One Endeavour

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ENDEAVOUR FOUNDATION

Opportunities for people with a disability

CAPRAS KICKING GOALS

Photo Chris Ison / News Corp

THE CENTRAL QUEENSLAND CAPRAS HAVE DISCOVERED EVEN MORE UNTAPPED POTENTIAL WITHIN THEIR RANKS, AFTER A NUMBER OF PLAYERS JOINED OUR ROCKHAMPTON STAFF AS SUPPORT WORKERS.

Marie Houlahan, Acting Service Development and Innovation Manager, said that the Capras have a lot to offer the community.

"We know that working with us gives the guys fulfilling and flexible employment, and our only concern is having a team that's professional, enthusiastic, and committed to providing high quality support to people with a disability.

"We've been absolutely blown away by the Capras. Every one of the players currently employed, and those going through training and induction, not only has relevant community services experience, but has demonstrated a real affinity for the role and connection with the people we support.

"We have a lot of younger people who need support and, particularly where there are behavioural challenges, the players have really managed to relate to them.

"Being able to connect the people we support with staff who are compatible with them, in terms of age, personality, interests and the like, means they're able to build really strong, respectful relationships."

For Joanne Strange, the addition of the Capras players to Endeavour Foundation's ranks has meant new opportunities for her son Lochie. As Lochie has grown, his size has proven a challenge for Joanne.

"I can't take him out by myself. He's too big. He's got away from me once and I decided then that he's too strong for me – I can't hold him. So we don't go out unless we have carers with us."

"Being able to connect the people we support with staff who are compatible with them, in terms of age, personality, interests and the like, means they're able to build really strong, respectful relationships."

Lochie with support workers John and Junior (top), and mum Joanne (bottom)

However when the idea was first raised that the Capras players provide support for Lochie, Joanne admits to being a bit hesitant.

"All those big burly rugby players! But they're all sweet as, and Lochie's got every one of them under his thumb. They're very good boys. They talk to me and I get to know them as well. Lochie is also a very good judge and it's been great with all the boys. He loves them."

Joanne said that she and Lochie attended a Capras game recently and she didn't have to worry at all. In fact, she could sit back and enjoy the day.

"If someone had told me 18 months ago that I would be able to take him to the game, I would have probably laughed. I wouldn't have been able to trust anyone to take him out in public. That was unheard of back then.

"He can be like a normal kid with them. Run around, play football, and he had a ball. I was so happy watching him...rolling around on the ground, running, it was a joy to see. It really was.

"When you think about it, what normal 16 year old boy wouldn't want to hang out with the Capras all the time?"

THE ART OF INCLUSION

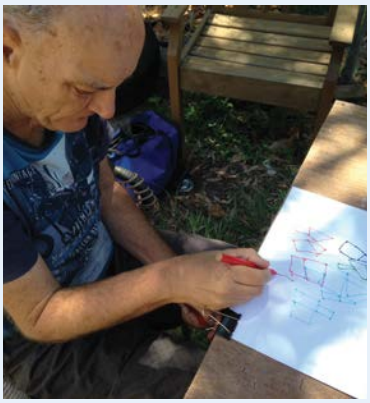
THE SUNSHINE COAST COMMUNITY HAS ANSWERED A CALL FROM ENDEAVOUR FOUNDATION'S NAMBOUR DAY SERVICE TO HELP CREATE A TRULY INCLUSIVE ART PROGRAM.

Funded through a grant from Sunshine Coast Council, and supported by the fabulous team at Coolum HeARTs, the program aims to develop artistic skills in tandem with lasting social relationships for people with and without a disability.

Sally Bowling, support worker with Endeavour Foundation, described it as "an opportunity for everyone to grow".

"There are so many people who would relish the opportunity to make new friends and develop new interests, and all while enabling a whole new level of community engagement for people with a disability. Even the local Men's Shed has been involved – producing easels for everyone to use."

Brian Williams is just one of the program's participants. "I enjoy learning about painting and meeting other artists. I enjoy the atmosphere and having a good chat with everyone."



Brandon Cheng (left) with Katie Temple (right)

TIME TO GIVE DISABILITY A VOICE

PROJECT OPEN DOORS, A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN ENDEAVOUR FOUNDATION, GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY AND A RANGE OF AGENCIES FROM ACROSS THE DISABILITY SECTOR, HAS LAUNCHED A CAMPAIGN TO EDUCATE STUDENT JOURNALISTS ABOUT THE NEED FOR POSITIVE MEDIA REPORTING AROUND PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY.

