

YEAR IN  
**REVIEW**

YOUR LIFE. YOUR WAY.  
YOUR CHOICE.

2016



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# INTRODUCTION

## YEAR IN REVIEW 2016



We are proud to present our third 'Year in Review' and hope it captures some of the exciting things that SASI has been doing this year I hope you enjoy.....

SASI has continued with its preparations for the NDIS this year ensuring that we are ready and able to provide quality support to the people we support currently and into the future. We have moved down the road implementing 'goal mastery' as a means of measuring the impact of our support for our clients and their goals. The Client Planning Program (CPP) commenced in July with the aim of benchmarking how each area of SASI was travelling in our quest to provide quality outcomes based support to our clients. We had staff representatives from a range of SASI sites who were able to work on this in their respective areas supporting staff to feel comfortable and confident in implementing. The final report was produced in August and results were very encouraging, with staff really working well with our clients on measurable goals, this, plus our years of experience in the autism space we hope will provide our 'point of difference' in the NDIS world.

In August we settled on the property in Newborough which now houses our Gippsland facility. Major modifications were completed to ensure compliance with all required standards and that the property was 'fit for purpose'. The opening on 18th June done by Russell Northe, local Member, on a rather grey Gippsland day, was a huge highlight for the year enabling our clients, families, staff, Board and local dignitaries the opportunity to view our new facility. It was fabulous to get everyone settled in by the end of the financial year. SASI has completed an external accreditation audit with SAI Global. Our systems, procedures and services are measured against the Victorian DHHS Standards and the National Standards for Disability Services. I'm very pleased to announce we had a fantastic result!

SASI remains accredited and meets these high standards. Lots of areas have been noted as 'best practice' such as our person-centered approaches. Our planning and risk frameworks were also noted.

Our Alfred Murfey Prize and art exhibition, which this year was held in November, enabling a week long viewing of the artwork was fabulous. So many artists with a disability attended the evening, enjoying the music and refreshments on a lovely Spring evening. Twelve pieces of the artwork were again selected to feature in our 2016 SASI calendar which was distributed to our staff and families and carers. Our website and social media arena have again seen increased traffic which is valuable as communicating to our supporters is vital.

SASI has been present as an exhibitor and presenter at many of the disability sector conferences held during the year, increasing our knowledge and brand profile. Our branded fleet of vehicles are a regular sight in the areas around our locations and create comment and interest from the community.

This year we commenced having a SASI Ambassador for the first time, Lucy Nicolson, a local who is an Opera Singer with a son on the spectrum has been assisting us with fundraising and other tasks. Her idea of hosting a Bastille Day Dinner to raise funds for a camp was excellent and provided those who attended with a fabulous evening of entertainment. We also have a Youth Ambassador, Maddisyn Dixon-Whitbourne. Maddisyn has been busy raising funds for a camp for our clients by creating her own T Shirts and selling them to local businesses. She has raised significant funds hence planning is underway for the camps! We thank both Lucy and Maddisyn for the support.

SASI continued into the training world, with our Training Consultant providing autism training to a range of audiences including the disability sector, legal arena and the broader community.

There have been some changes to staff and structure this year in head office, with a planned structural change to the Executive to prepare for the future. We have farewelled some long standing staff who have gone onto new and exciting things and welcomed new staff to inject innovation and new ideas. We have settled into our Head Office space in Frankston, and become known by the local business community. In our efforts to achieve greater efficiencies we also moved to an automated online payroll system which has proved useful in reducing administrative costs. All this in preparation for the NDIS, coming to the Gippsland region in October 2017, less than 12 months away!

# INTRODUCTION

## YEAR IN REVIEW 2016



Beachlynn clients have been operating a craft stall at the Thursday Market in Wells Street, on a fortnightly basis, come rain or shine ( unless it is blowing a gale!). This initiative provides experience for our clients in customer service and money handling, as well as raising SASI profile and funds for the service. Our well-equipped training rooms have been used by a range of community organisations during the year, as well as hosting our in-house staff training.

I'd like to express my thanks to our clients, staff, and all families and carers in the SASI community who make SASI what it is – a fabulous place to work!

