs. Li.

Participation in the Community:

Chatswood Office Open Day.

We are currently planning an Open Day for our Sunnyfield Differently Abled Team on 27th November from 12 noon to 4pm in our Chatswood office. We will also celebrate this year dewali festival at the same time.

For details, watch our flyer in circulation.

Special Olympics Fun Run Being Called Off.

Due to COVID-19 restriction uncertainty, this year's fun run has finally been called off. DAPA is designing to have virtual fun run on MMLink App to raise fund for future runs.