Supported employee Brandon Cheng was one of several Endeavour Foundation representatives at an event marking the occasion.

"Disability needs to be involved in media. People with disabilities should be treated like normal human beings – not any different from anyone else. People with an intellectual impairment, such as myself, should be proud of who you are.

"I don't see much of people with disability in media, which is a little bit disappointing really.

"I think sometimes people misunderstand about disability. Some people think disability is a bad thing. We are all different – it would be boring if we were all the same."

Project coordinator and Radio and Television Journalism Lecturer Faith Valencia says the goal of the project is to change the way people with a disability and their families, carers and support workers are represented in the media.

"Often reporting is patronising and deficiency-based. People are cast as 'others' if they are even noticed at all,'' she said.

As one in five Australians has a disability – be it physical, sensory, psychosocial or cognitive – Ms Valencia said there is a real need to challenge the perception of disability as 'suffering' and promote an understanding of people as individuals with a voice, not to mention hopes and ambitions, who are just living everyday lives.

"The media has an important responsibility to represent the reality of people's lives, not some imagined reality.

"The students involved in Project Open Doors will work closely with people who have lived experience of disability, providing not only a voice, but an avenue to actively guide and develop positive media coverage."

"I think sometimes people misunderstand about disability. Some people think disability is a bad thing. We are all different – it would be boring if we were all the same."

Alex Baker addresses the launch on the importance of inclusion in the media.

WE'RE FINALLY MAKING PROGRESS

FOR 22 YEAR OLD MACKAY WOMAN, NATASHA RAPANA, THE ARRIVAL OF THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME HAS BEEN NOTHING SHORT OF 'LIFE CHANGING'.

Natasha's grandmother, Poppy, said that since being diagnosed with an intellectual disability in grade three, life for Natasha has been difficult and often lonely, as she struggled to find acceptance and the support she needs to achieve her goals.

"Natasha is a hard worker and a really great girl. I'm very proud of her. She hasn't always received the right support to help her develop and overcome her challenges, but I think we're finally making progress.

"She's a really active person, and her disability has never held her back from enjoying things like swimming, ballet and sports in general. But there have been times at school when people have made fun of her and left her feeling excluded, and in various jobs she's not been given the help and encouragement needed to succeed. But, finally, we feel like we're on the right track, and it's all thanks to the NDIS and the team at Endeavour Foundation.

Poppy said that Natasha had given up on school and found her own way into jobs, but because she was left to learn without needed support, she wasn't achieving what her employers wanted. This would result in reduced hours, leaving Natasha feeling uncomfortable or unvalued and, ultimately, she would leave the job.

"When I heard about the NDIS, I thought, 'right Natasha, this is us'. I went to see Rommaney McAullay (Senior Business Service Manager) and she helped us to gather information, prepare for our planning meeting and then get Natasha out into the working world.

Natasha received NDIS funding to help her find and keep a job and, Poppy says, they are "absolutely thrilled to bits".

"She's working at Endeavour Foundation where her colleagues and the staff are friendly and kind, they work with her abilities and are encouraging her to take on more responsibility. It's beautiful.

"At last she feels like she has a place – a place where people don't look down on her because she has a disability. She does a day's work and is appreciated. I'm told she's always looking for what to do and learn next, and that makes me so happy.

"She's joined a footy team and has been to a couple of functions with Endeavour Foundation, made new friends and has a whole new life to look forward to.

"Thank you so much to the NDIS. We've waited so long for this, and we couldn't be happier."

5 NDIS MYTHS BUSTED

WITH SO MUCH INFORMATION ABOUT THE NATIONAL DISABILITY INSURANCE SCHEME (NDIS) OUT THERE, NOT EVERYTHING YOU HEAR IS GOING TO BE CORRECT. IT CAN BE HARD TO KNOW WHAT'S RIGHT – SO WE'LL DEBUNK SOME OF THE MYTHS THAT WE KEEP HEARING.

"THE NDIS WILL REPLACE YOUR DISABILITY SUPPORT PENSION"

The NDIS will not take away your Disability Support Pension (DSP). The NDIS is designed to work alongside the DSP, not instead of. The DSP is basically income in the form of a pension, whereas the NDIS pays for certain services and supports.