Our staff are fabulous people who work tirelessly to support our clients across the range of services we provide. SASI is very fortunate to have a highly experienced, professional and committed group of staff, who support our clients magnificently...

Lastly, I'd like to give special thanks to Vivienne Corcoran, newly elected SASI President, and Mike Walls, Treasurer, as well as the SASI Board who donate their time generously ensuring our organisation is well governed and sustainable. They have been extremely supportive to myself and our Executive and I very much appreciate their guidance.

I look forward to another year with SASI, who knows what it will bring, but rest assured SASI is ready for the NDIS and keen to ensure our clients achieve their goals and star!

Kath Ferry  
CEO



# FRANK ST



As another year rushes to an end both staff and Frank Streets resident Chris Craig reflect on the great milestones that have been achieved this year. With the most important one being the completion of Certificate 1 in Work Education run by Karingal Training.

This course prepares participants in the search for and entering into employment with numerous units of learning from Hospitality, Work place safety, Food handling. Included in these units were several outings to business such as Target, Melbourne Museum and Quest Apartments to observe their workplaces in action.

With the support of staff Chris commenced this course in March of this year and successfully completed all units in November. Chris is eagerly awaiting the arrival of his certificate and is extremely proud of his achievement. Another component of this course and another great milestone was a placement conducted at Coles Supermarket in Karingal Place. Chris has enjoyed working their stacking shelves, facing products and recycling cardboard etc.

Chris has made many new friends and is extremely popular with both staff and customers, so much so even though the course has finished we will be continuing working at Coles next year.

Chris and staff eagerly await the start on the New Year and what adventures it holds.

Andrew Grieg  
**House Manager**  
Frank Street



# ASPENDALE

## GROUP HOME



What a year 2016 has been!!!

It was a remarkable journey not only for the residents but also for Aspendale staff. The year 2016 came with lots of opportunities, changes and rays of hope in a whole new era of disability services called NDIS. With the help of Goal mastery and supportability we realised that we can open the vast ocean of success and huge potential for our residents. All Aspendale residents hit a home run with their excellent performance in the goal mastery.

During 2016, residents enjoyed a range of activities including going out to the movies, swimming, walks and celebrating birthdays with their mates. Cameron turned 30 and celebrated his birthday at The Bay Hotel, it was fun for all the guys. Savier and Joseph went camping at Mt. Eliza, Peter and Todd also had a great time with their family and friends. Also, the interior walls of the house were painted and look great now!!!

As we are going to enter in 2017, Aspendale team knows how important to embrace a change and work towards residents goal to achieve positive outcomes for the residents.

