



Directions

Disability Support Services

MEMBERS' NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2018

Directions now has 200 members! We look forward to seeing you all at our Annual General Meeting get-together on Thursday 25 October 2018 at 5pm, "in the car park" of our office. The car park will be transformed with gazebos, fairy lights and a stage! On stage will be a performance of a play, and we will have some delicious food and drinks catered and served by the people we support.

CLAREMONT TIGERS LIFE SKILLS GROUP



It's been nearly a year since the Claremont Tigers school leaver group began and the progress these young adults have made is nothing short of incredible!! The group has gained new members, built relationships with the local council providing coffee deliveries, developed their recipe repertoire and cooked for family and friends of the group in the Claremont MasterChef event!



Claremont Tigers footy players have run workshops, there have been a range of trips from Fremantle to the Zoo, as well as the group being nominated for the WA Disability Awards.

It's been a huge year for the Tigers group, and only time will tell what amazing achievements they make in the future!



COMMONWEALTH BANK GRANT



The Commonwealth Bank Centenary of Giving provides 1000 community organisations across Australia with a \$10,000 grant. This is possible by Commbank employees taking a small percentage from their salary and putting that money towards a grant.

The Maddington Branch chose Directions to be the recipient, recognising our immense contributions to our people and community ☺ We feel very fortunate! The branch manager Vanessa Walker presented the \$10,000 cheque to Sam Linnegar who receives Speech Pathology and Occupational Therapy from Directions.

CHANGE OF CEO

For the past 3 years Directions had the pleasure of having Elizabeth Barnes serve as our CEO, and what a wonderful 3 years it has been! As a collective, Directions would like to celebrate and commend Elizabeth on everything she achieved during her time with us and we will forever be grateful for her strong leadership. The Board has announced the appointment of our new CEO, Alison Kelly, who will join us on the 5th of November. In this interim period, Ryan Kim is the acting CEO with the support of the Board and Senior staff.

BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS THAT MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

ROTARY SPONSORSHIP

Representatives of the Rotary Club of Southern Districts, Andy Hopper and Michelle Kerr, came to meet with Directions to find out what we do, and how they might be able to work with us. They were very impressed with all of our Group Programs, particularly the monthly Kenwick Social Disco, held at the Kenwick Community Centre the first Friday of every month. So much so that they have decided to sponsor us annually \$400 towards the drinks of the Kenwick Social! We are very appreciative!

Rotary Club of Southern Districts raise their funds through the Maddington Bring & Buy Second-hand Markets held every Sunday in the Maddington Central carpark off Burslem Drive. Please go along on a Sunday morning, maybe pick up a treasure and support our local Rotary!



VISICASE

We have been extremely busy in the office (more than usual that is ☺) with the implementation of a new in house management system called Visicase, which is now up and running! It is a care management solution that is NDIS ready and will significantly improve our operational efficiency with positive impacts for our office coordination team but more so, our support workers. The new system is simpler and more streamlined, enabling all admin and paperwork to be completed with ease!

JOY MARTIN STORY

Joy Martin was a long standing board member with Directions who was person-centred, creative, and always approached problems with a positive attitude and innovative ideas. Joy passed away in 2009 and we commemorate her connection with Directions by sharing stories about staff who demonstrate these qualities.



We are pleased to acknowledge our Support Worker **Nigel Morrison**:

Kane Bradshaw and his mum Julie are new to Directions. Kane is a young man who is extremely interested in gaming. Julie was looking for someone to work with Kane to get him involved in more than just games. Kane was matched with Nigel.

Nigel is also new to Directions. He comes to us with a strong background in youth work, and a keen interest in gaming. Initially, Kane was unsure and hesitant about having supports, even cutting his first support short. Since then, Kane has opened up and become more confident and capable. Nigel reports that whilst Kane still spends a lot of time playing games (much to his mum's irritation) they are working on getting out more, looking for work and getting his driving license. Nigel says that working with Kane is great. "We are always talking about games, movies, games, jobs, games, life skills and games".

Julie says that Kane loves Nigel. Julie is thrilled with all that Nigel does to encourage Kane to do and achieve. Julie also says that she loves Directions. We listen to what she needs, we are flexible and helpful and she loves us.

SAVE THE DATE

Our Directions 2018 Christmas Party will be held on Friday 14th December, 5-7pm at the Maddington Community Centre. It is sure to be a fun filled evening including a disco, sausage sizzle and raffle. We hope to see you all there! Invites and further information will be sent out in the coming weeks so keep your eyes peeled. ☺ ☺