"RESPITE IS NOT FUNDED BY THE NDIS"

Currently there is no item listed under NDIS specifically as 'respite', which has caused confusion.

Respite is available but in ways you may not be used to describing, such as:

- Short term accommodation and assistance
- Assistance in living arrangements (host family/alternative family) solution
- Assistance with self-care overnight (different levels)

We've put together a useful blog post on this which you can find at endeavour.com.au

"I GET TO KEEP MY MOBILITY ALLOWANCE"

Your current mobility allowance ceases once you have transitioned to the NDIS and have a plan in place. The NDIS has a different way of funding transport related supports. It's important that you tell your NDIS planner what your transport needs are so that they are adequately funded.

To find out more about how transport is funded under the NDIS, you can read our blog on this at endeavour.com.au

"I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE WHETHER I HAVE A FACE TO FACE OR PHONE MEETING"

You absolutely do. Don't be afraid to ask for something that best suits your needs. If you prefer to have a face to face meeting and the planner is organising a phone meeting – speak up!

If the planner calls at an inconvenient time, you don't have to have the planning meeting straight away. You can ask them to call you back. The process may take a little longer, but you definitely won't miss out.

"THE MONEY FROM MY PLAN WILL GO STRAIGHT TO MY BANK ACCOUNT"

Generally, the money doesn't go to your personal bank account. The only funds that may go to a personal account is your transport funding – in the same way that your mobility allowance does now. The NDIA are very strict that the funds you receive are only to be used in the ways outlined in your plan.

Reasonable and necessary

Anyone transitioning to the NDIS will probably be well-acquainted with the phrase "reasonable and necessary". But what does this actually mean?

Reasonable is something that is fair.
Necessary is something you have to have because of your disability.

The NDIS funds "reasonable and necessary supports" relating to a person's disability to help them live an ordinary life and achieve their goals.

When you attend your planning meeting, the NDIA Planner will gather information on which supports are reasonable and necessary to your situation. When your planner is assessing what is reasonable and necessary, they will be evaluating whether a support request is:

- related to your disability
- not a day-to-day living cost that is unrelated to your disability support needs
- value for money
- likely to be effective and beneficial to you.

They will also take into account the unpaid, informal supports provided to you by family, carers, networks, and the community.

What may be considered unreasonable for one person may in fact be considered to be quite reasonable for someone else with different support needs.

Don't assume the Planner fully understands the needs of you or your family member. Be prepared to talk about why a request should deemed to be 'fair and reasonable'.

Examples of reasonable and necessary supports

Here are some examples of supports that are often deemed reasonable and necessary:

- Support workers to help with personal care activities
- Therapeutic supports like occupational therapy, speech therapy and behaviour support
- Aids and equipment
- Home modifications
- Mobility equipment

It's worth noting here that this is not a comprehensive list. While these are commonly funded, every plan is different and your funding will always be based on individual circumstances.

Bridging the gap

The NDIS exists to close the gap between having a disability and not having a disability.

Ask yourself – would someone without a disability be expected to pay for this?

If the answer is 'yes', then chances are it is a mainstream cost. Things like housing, food, holidays and vehicles are considered mainstream costs. Even though people with a disability often need or use these things, they are not disability specific and therefore unlikely to be covered by the NDIS.

An example of the difference between a mainstream cost and something that the NDIS might cover:

Tim has an intellectual disability and one of his NDIS goals was to attend more football games.

Tim would need to use his own money to buy the things that someone without a disability would generally pay for. In this example, he would need to use his own money to pay for:

- His ticket to the game
- Something to eat or drink
- A jersey to wear

The NDIS however could fund things that would help Tim overcome any barriers that arise from his disability. This could include:

- A support worker to support him to attend the game
- Specialised transport in line with his mobility needs (if applicable)

But who is buying the ticket for the support worker?

Tim would have to pay for that ticket too (unless the football club accepts Tim's companion card and allows the support worker to attend for free).

How will you manage your NDIS funding?

When you go to your NDIS planning meeting the planner is going to ask how you would like to manage your plan. There are a few choices. Do you self-manage, get the NDIA to manage it for you or look into one of the other options? If you're confused about which one might be right for you – you're not alone! We take a look at the options to help you pick the one that best suits you.

