

# HOMEPLACE

## NEWSLETTER

Spring 2023



International Day of People with Disability aims to increase public awareness, understanding and inclusion of people with disability. Earlier this year, I had the pleasure of watching one of the 11 official national ambassadors compete in the Virtus Global Games for elite athletes with an intellectual impairment – South Australia’s Hugo Taheny.

Hugo Taheny is an elite athlete living with Down syndrome. He’s the current

world-record holder for shot put, discus and the 4x100m relay in the Virtus Global Games and International Athletics Association for Persons with Down Syndrome.

Hugo also lives with intellectual, vision and hearing impairments. It was exciting to see Hugo, and people with disability, being recognised again with Hugo being nominated as a finalist for the Young South Australian of the Year.



# Participant Highlights

Recognising the contribution that people with disability bring to society is at the heart of HomePlace's purpose:

## Purpose

To support independence and inspire confidence in people with disability to live engaged and meaningful lives that communities value.

Over the Christmas and New Year festive period, may each of you savour times experiencing the richness of the diversity that we all bring to our communities.

## Julie Bowman Chief Executive



This newsletter, we have captured a number of the people we support "out and about" in their communities, and also relishing time at home with neighbours and friends.

Our centre pages contain a display of photos taken at our AGM on 20th October 2023 – a great night at the Junction Community centre, placing a spotlight on the achievements of the people we support at HomePlace during 2022-23; and photos from our Christmas party on 24th November 2023.



## Jackie and Kobi

Enjoying their neighbourhood park.

## Tina

At the Disability Expo.





**Carolyn and Heather**

At West Beach.



**Carolyn, Sue and Cris**

Enjoying catching up with friends and families at the Williams' Syndrome weekend.



**Wayne**

Exploring his creative abilities and creating a new album cover.

**David**  
Invited his neighbours around to join him for his birthday party.



**Gavin and Julie**  
Joined 16,000 people in September in completing the City to Bay Fun Run. Congratulations Gavin on achieving your Personal Best, and to Julie for making the distance!



# Connecting and learning from one another

## CONFERENCES 2024

Please save the dates:

### Our Voice SA Conference; Our Voice Our Stories



Friday 2nd February 2024



The Hilton Adelaide



**Contact:**  
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alisonv@purpleorange.org.au



South Australian Council on Intellectual Disability  
**Leading through inclusion**  
Conference 2022

The Conference gives people with intellectual disability and their families the chance to:



Be Seen.

Be Heard.



Be Understood.

SACID will be hosting the 2024 Leading Through Inclusion Conference on Thursday 6th and Friday 7th June 2024 at the Hilton Hotel, Victoria Square, Adelaide.

**For more information, please contact:**  
admin@sacid.org.au



**Continuing our learning so that the support we provide participants keeps on getting better, one day at a time.**

In October, we held three oneHomePlace sessions with the aims being:

- For staff to meet one another, connect and share ideas about how their support of participants can grow.
- To provide an update on HomePlace and our plans ahead.
- To have some refresher training on incident reporting and documentation in MYP.
- Discussing how we can make sure participant and staff information stays safe through using multi-factor authentication and oneDrive.
- Remind everyone about COVID-19 boosters and care in protecting people from infections.



# Annual General Meeting

2023

On Friday, 20th October, HomePlace held its Annual General Meeting for 2023 at the Junction Community Centre. We heard Julie Bowman, Chief Executive, speaking about participant achievements through the year and we saw many staff being awarded for their excellent service. The Chairman of the Board, Braden Naylor, gave us a summary of the year's progress, and Treasurer, Tony Jacka, gave us an account of the year's financials. Patron of HomePlace, Richard Bruggemann handed out the staff awards to those who had gone above and beyond in their work and in "living" the HomePlace values.





Lots of happy smiles and conversations at our AGM this year.



# Celebrating our staff

We would like to congratulate and highlight the 66 staff who were nominated in the recent HomePlace staff awards:

## Staff Award Nominees

Michelle Michels  
John LaTorre  
Gemma Groombridge  
Dannielle Sanderson  
Judy Mbuteti  
Rachel Anesbury  
Ben Puddicombe  
Susan Keddeh  
Sue Laurencis  
Vick Singh Basra  
Cris Bucater  
Vicky Jain  
Harpreet Kaur  
Kaitlyn Shire  
Ashleigh Dennis  
Mario Van Antwerpen  
Shantelle Heffernan

Julie Bowman  
Anna Dashti  
Promise Okoli  
Wei Sun  
Lena Winstanley  
Preet Kochhar  
Soni Brar  
Fernanda Hannam  
Jinny Wagner  
Megan Starr  
Jacqui Kiama  
Parag Patel  
Marko Antunovic  
Glenn Stanton  
Melissa Allman  
Tracy Lomman  
Binay Homogain

Wally Elliot  
John Jacobs  
Rhianna Beenham  
Joanna Schmidt  
Kayla Tulloch  
Tony Palombi  
Lisa Jenkins  
Ruth Ngatia  
Utsab Khadka  
Elizabeth Ellis  
Kyle Laing  
Tantawon Joy  
Erin Devisser  
Florence Muthoni  
Tila Rimal  
Lucy Kariuki  
Unnati Patel

Ruby Katana  
Debra Haythorpe  
Maureen Johnson  
Caroline Muthike  
Mitul Desai  
Zawadi Muke  
Bismark Adu-Manu  
Samuel Chappell  
Japeth Mboya  
Zaid Qasimi  
Oakley Rohde  
Maria Kumakauw  
Grace Tamba  
Melissa Mabarrack  
Chloe Gibbs



### HomePlace Values awards

#### Respect

Winner: Fernanda Hannam  
Runner up: John Jacobs

#### Safety

Winner: Marco Antunovic  
Runner up: Tracy Lomman

#### Trust

Winner: Di and Nicky's team  
Runner up: Rachel Anesbury

#### Partnership

Co-winners: Rachel Anesbury and Lisa Jenkins



### HomePlace Way award

#### Winner:

**Marco Antunovic**

#### Runner up:

**Fernanda Hannam**

Thank you to all HomePlace staff for your continuing efforts to provide the best person-centred support possible, every day.

# HomePlace 2023 Christmas Party



## Farewell to Board Member, Mike Lowe

After over seven years on the Board of HomePlace, Mike Lowe has decided it is time for someone to take his place. Thank you to Mike for his leadership, focus on participants and their supports, and for educating the leadership team on all things risk management.





On Friday 24th November, the HomePlace community gathered at the Thebarton Community Centre to celebrate a good year, amidst delicious food, great company, and wonderful entertainment by singer Linda McCarthy. It was so great to have everyone dancing and enjoying the vibe of Christmas. Merry Christmas, everyone, and very best wishes for 2024.



# HomePlace has 4 goals

These are the HomePlace Goals:

## Strategic Goal 1 Quality at Core



This means that HomePlace will provide the best care and support for people with disability.

## Strategic Goal 2 Growing the 'HomePlace Community' and supports



This means HomePlace will look for ways we can provide excellent support for more people with disability.

## Strategic Goal 3 Partnerships & Collaborations



This means HomePlace will look for other organisations who think the same way we do. We will work together with them.

## Strategic Goal 4 Thriving over the long term



This means that HomePlace will keep supporting people with disabilities for a long time.

# The Place I Call Home



Respect



Trust



Safety



Partnership



19-21 Belmore Terrace,  
Woodville SA 5011  
9am-5pm Monday - Friday

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