

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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QUICK LINKS

Click & Connect Wed
19/10/22

Share & Connect Thu
10/11/22

Lets Connect Fri
14/10/22 Pakenham

Lets Connect Mon
17/10/22 Geelong



Events - Let's Connect Pakenham & Geelong

EVENT: LET'S CONNECT PAKENHAM REGISTER: [HERE](#) by trybooking link

DATE: Friday 14th October 11am - 2pm with hosts Bruce and Ray

LOCATION: Living and Learning Centre, 6B Henry Street, Pakenham



EVENT: LET'S CONNECT GEELONG REGISTER: [HERE](#) by trybooking link

DATE: Monday 17 October 11am-2pm with host Virginia

LOCATION: Geelong library and heritage centre, 51 Malop Street Geelong



TOPIC: Getting together to connect with others with lived experience is important, so lets gather face to face and share tips and advice and/or seek out some specialist advice from one of our PCA Advisors and the group. A PCA Advisor will be available for members to meet with individually and will run the group session.

AGENDA:

11.00-12.00 - Informal catchup with PCA Families Hosts (see staff bio's [here](#)).

12.00 - 1.00 - Facilitated discussion by PCA Families Hosts with an opportunity to share the joys, challenges and new ideas, and to have some fun too. Refreshments served.

1.00 - 2.00 - Informal catchup with other parents and carers. PCA Families Hosts will also be available for short consultations at this time.

We will be open and flexible to discuss whatever you wish on the day or you can contact us ahead of time to let us know what you would like to know more about.

Please register your interest in attending via the trybooking links above.



Youtube - Start school selection early so that your school is trauma ready!

LIVED EXPERIENCE PARENTING CHANNEL



Chrissie has had experience with navigating the school system due to trauma behaviours showing up unexpectedly. The beautiful child led systems in kinder and pre school were different to the teacher led expectations in school, and suddenly trauma behaviours showed up. Chrissie spent a year trying to work with the school on these trauma behaviours until she eventually decided to move everything to a location that would suit the families needs for the long term. That included finding a trauma sensitive school where teachers are Berry Street trained and behaviour is managed in a trauma sensitive way, embracing concepts like time in, calm spaces and sensory items. What happened? It was a great success. From daily worries about behaviours to not one phone call all term to report on unwanted behaviour in the classroom. A transformation indeed. What changed? Not her son. The environment changed. So getting it right is invaluable. And what does her son think? He says the teachers support him. That's how every child should feel. Find out more about how to navigate schools and how to advocate for your child from Chrissie. She has some great tips.

Access the Youtube recording or the transcript notes [here](#).

"Improving the lived experience of young people"

Events - Share & Connect (Journal Club)



TOPIC: NDIS DIAGNOSABLE DISABILITIES: COMMUNICATING DISABILITY RELATED NEEDS AS DISTINGUISHED FROM PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

DATE: Thursday 10 November at 8.00pm

(Note, this meeting is a different timing to the usual first Thursday of the month)

TOPIC: Bobbi Cook is a kinship carer and behaviour specialist who has lived the highs and lows of caring for those with a trauma history. She has shared many of her wisdoms with PCA Families in our Youtube recordings and we hope to hear more insights from her about how to succeed with obtaining NDIS support. Bobbi says "But I would say 80% of kids in permanent care yes would have a diagnosable disability that is NDIS eligible. If you present your case in a way that shows the disability to the NDIS you do actually qualify for that level of funding... talk about how you actually communicate effectively with the NDIS to actually show the gap between reasonable parental responsibility and disability related needs."

So bring your questions and lets learn from someone with lived experience.

REGISTER: [here](#) via Zoom Link



Events - Click & Connect

TOPIC: SUPPORTS: WHAT WORKS?



DATE: Wednesday 19 October 12:00 midday until 1:00pm with hosts Liz & Sonia

TOPIC: In this meeting we will review and discuss support and what it looks like for you. What do you think the best support you ever had was? What sort of support do you need? What else do you need support with? There are so many types of supports - employment, education, social, financial, respite, childcare, transport, cleaning, advice and more. But what really makes a difference to you and your family? With the collective wisdom in the room lets reflect and see what we can learn from each other!

HOMEWORK: Bring your own list of supports that have worked to share with the group and learn from each other.

REGISTER: [here](#) via Zoom Link

News - Wellbeing in Victoria

Are you interested in helping shape wellbeing in Victoria? If so, the Victorian Government is consulting until 25 November with community surveys and workshops. There are a range of factors that affect every community and we well know mental health and access to services is an important need in our community.

Find out how to get more involved [here](#).



News - THRIVARY Early Intervention

Have you heard about THRIVARY? THRIVARY is an app that connects parents, carers and early childhood practitioners to guidance, information and learning, including early intervention for 0-8 years. With a particular emphasis on disability and developmental delays, the resources offer support to assist with day to day environments. Try it [here](#).



"Delivering trauma-informed services that empower"

News - Parrots for Purpose

Have you heard about Parrots for Purpose?

Parrots for Purpose provides sufferers of PTSD, anxiety and depression a companion to grow, share and travel through life in the form of a trained parrot.

Selectively choosing their breeding birds, they remove two in three chicks at fourteen days old and hand raise them, introducing them to basic training.

Once they are trained and independent they look to set them up with a new home, usually 3 months out from acceptance on the waiting list.

Changing the world one parrot at a time so that no one has to feel alone!

Find out more [here](#).



Survey - Members Survey

To ensure that we continue to improve our services we would like to invite you to complete a short (5 minute, 5 question) online survey.

Access the survey [here](#).

The survey is anonymous and will remain open until the 17th October. Results will be shared in future Communications.

SURVEY

Board - AGM

PCA Families Annual General Meeting will be held at 4.30pm on 2 November 2022. Join in person (President Room, Rendezvous Hotel, 328 Flinders Street, Melbourne) or online. Register via trybooking [here](#)



DFFH Flexible Funding

If your child or young person is on a Permanent Care Order or you receive the DFFH Care Allowance and they have a Family Court Order or Adoption Order, they are entitled to DFFH Flexible Funding to meet the costs of goods and services they need not covered by the care allowance, or another funding source (eg Medicare, NDIS). Flexible funds can be used for therapeutic, educational or medical services, build skills interest or attachments, support birth family contact and cultural identity, respite, medication, vehicle modifications. For more details on what the funds can be used for see [here](#). Claims should be more than \$100 per invoice and generally paid by PCA Families directly to the supplier. To ensure funds are distributed fairly and equitably and are appropriate and safe for your child, we ask for supporting documentation that services are trauma informed and that both goods and services are recommended by a professional who knows your child or young person.

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