1. Self-management

"The 'hands on' approach"

Self-management offers the most choice, control and flexibility, but can also be quite time consuming and brings a level of responsibility. This option suits organised people who like to take a 'hands on' approach. Many have likened it to running their own small business.

It's important to note that whilst it's called self-management, you can use a plan nominee, who is generally a parent or carer. Around 6% of people with an NDIS plan choose this option.

What it looks like

- You can choose and arrange your own supports, including your own support workers.
- You ensure that the relevant invoices for your supports are paid on time.
- You keep appropriate records and receipts for supports provided, both claimed and paid.
- You report to the NDIA on the amount used and funds spent on the self-managed items of your NDIS plan.

Pros

- Flexibility
- Control
- Freedom to choose any provider, regardless of whether they are NDIS registered or not

Cons

- Can be time consuming
- Comes with a lot of responsibility
- Need to pay costs upfront and wait for reimbursement
- Might need to build skills in certain areas

If this sounds like you, the NDIS have some really great resources on self-management.

2. NDIA (Agency) management

"The most popular option"

This option suits people who don't want to spend time dealing with finances and are happy to use registered NDIS providers.

74% of people who have received their plans chose NDIA, or 'Agency' management. This option, while being easier than self-management, limits you to using service providers who are registered with the NDIS.

What it looks like

- You can choose and arrange your own supports, including your own support workers. However, they must be registered NDIS providers if you choose to have an agency managed plan.
- The NDIA ensures that the relevant invoices for your supports are paid on time.
- The NDIA keeps appropriate records and receipts for supports provided, both claimed and paid.

Pros

- Easy
- Quick
- No financial accountability

Cons

- You can only engage NDIS registered providers
- You have limited control
- Budgets are not as flexible

3. A mix

"The best of both worlds"

If you're unsure, you may be able to choose a mix of self-management and NDIS management. This means that you can choose who manages what when it comes to your NDIS finances.

This option suits people who are happy for the NDIA to manage parts of their budget, but want control over certain services. This is especially handy when you want to enlist a support service that is not registered with the NDIS.

What it looks like

- You choose and arrange your own supports, including your own support workers.
- You ensure that the relevant invoices for the supports that you choose to self-manage are paid on time.
- You keep appropriate records and receipts for the supports that you choose to self-manage, both claimed and paid.
- You report to the NDIA on the amount used and funds spent on the self-managed items of your NDIS plan.
- The NDIA will manage the parts of the funding that you allocate to them.

Pros

- Flexibility
- Control
- Freedom to choose any provider, regardless of whether they are NDIS registered or not.

Cons

- Can be time consuming
- Need to pay costs upfront and wait for reimbursement
- Might need to build skills in certain areas

4. Enlist the help of a Plan Manager

"Like an accountant for the NDIS"

If you like the sound of self-management, but aren't confident in your abilities, you can enlist the help of a professional. Plan Managers are like an accountant for the NDIS. They take care of the financial complexities and make sure everything is being done correctly. Currently, around 10% of people choose this option.

What it looks like

- You choose and arrange your own supports, including your own support workers.
- You meet with your chosen plan manager and discuss your plan.
- Your Plan Manager oversees the financial component of your NDIS plan.

Pros

- Flexibility
- Control
- NDIA provide funding for the Plan Manager in your Plan
- No personal financial accountability
- Easy
- Freedom to choose any provider, regardless of whether they are NDIS registered or not.

Cons

- There will be another person you need to meet with regularly. For some families already dealing with multiple providers, adding yet another person to the mix is not an attractive option.

Some final thoughts...

- It's important to note that once you decide which option to go with, you can always change in the future.
- In some cases, the NDIA might make the decision to not let a person self-manage even when they ask to do so.

QUEENSLAND'S TAXI SUBSIDY SCHEME – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Recently, the Queensland Government announced that they would reinstate the Taxi Subsidy Scheme (TSS) until June 2019. The decision to reinstate the TSS removes a significant barrier to social participation for people with a disability.

What does it mean for Queenslanders who had their TSS membership cancelled when they transitioned to the NDIS?

You will have it restored until the end of June 2019. This will happen automatically and you should have now received your new card in the mail.

If you have changed addresses since your TSS membership was cancelled, you may want to advise the TSS so that your card isn't mailed to an old address.

