

HOMEPLACE

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2024



Sunflower

I recently picked up a family member from the Adelaide airport and was delighted to see on large signs, the Airport's support for the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower.

What is the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower?

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower is a picture that represents that a person may live with a disability that may

not be easily seen by others. Just because you can't see it, doesn't mean it is not there.

1 in 7 of us live with a disability. That is approximately 1.3 billion people in the world.

Some of us have a combination of both visible and non-visible conditions that make accessing the community tricky. Disabilities can be

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temporary or permanent. People may need support in their:

- Learning
- Remembering
- Movement
- Sight
- Hearing
- Communication
- Managing of emotions
- Managing of health conditions such as arthritis, diabetes, chronic pain and sleep disorders.

Some people want to make the invisible visible

Some people living with disability choose to wear the sunflower so that people in the community, in shops, at work, on transport, or in public spaces, can recognise that they may need some help.

If you would like to get a Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Lanyard or find out more information, please go to: www.hdsunflower.com/au/shop.html

Participant talents and new roles

Highlights of the achievements of the people we support in recent months include:

- Kane exploring far and wide – taking the train to Glenelg, as well as enjoying local parks in his community.



- Julie C – visiting community centres and her local library to explore attending group activities.
- Emily W preparing to move into her new home. We wish Emily all the best in her new venture.



- David 'kicking back' and enjoying life.



- Kylie and Jodie have been in 'home-making' mode, having moved in to their new house.
- Justine has been travel-planning again, hoping to go to Europe later this year. She is keeping fit with doing some hikes, and continues to hone her carpentry skills by making an island bench for her kitchen.
- Tina's safety and independence in mobility has been greatly helped by her using her new walker.
- George has recommitted to his health and fitness program and is making great progress in ordering and decluttering his home.
- Craig B was supported to advocate for himself directly with the NDIA, lodging a complaint in person about how long it was

taking the NDIA to include his need for a new wheelchair in his NDIS plan. Go Craig!

- A number of participants have had birthday celebrations – Gaby, Oliver, Kobi, Megan to name a few, and Jackie held a special Mother's Day celebration for her mum.



- The Dream ride was enjoyed by both Wayne and Carolyn, with each getting to ride in their 'dream' cars – Wayne a red Porsche, and Carolyn – a convertible Pontiac.



- Please check out 8-ball athlete, Banjobe in action on page 11.

HomePlace Disco Party #2 – wear your favourite sporting team jumper on 19 July!

Celebrating the HomePlace community is always high on our yearly calendar. The Pizza Disco party in March was a huge success – with many photos, videos and positive comments shared by all. See pages 7-9 for photos from the night.

So successful was the disco, that the participants who are members of HomePlace's Peer Network group voted that another disco pizza party should be the next HomePlace participant event – with a request that people wear their favourite sport team's jumper or colours.

We look forward to seeing a selection of jumpers/tops of the Crows, Power, Adelaide United, Matildas, Adelaide 36ers, Cricket team, Dolphins, Hockeyroos, Socceroos etc. at the Disco Pizza Party #2 on 19 July – see page 15 for the party invitation!



HomePlace Peer Network group

Seven HomePlace participants are members of this group. They meet monthly, and I try to make it to at least part of every meeting. The group provides many ideas, improvement suggestions and requests to me as to how HomePlace can be better.

The meeting times are also opportunities for the group to learn more about how they can advocate for themselves, and the rights of other people living with disability.

The meetings are expertly facilitated by staff of Our Voice SA. They recently prepared and sent a letter to the NDIA and Bill Shorten highlighting their frustrations with the NDIS. We look forward to the NDIA's and Minister Shorten's response.

If you would like to join the group, please let your Senior Coordinator know.



HomePlace's Peer Network group: Debbie, Val, Jane and Craig, with facilitators Ali and Tristan from Our Voice.