Chirag Shah  
**House Manager**  
Aspendale Group Home





# FRANKSTON

## GROUP HOME

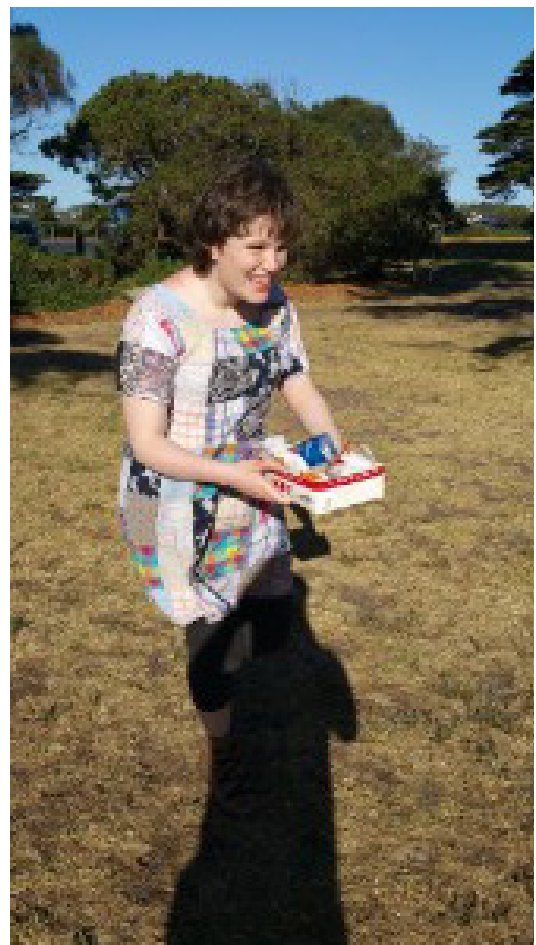


It has been a fantastic year for the residents at Frankston Group Home. The residents continued to enjoy their 1:1 outings during weekdays and weekends and went to different places such as Phillip Island, Arthurs Seat, Sorrento, Portsea, safety Beach, Hastings and Dandenong Ranges.

Danielle really enjoys her weekday outings and spending time with her family. Danielle will be joining Stephanie on a camp to Manyung which she is really looking forward to. Stephanie enjoyed going out for scenic drives, dinner and community outings and spending time with her family. Amy had a wonderful year, she celebrated her birthday with family and has learnt new skills through the goal mastery program. Peter enjoyed getting out and about, he particularly enjoys going for long walks.

The staff have engaged clients in developing and implementing various goals that can improve their skills, health and well-being. Recently, all clients, staff and family members got together to celebrate SASI's 50th Birthday Party and enjoyed a BBQ lunch in the backyard. Lastly, a brand new kitchen has been installed and it looks fantastic!

Chirag Patel  
**House Manager**  
Frankston Group Home



# SPRINGVALE

## GROUP HOME



It's been a busy year with staff learning and implementing our Goal Mastery program. Our clients have learnt so many new skills, below is just 'some' of what's been achieved.

Malcolm completed his certificate I in work education through Karingal Training. A very proud achievement for Malcolm. As part of his certificate I Malcolm completed 100 hours of work placement at Doveton Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) and also completed work placement at Coles in Karingal. Malcolm's course and work placements have given him confidence and has helped Malcolm to be more independent.

Ben participated in the RDA championships in Officer and won two trophies for his performance. He also participated in a car show at Caribbean Gardens that was organised to support brain tumours. Ben got to see all of the different cars and got to meet some new people. Ben has also learned about road safety and how to care for his bird Charlie.

Jarrold achieved his goals through our goal mastery program. He learned how to take out the washed clothes from the washing machine and putting these into the house basket. Jarrold also learned tasks associated with dinner preparation including setting the table and cleaning the dining table after dinner.

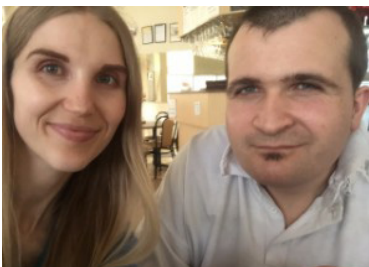
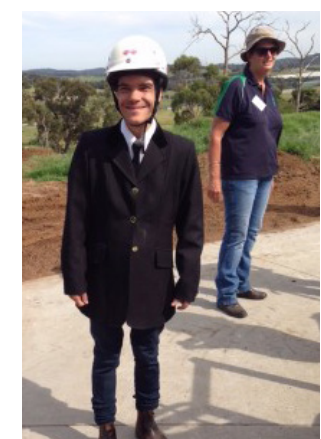
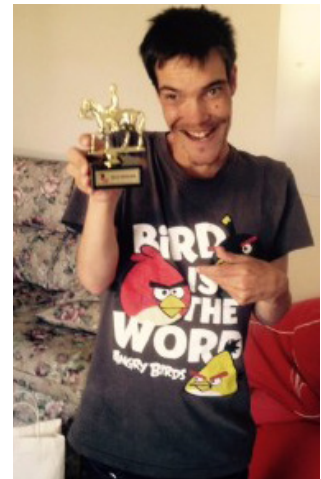
Callum learned many new skills to increase his independence, as did Mischa.

Mischa went to Sandown and had a great time watching the cars race. Mischa has achieved a number of his personal goals through goal mastery.

All of the clients celebrated SASI's 50th with a meal out with their key worker.