You are not eligible for reimbursements for any trips you took during the period that your TSS membership was cancelled.

What does it mean for Queenslanders who have a TSS membership and haven't transitioned to the NDIS yet?

Subject to the usual rules, your TSS eligibility will continue to the end of June 2019. You don't need to do anything special.

What does it mean for Queenslanders who are not eligible for the NDIS but have a TSS membership?

There will be no changes for you. Your TSS membership will continue past June 2019.

Why will it end in June 2019?

This is when the NDIS rollout will be completed for Queensland.

The Queensland Government anticipate that by this time a viable, national, long term solution to transport funding will be in place and people won't be left disadvantaged.

For more information about the Queensland Taxi Subsidy Scheme, contact the TSS on **1300 134 755**.

Endeavour Foundation CEO, Andrew Donne (top) and Federal Member for Leichhardt, Warren Entsch MP (bottom) celebrate with Danny Pieri and staff.

Back and 'better than ever' after 2015 fire

Some 16 months after a fire tore through Endeavour Foundation's commercial industries site in Cairns, the local team celebrated being back in business and 'better than ever'.

In excess of $800,000 has been invested in the rebuild and delivery of a new state of the art facility.

"The last two years hit everyone harder than I have words to describe, but our hopes are high for the future," local manager Danny Pieri said.

"We have a reputation for consistent and high quality services, delivered by a committed and resourceful team. When local businesses work with us, they know that they're giving something back to the Cairns community that money simply can't buy", Danny said.

"This is a landmark moment for us after a very challenging time. The resilience of the supported employee team has really inspired me and the wider staff group. We have drawn on their strength throughout a time that has been indescribably tough."

"Don't let anything hold you back"

KATIE'S STORY

My name is Katie, and I'm bubbly, caring, loving and family orientated. I love reading and colouring and I want to make the world a better place for people with disabilities.

I'm the only child in the family with a disability. My parents don't have any disabilities so my mum was very shocked. My mum calls me her miracle – same with dad.

When I was really little my mum explained to me what I had. I always wanted to be like my brother and sister, who don't have a disability. I try to fit into the real world, and do what my brother and sister can do, but I have limitations.

I don't let things hold me back anymore. I do what I like to do. I want my independence and I'm going to get there.

Ipswich has been a really good town for me. I've been accepted. Where I was originally from, they were a bit more judgemental about people with a disability. I got picked on, I couldn't make friends. I found it very hard.

I don't have to be someone else to fit in anymore.

What I want you to know about having an intellectual disability

People with intellectual disability are not any different from you. We just learn slower.

Like, if you say a big word, some people would be too shy to ask what that means. But some people with intellectual disability are outspoken – like me – and they'll ask you 'what do you mean?', 'Can you explain that to me?'.

Also, people with disabilities are not all the same. We all have different skills and we can amaze you. There are people who can do different sports and it's very magical to see. And then there are people who can read and write really well and learn things a bit quicker than others.

My magical skill is helping others. I do this by letting people know that we are all the same. I like to include people. We're not all alone.

Working at Endeavour Foundation

There are a lot of people out there who experience depression with disabilities. They feel like they can't achieve things. I've been through that myself. There was a time when I didn't feel like I could do anything. That's completely changed since I've been at Endeavour Foundation. I realise that it's a good thing to love yourself. My confidence was pretty low when I first started and now it's high.

When new people start I say: "You'll LOVE it here! It's like home. It's a safe place. You feel completely secure, and you don't need to worry if they're better than you. We're all equal. There's no, this person's better than me, or I'm better than you rubbish. We don't have that here. We're all a team and that's how Endeavour Foundation works. Oh, you'll love it."

What I think about the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS will mean my dad can relax and not worry about his little girl anymore.

My goal is to have someone that checks up on me morning and night, and live on my own. I'm very excited. I live with my dad but now I'm getting to the age where I just want my own space and I want my own place to call home.

The NDIS is happening and I think it's great. I'm all for it. I'm really happy. If people say otherwise, then that's their choice, but I think it's wonderful.

EFFORTS PAY OFF FOR ACCESSIBILITY ADVOCATES

A GROUP OF PASSIONATE ADVOCATES IN CENTRAL QUEENSLAND HAVE CELEBRATED RENOVATION WORKS DESIGNED TO INCREASE ACCESSIBILITY AT THE POPULAR LEICHHARDT HOTEL.