Absent: Tina, Nicky and Di

HomePlace Listens & Citizenship Project

A big thank you again to those participants, family members, Board members and staff who contributed to this project, led by the team at Purple Orange. The project started in September 2023, and we received the results in March 2024. Key things the Purple Orange team found were:

- “The HomePlace Way is alive and well”.
- HomePlace staff genuinely and consistently know the participants they support really well, and show a caring, nurturing, participant-focussed way in their support.
- We can do more in supporting participants to build friendships, relationships and connections in their community, so that they feel that they genuinely belong.
- The Purple Orange team encouraged us to develop further with participants stronger, more and different roles for them to have at home, in their family networks and in their communities.
- To have participants share their stories in newsletters, our annual report, on our website - the good experiences and the not-so-good – rather than HomePlace communicating them on their behalf.
- There would be benefits to many participants if we expand our approach in person-centred active support, to also include trauma-informed practice.

These findings and other opportunities highlighted by the Purple Orange team are being included in our Improvement Plans for 2024-2025.

Staff Awards

Nominations are now being received for our annual staff awards, please see page 12 for more details.

If one or more of your staff team consistently do great work, please let us know by email:

staffawards@homeplace.com.au

by 1 September 2024.

Finally, as the days get shorter, leaves fall from trees, and the temperatures get colder, stay warm everyone!



Julie Bowman
Chief Executive



Disco Party!







Banjobe's an 8-Ball pro

Banjobe plays 8-Ball with his friends at the Southern 8Ball Sports and Social Club, and plays in the 8-Ball competition every week with his teammates. Go Banjobe!



Staff Awards

In addition to the participants we support, our staff are central to everything we do at HomePlace. Every year, we recognise staff who consistently work at a really high standard. We need your help to do this.

There are five (5) HomePlace awards. Please nominate a staff member for an award if they consistently impress you with their work. Please tell us why you think they should win an award.

The five award categories are:

- 1. Respect:** For a staff member who takes the time to really understand and know the unique things that make a person the individual they are.
- 2. Safety:** For a staff member who makes sure people with disability are made to feel safe.
- 3. Trust:** For a staff member who consistently demonstrates reliability, honesty and “does what

they say they are going to do” in their work.

- 4. Partnership:** For a staff member who works really well with others to achieve goals.

- 5. The HomePlace Way** award – is the top award and will be awarded to a member of the Support services’ staff team only. It will only be awarded when exceptional support in the HomePlace Way has been shown. The HomePlace Way is support which is:

- “Participant-first” focused
- Provided with kindness, a genuine sense of caring
- Dedicated to enabling participants to lead a life that they feel is right for them
- Reflects HomePlace values of Respect, Trust, Safety, Partnership and building



great relationships with participants, supporting them to connect to and belong in their communities

- Shows a strong commitment to continuous improvement – support that is always striving to take the standard of support 'to the next level', and
- Aims to create or strengthen roles that people with disability can undertake and contribute to our society.

You are invited to nominate one or more staff for one of the awards mentioned above.

Please tell us what the staff member has done to make you think they should win the award.

Please send via email to staffawards@homeplace.com.au by 1 September 2024.

New Staff

Welcome to the following staff who have joined the HomePlace team in the recent weeks!



Support Workers

Milena Rey
Debra Tobin
Johnnie Naser
Michael Mwangi
Madabah Sheriff

Office Manager

Bronwyn Robertson

News just in!

HomePlace recognised by NDIS auditors

We underwent our three (3) year NDIS audit during May. The auditors have recognised the quality of how we work, standard of support and commitment to placing participants first, with five (5) commendations for best practice. This is a massive achievement and every HomePlace participant and staff member needs to be congratulated. THANK YOU EVERYONE!



HomePlace

LIFESTYLE SUPPORT
FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH A DISABILITY



PIZZA DISCO PARTY



Come wearing your favourite
sporting team's colours or jumper!



Findon Community Centre
222 Findon Road, Findon
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Friday,
July 19
2024

RSVP by 26th of June 2024 to admin@homeplace.com.au

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,
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9am-5pm Monday - Friday

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