The clients at Springvale now have a brand new kitchen. Renovations started at the end of November. The vinyl on the floor was replaced, the walls were painted and a new fridge, oven, hotplates, bench tops and cabinets were installed. It looks great!

Sharna Morrissey  
**House Manager**  
Springvale Group Home





# CHELTHENHAM

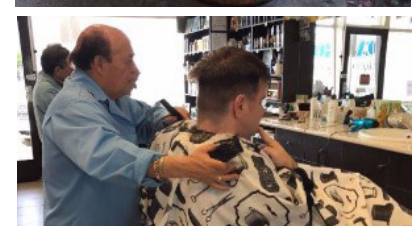
## GROUP HOME



It's been another busy and exciting year for the residents at Cheltenham. Some of the highlights have been outings to; Georgie Girl Musical, Circus Latino, Circus Africa, We Will Rock You Musical, The Wiggles Show, Faulty Towers Comedy Show, Elvis Adventure in Forbes and a holiday in Tootgarook. Our clients love getting out and about, musicals and the circus are real winners.

Peter joined the client committee at Beachlynn which we're all very proud of. Staff at Cheltenham have really embraced Goal Mastery (despite the rocky start!). We now all understand why it is so important! It's been wonderful to see the clients achieve their goals and learn new skills.

Darya Teslenok  
**House Manager**  
 Cheltenham Group Home



# MORDIALLOC

## GROUP HOME



Delta Therapy Dog Visits are always a highlight. We said farewell to Abby and Gus as they moved away from the area and welcomed Leanne and Eddie and Belinda and Elmo – who visit on a fortnightly basis. Everyone participates in the visits, at different levels, James and Megan spend a lot of time interacting with the dogs, David, Dieter and Nics confidence is growing and they are spending more time with them now.

James achieved one of his ISP goals, and that was going camping. Heading to the Gippsland Site and spending 2 nights there (1 night in a tent, the 2nd night due to inclement weather in the cottage). He is looking forward to his next camp out.

David is attending Hydrotherapy sessions at Monash Aquatic Centre on a Monday evening with a 1:1 swimming instructor, he obviously enjoys this program, as on arrival home from day placement, the wait begins with David grabbing his towel and waiting for the okay to go – mind you his session is after tea. Megan trialled attending Beachlynn Outreach program – Girls Day Out program for 3 months – this was very successful and Megan now attends this program permanently 1 day/week.

Dieter, James and Nic attend the Oakleigh disco on a Thursday evening.

Nic whilst he has attended All Abilities Basketball for the past 2 years at McKinnon Basketball Club, this year he participated in tournaments throughout the year as well.

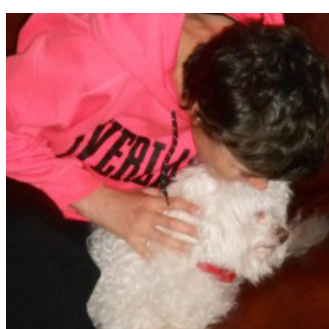
In November a team from Exxon Mobil volunteered their time and spent a day painting areas in the house, and tinting windows – great work from the volunteers to brighten the house a bit – Megan's bedroom now being pink and a yellow feature wall in the garage – ready to become a multi purpose room.

Our vegetable patch established and grew many items, which the clients all enjoyed eating.

We had a shade sail put over the trampoline, blinds placed around the verandah and new outdoor furniture purchased, making the area look modern and is much appreciated by all the clients, especially David.

Key word signing training was attended by all staff, and is used in everyday interactions with clients, is very positive.

Karen Lierse  
**House Manager**  
Mordialloc Group Home





# SWONNELL HOUSE

## CHILDREN'S RESPITE



Swonnell House provided services to over 40 clients and families offering a well-earned break and respite for many families and siblings alike.

We welcomed new clients, as well bid farewell to some who have been with Swonnell House for many years but have now reached 18 and are ready to move forward with their future lives.

Our clients have enjoyed numerous activities over the year such as the Melbourne Show, Miniature Railways, Gumbaya Park,, Bowling ,visiting the beach and parks for a swim and or a picnic ,just to name a few.