The changes were made following years of lobbying by Community Solutions' staff including Community Relations Ambassador Des Ryan, along with Spinal Life Australia and a number of local community members.

Over several years, the group have undertaken annual 'pub crawls' through the Rockhampton region to assess the accessibility of the various local venues, providing each destination with a scorecard and feedback regarding accessibility improvement options.

The group were joined by Member for Keppel Brittany Lauga, Leichhardt Hotel Manager Renee Prior and representatives from Spinal Life Australia, the Department of Communities, Central Queensland University and the local taxi service for the celebratory lunch in July.

Community Solutions' Project Officer Margi Gai said the event celebrated the significant efforts of a dedicated team.

"The event was a great opportunity to view the results of many years of hard work and collaboration that our local community puts in to ensure allocation of resources and services in a fair, consistent and inclusive manner".

Whitsundays Team celebrated

FOUR MEMBERS OF OUR WHITSUNDAYS COMMUNITY SOLUTIONS TEAM HAVE RECEIVED PRESTIGIOUS RECOGNITION IN THE NATIONAL EMPLOYMENT SERVICES ASSOCIATION (NESA) AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE.

Tina West, Kim Clegg and Lesley England were recognised with second place in the NESA Excellence in Indigenous Employment Award, while colleague Casey Dickinson claimed the NESA Bright Star Award.

General Manager Tom Mangan said the achievement was particularly significant, as the past year had included a period of particular challenge for the Whitsunday community.

"Despite the extensive disruption of Cyclone Debbie, our Whitsundays team have gone above and beyond to achieve improvements in their already-outstanding performance and service," he said.

It is rare for one organisation to be named for two NESA awards, and this recognition is extremely well deserved for our team members, who have demonstrated their commitment to their community through a difficult period."

Nominee Casey Dickinson she was thrilled by the recognition for herself and her team.

"I am on cloud nine … to know that I have given everything 110% and have come out with such rewarding results," she said.

"It means so much to be able to work with such a loving and caring team and to be able to also provide a professional and reliable service for our clients. We ask the client what is it they want to do, we listen and we try our best to make things happen.

A real confidence boost

Jesslyn

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TRAINING PROVIDER BRACE AND DISABILITY SERVICE PROVIDER MARILLAC IS ASSISTING YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN VICTORIA TO DEVELOP SKILLS FOR LIFE.

Jesslyn Penglase's confidence, self-esteem and independence has all improved since starting foundation skills training with BRACE in February.

The course not only enables Jesslyn and the other students to learn in class, but also get hands-on experience through work placement.

Jesslyn is completing her work placement at Crafty Cakes in Somerville, and she is already enjoying her work there and built up the confidence to catch public transport independently.

"At the start of the course I was very nervous, but as time went on my confidence grew and now I am really enjoying the course," said Jesslyn. "I love the work placement as I am doing something I really love. I have learnt a lot."

Her trainer, Debbie Rogan, can see the difference in Jesslyn since she started the course. "Jesslyn recently led her group (in class) to successfully complete a team building activity that was based on time constraints, limited resources and thinking outside the square for concept and design," Debbie said.

Using my experience to help others

ANTHONY'S STORY

I WAS TOLD ONCE THAT I WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE ANYTHING. THIS IS WHAT MY PAEDIATRICIAN TOLD MY MUM AND I, BUT I HAVE PROVED THE PAEDIATRICIAN WRONG.

I have finished Year 12 and I have two jobs. One of those jobs is working at Ballarat Christian College as a Teacher's Aide and the other is working at Ballarat High School as a mentor for teenagers on the Autism Spectrum.

I am part of an organisation called I CAN Network, created by people on the Autism Spectrum for people on the Autism Spectrum.

When I first started a Certificate III in Education Support with BRACE, I was really nervous. I thought it might be too hard for me, and that if I was the only guy in the class, then I would struggle.

However, I realised that males and females are just as good at looking after kids. I now have the confidence in myself because of the good things I have learnt and achieved during the course.

