



“An inclusive community that actively acknowledges and values the intrinsic worth and contribution of persons with an intellectual disability”



Adelaide Festival Theatre | Regular Theatre Goers

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Tri State Games | Horsham 2015

Chair of the Board

As the new Chair of the Board I want to take then opportunity to wish every Hills Community Options client and family, joy and happiness for Christmas and the new year.

In 2015 we have seen changes in the management of the organisation, but the organisation has continued to grow and prosper. The new year will bring further positive change as the Board continues to prepare the organisation for the full implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in mid 2016.

Kaz McMahon started as CEO in July 2015, but recently left the organisation, and the Board has appointed John Loveday to act in a consultant leadership role until a new CEO can be appointed. This change in leadership will be positive and provide the organisation with sound future directions. John Loveday was previously the Chair of Hills Community Options Inc Board and he brings a strong knowledge and understanding of the values of the organisation.

Growth

Hills Community Options continues to grow and prosper for the benefit of clients, and all Board members work consistently together to focus our strategic thinking on the best interest of clients. Decisions are made in order to support clients in accord with their choice and control in the complex, competitive, service environment we work in.

I hope you share the Board confidence that 2016 will see development in the early part of the year with NDIS preparation, followed by a time of consolidation and settling.

Families that want to talk about any concerns are encouraged to talk to a Senior Manager but they are also welcome to meet with John Loveday or myself.

Best wishes to all



Yvonne Todd
Chair of the Board
December 2015

Tri State Games

Horsham 2015

In November , Anne Golding, Bill Curnow, Simon Murphy, Denise Page, Scott Hart and Michael Kellet attended the Tristate Games in Horsham



After the opening parade the athletes participated in a number of events including netball, athletics and swimming over the 4 days of competition, as well as various social functions.



We congratulate all the athletes in their participation and for those who achieved a personal best.



David Mee
Coordinator Accommodation Services

Day Options

2015 has been a productive and rewarding year for Day Options, with 42 clients accessing our program, supported by 18 staff. Our Community Centre location has enabled us to provide new opportunities for participation and learning, including our very successful initiative "Yum Yum's Kitchen". All HCO clients are now able to purchase delicious, nutritious lunches from our busy kitchen team who are learning new skills every day.



Many clients entered exhibits at the Callington Show and were delighted to receive their ribbons and sashes. Our Yum Yum's clients entered jams and chutneys in the Open section and won two First Prizes

against very strong competition from very experienced country cooks!



A special highlight this year has been our relationship with a wonderful group of people from the Mt. Barker Bowling Club. We have been welcomed every Friday morning to play lawn bowls with them and it has been very rewarding to see our clients grow in confidence as they take their rightful place in the community. This was just one of the many sporting opportunities provided to us by Reclink.

We hope those who came to the end-of-year concert enjoyed our performances. We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe New Year.

Felicity Crowther
Manager Client Services

Centennial Court

On Friday December 11th those who live at Centennial Court, together with Salvation Army Housing, hosted a party to celebrate 25 years since this became their home. Many of those who moved here in 1990 continue to live here today. After enjoying some lovely food and drinks on a pleasantly warm sunny day we ended up in full dance mode, assisted by music provided by Mr. Boogie Man (Matthew Nye).

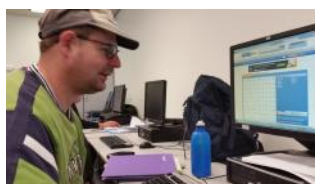


Centennial Court 25 Year Anniversary | Full Party Mode!



John Payne supported by MJP employment Services spent 6 months working with us as an assistant handyman. This opportunity enabled him to regain his skills and confidence in the work place and has encouraged him to now apply for further employment opportunities.

We are regular lovers of going to concerts, Festivals, the Theatre and Ballet. Reclink provides lots of opportunities for us to give new activities a go, we have this year enjoyed Dragon Boat Racing, Fishing, 8 Ball, walking and most recently Zumba Gold and Thai Chi Gold at our local Community Centre have been really enjoyed.



Damien has been going to TAFE studying Certificate 1 in Essential Skills Development.



Christine showed off her love of the Crows while trying a Police bike on for size!



We have regular meetings at Centennial Court where we discuss matters that are important for us. This year we had talks from the Police and Fire Brigade to help understand how to keep ourselves safe.

Kim Parish
Manager Western Region

The Hills Community Store



The Hills Community Store | 38 Hutchinson St, Mt Barker SA

HCO's latest expansion of Day Option's programs, the Hills Community Store at 38 Hutchinson Street, has been open for about three weeks and we are seeing a steady increase in customers and sales. It has been a very low key opening in an effort to ensure we have the retail side of the business working prior to clients coming on site in the New Year. Having received positive feedback from our customers about what HCO is doing leads us to believe we are on the right track and that we have strong community support.

During the three weeks we've been open there has been a very strong demand for products made by our clients with shopping bags, bird boxes and potted plants being especially popular. Second hand books are also selling well and we are hoping our new section set aside for children will be utilised over the school holidays period.

The Store is staffed by volunteers and their assistance is gratefully acknowledged and truly appreciated as it cannot run without them. However we are in need of more volunteers; if you are able to assist in the Store, in any capacity no matter how small, I can be contacted on 8391 0864 during business hours.

"NOW OPEN"

In closing I would like to wish you all a very Merry Xmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

John Simpson | General Manager Organisational Development

IMPORTANT

BUSHFIRE POLICY

It is important for families to understand the bushfire response needed on extreme and catastrophic fire days.

The existing policy and procedures will continue.

- On catastrophic days Day Options / Enterprises will not operate.
- On extreme days Day Options / Enterprises will be open **but** staff will not pick up or take clients home. It is parents/carers responsibility to do this.
- For clients in supported accommodation the existing procedures to ensure their safety continue.

If you are concerned please talk to staff.

Contact Us

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