These activities are always well received and often leave both staff and our clients with many rewarding memories.

We continued to provide both craft and cooking activities as well as playing far too many board games to mention coupled with knowing ABC kids backwards. It's also important to mention Pepper Pig and the Wiggles who are often sung or hummed as we bath clean and go about our days.

2016 saw a number of changes with the House Management but the professionalism of the permanent staff team kept the facility running smoothly and continued to provide a welcoming reliable service to our families.

Debbie Baker  
**House Manager**  
Swonnell House Children's Respite



# SASI ACTIVE CHOICES



## EASTLYNN

Where has the year gone?

2016 has been a very busy year with many changes along the way.

Our move to a more individualised timetable has provided greater opportunities for all clients to become involved in activities they had never before been part of, and experiences that had never been possible. Each person has had greater input into their daily activities and control over their goals.

Eastlynn has acquired a new space for expansion which will provide existing and new clients a space to build exciting new programs. In partnership with the TLC Church in Bayswater we will be using their youth building as our community hub and we hope to explore some other joint activity arrangements.

6 new clients!!!! Eastlynn has had its highest intake of client's this year with 1 new client starting earlier on in the year and 5 clients that are starting beginning of the year. This has enabled us to explore the partnership with the TLC Church. We are proud to know that thanks to the good work of staff, SASI's name is well respected and its services sought after.

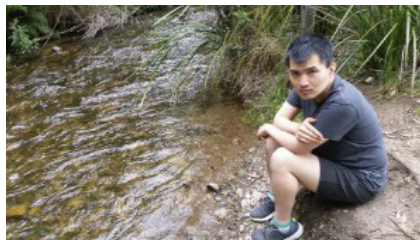
This year has seen many students on placement, who are studying their Certificate 4 in Disability; staff have been imparting their knowledge and giving them a good understanding of the sector. We have hired 2 of them as part time and casual staff after they completed the course. The addition of these staff brings new ideas and fresh attitudes to the Eastlynn team.

I would personally like to thank the dedicated staff team at Eastlynn for their amazing efforts to achieve the wonderful outcomes for our clients throughout the year.

Kathie Gorman

**Program Manager**

SASI Active Choices - Eastlynn



# SASI ACTIVE CHOICES



## BEACHLYNN

This year has been a busy one at Beachlynn Day Service with many highlights along the way.

We have been lucky enough to start utilizing the space previously used as head office to extend our programs & offer service to a number of new clients. This new space allows us to enjoy a new kitchen/dining area, two new programme rooms, a lounge area and a new computer room. We're still in the process of personalizing it and making it our own. This has given us more room to move and the chance to bring in new people into our Beachlynn community.

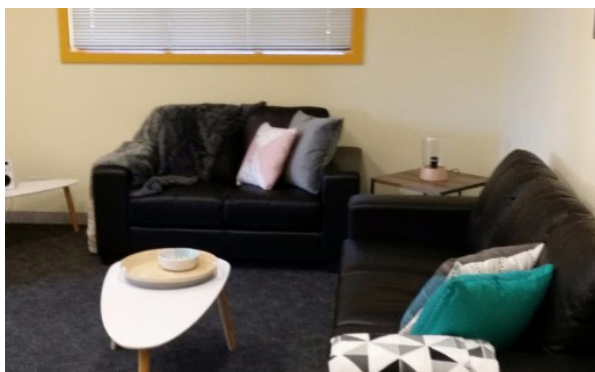
We have also had great success in fundraising for new equipment at the centre, including a new spring pad in our outdoor area, as well as camps for our clients. The Client Committee were a significant part in organizing the fundraising activities.

The clients run a market stall at Wells street market every second Thursday, This has been a great success, with the clients producing all the products sold, by hand. We certainly have some very talented people at Beachlynn! One of our clients has also undertaken a certificate 1 in work education, part of this class was undertaking work experience. The RDA in Dandenong was kind enough to offer work placement. The experience gained & friendships forged are sure to last a lifetime.

The Beachlynn staff have also taken the time to accept numerous Certificate 4 in Disability students on placement, imparting their knowledge. We have hired 5 of them as staff after they have completed the course, this year alone, bringing new ideas and fresh attitudes.