Anthony

RALLY TEAMS CONGRATULATED ON GREAT ENDEAVOUR

WITH THIS YEAR'S GREAT ENDEAVOUR RALLY DONE AND DUSTED, ALL THAT REMAINS IS FOR PARTICIPANTS TO REFLECT ON THE INCREDIBLE $321,815 RAISED, AND THE IMPACT THEIR EFFORTS WILL HAVE ON THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY.

Teams from across Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria, the ACT and even Singapore went the extra mile in 2017, with Sunshine Coast team 'The Canetoad Cruisers' ultimately the highest fundraisers at this year's event. Thanking all the teams and their supporters, Endeavour Foundation Events Manager, Paul Purcell, said that there is something "really special" about the event.

"If you've been on the Great Endeavour Rally once, chances are you'll want to come back. The camaraderie, commitment to the cause and all round fun atmosphere is second to none. I guess an event doesn't make it through three decades without being something really special."

Funds raised will deliver really meaningful outcomes for people with a disability, with the money being invested into the likes of Home Automation Systems which allow the people we support to electronically control the lights, air conditioners and technology like TVs. The goal is to foster independence and, as always, enhance quality of life. Other projects which will be funded by this year's rally include a sensory room and some beautiful outdoor living spaces.

Paul said that an important part of this year's event was participants being able to "meet with some of the people we support and their families, and understand why we do what we do. Everyone who donated or gave their time to support the event should be very proud of what they've achieved."

Plans are already underway for the 2018 event, with a number of teams registered and raring to go almost a year in advance of the flag-off!

Highest Fundraisers Car 8 'Canetoad Cruisers'

Car 59 'Central Highlanders'

Car 777 'Old Bulls'

Car 13 'The Cruisers' visiting the local Rockhampton Endeavour Foundation Business Service

Find out more about next year's eight day Southern Safari through the best of New South Wales, from the sunny Gold Coast to Yamba at great.endeavour.com.au

John taking his young cousin for a pony ride

John's legacy helping others to stay active

JOHN MISSEN WAS BORN IN 1947 TO A VERY LARGE, LOVING, AND CARING FAMILY BASED ON A SHEEP FARM IN A SMALL RURAL COMMUNITY OUTSIDE OF TOOWOOMBA.

He was the first child of parents Rupert and Sylvia and was very proud to be the older brother of David when he came along a few years later.

When the time came, the family moved to a little cottage in Leyburn, so that John and David could attend the local school. His aunt Kathryn said: "John really enjoyed his time at school. All the children accepted him and made sure he was always a part of the playground games and the boy's mischief".

On weekends, the family would return home to the farm where John could enjoy his passion for the outdoors. From a very young age John loved to roam the property, go swimming in the dam, play tennis, and he enjoyed fun-filled holidays with his extended family.

John first came to Endeavour Foundation just two days before his 21st birthday. He began working at a Business Service in the Toowoomba region two days a week. Soon after, John became one of the first boarders at an Endeavour Foundation residential property that was then called 'Martin House'.

John also attended Endeavour Foundation's Learning & Lifestyle service while living in Endeavour Foundation accommodation.

"As a family, we would like to acknowledge and thank the wonderful Endeavour Foundation staff who, over the years, have given Johnny the loving care, support, and friendship he needed," Kathryn said.

Sharelle, Endeavour Foundation Support and Operations Manager, had the privilege of supporting John from 1974 – 2012. Sharelle said she first met John when she started working as a support worker at Endeavour Foundation Industries. John was working in the recycled paper area and at the time was living at Martin House.

"John was very fond of sports and was a keen tennis player. He was very good at serving from the baseline, sometimes he would serve so well that he would hit the ball right out of the court. John would then smile, and he had the most wonderful smile, and say 'good shot that, Johnny'," said Sharelle.

John's supportive family always remained a very important part of his life. Even though John has now passed away, his family feels so strongly about the work of Endeavour Foundation that they have donated a $20,000 multipurpose court at Stenner Street Residential where John once lived.

"I think that John would have approved, as the court is in a place which would have been very familiar to him, central to all the places he knew," said Sharelle.

John's family have ensured that his legacy will live on in the area he loved, encouraging other people with a disability to get outside and enjoy the outdoors just as he did.

Endeavour Foundation would like to sincerely thank John's extended family for their kind and generous donation in his name.

John's family enjoying the multipurpose court in his name

If you would like more information, or just to have a friendly chat about how you can support people with a disability, please contact Diane at Community Relations on **07 3908 7188** or email **communityrelations@endeavour.com.au**

2017 AREA COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS

The 2017 elections of Endeavour Foundation's ten Area Committees have been completed, and as the number of nominations received did not exceed the number of positions open for election in each area, all candidates have been appointed, effective 7 August 2017.

Following is a list of the duly elected Members for each of the ten Area Committees:

AREA COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Brisbane Metropolitan - Sylvia Ellis, Diane Slack, Hermina Smith

Central Queensland - Ann Leinster, Ron McCamley, Russell Wells

Far North Queensland - Brian Willis

Moreton-Sunshine Coast - Garry Bates, Kevin Guilfoyle, Cherie Hay, Errol Hay

North Queensland - Brian Fanning, Pedro Mendiolea

South East Queensland - Elaine Rourke, Joy Scobie, Suzie Thorpe

South West Queensland - Paul Currie, Alan Webb

Sydney - No nominations were received

Victoria - Sandra Beanham, Bev Knowles, Bruce McBroom, Brendan Millane

Wide Bay - Toni Dunshea, Rodney Schulz

Congratulations to all Members appointed to serve on Endeavour Foundation's Area Committees.

COMMITMENT to listen

Endeavour Foundation welcomes feedback and is committed to ensuring people with a disability live lives free from abuse, neglect and exploitation. If you have concerns about any person receiving services and supports, or have a complaint about any aspect of service provided, please contact **1300 730 334** or email **complaints@endeavour.com.au**

Emergency Contacts

EMERGENCY SUPPORT

COMMONWEALTH RESPITE & CARELINK CENTRES

1800 052 222 (Business hours)
1800 059 059 (Emergency after hours)
Pre-register by phone to gain easier access to support

STATE GOVERNMENT DISABILITY SERVICES

Queensland: 13 74 68
NSW: 133 677 – TTY (hearing impaired)
Victoria: 1800 783 783

CHILD SAFETY SERVICES

Queensland:
1800 177 135 (24 hours)
New South Wales:
132 111 (24 hours)
Victoria:
131 278 (24 hours)
If you believe a child is in imminent danger, please contact the police on 000

OTHER USEFUL CONTACTS:

Health Direct – health and hospital information 1800 022 222

Poisons Information Line 13 11 26

Ambulance, Fire, Police
– life threatening emergencies
000 – landline
106 – TTY (hearing impaired)
112 – mobile

Alcohol and Drug Information Services
1800 422 599

SUPPORT CONTACTS

ENDEAVOUR FOUNDATION DISABILITY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

1800 ENDEAVOUR (1800 363 328)

In Queensland, short-term, one off disability support is also available to eligible people through the following local contacts:

CENTRAL QLD

Suncare Community Services (Wide Bay): (07) 4151 6400

Endeavour Foundation: 1800 363 328

Central Highlands & Western Queensland Family Support Association (Emerald): (07) 4987 7933

Gladstone Community Linking Agency: (07) 4972 8855

SOUTH WEST QLD

ALARA (Ipswich): (07) 3817 0600
Breakaway Toowoomba: (07) 4639 5100

BRISBANE

FSG Australia: (07) 3274 3655

NORTH QLD

Endeavour Foundation: 1800 363 328

FAR NORTH QLD

ARC: (07) 4046 3600

NORTH COAST

Suncare Community Services:
1800 052 222

SOUTH EAST QLD

FSG Australia: (07) 5501 2400
Ability Care: (07) 3800 4577

Get involved

Area Committees are an important part of the governance structure of Endeavour Foundation.

By being involved in a local Area Committee, family members, carers and supporters can provide information and feedback in relation to local services, educate the community about disability, raise the profile of the organisation, and raise funds.

Get in contact with the Area Committee Chair in your region to find out more.

Far North Queensland: FNQAC@endeavour.com.au

North Queensland: NQAC@endeavour.com.au

Central Queensland: CQAC@endeavour.com.au

Wide Bay: WBAC@endeavour.com.au

Moreton – Sunshine Coast: M-SCAC@endeavour.com.au

Brisbane Metropolitan: BRISAC@endeavour.com.au

South East Queensland: SEAC@endeavour.com.au

South West Queensland: SWAC@endeavour.com.au

Sydney: SYDNEYAC@endeavour.com.au

Victoria: VICAC@endeavour.com.au

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