I would personally like to thank the dedicated staff team at Beachlynn for their tireless efforts to achieve the wonderful outcomes we have observed our clients achieve this year!

Sarah James  
**Program Manager**  
 SASI Active Choices - Beachlynn





# SASI ACTIVE CHOICES



## GIPPSLAND

It's been an extremely exciting year in Gippsland! We moved into our new site at Haunted Hills Road in Newborough, this was a huge undertaking and we've all settled in really well. We welcomed five new clients and three new staff in 2016. We have received a significant amount of donations from Loyang (our local Power Station) which will be used on various projects including a rotunda on our new property. We will also be looking at expanding our family of pets including getting a therapy dog for the Service. All in all a great year for Gippsland as our new location is a beautiful peaceful setting for our clients to take full advantage off.

Amanda Grumley  
**Program Manager**  
 SASI Active Choices - Gippsland





# FROC HIGHLIGHTS

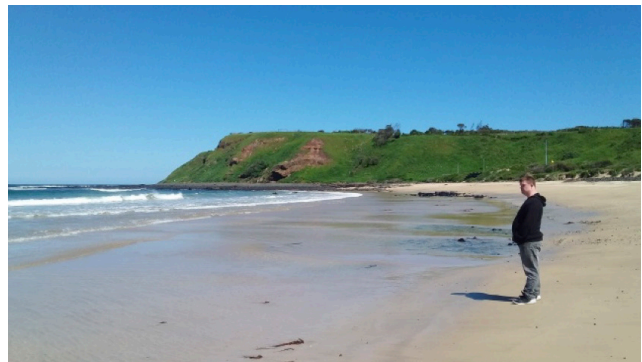
## REPORT



PENNY WEARNE - RECREATION ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

We held two camps throughout 2016, both aimed at young adults aged 17-25 years. Both camps were held at Alvina Farm Stay Cottages in Ventnor, Phillip Island. The first camp was held from the 24th-26th of June 2016, and the second camp was held from the 27th-29th of September 2016. The camps were very successful and popular amongst clients, and included the following activities which were enjoyed by all:

- Koala Conservation Centre
- Beach walks
- Penguin Parade
- Churchill Heritage Farm
- A Maze n' Things
- Phillip Island Chocolate Factory



Since May 2016, 24 new clients have been taken off the waiting list and have been offered service on the FROC program. The FROC program is currently servicing 94 clients on a regular basis on a range of programs including recreational activities, camps, social groups and 1:1 support/community access.

In addition to the clients that have been removed from the waiting list, the recreation program has also increased the amount of clients accessing programs on a fee for service basis. Since May 2016, the FROC program has serviced 19 fee for service clients on a regular and ad-hoc basis. Prior to this, the FROC program serviced 2 fee for service clients on regular basis. We hope to continue developing the FROC program in this area as we move towards providing services under the NDIS.

Due to poor attendance, the Movie Club (previously held at head office on a Friday evening) was scrapped. In its place, the Southland Movie and Dinner Club was introduced. This is currently running one Friday night per month, and in its early stages has been a great success, with 5-6 clients attending each month. The Movie and Dinner Club is a great opportunity for high-functioning young adults, aged 17-25 years, to participate in an age appropriate activity and develop friendships with other attendee's.

## FROC HIGHLIGHTS REPORT



A number of administrative processes, policies and procedures were introduced throughout the year in line with continuous improvement initiatives and audit preparations. These processes have included the introduction of:

- An outlook calendar for recreation programs, which provides a central locations for all activity and client information.
- The development of a new client Person Centred Plan document, providing a comprehensive overview of client information, support requirements, goals and interests.
- The development of a Respite Service Agreement, covering all client consents, such as Activity/Outing Indemnity, Respite Fee's, Cancellation Policy/Fee's, Client Damages Policy, Disclosure of Information and Publicity Approval.
- The development of an Information Pack for FROC clients, which includes the following information in line with DHHS requirements; Cultural Awareness, Privacy, Confidentiality, Complaints, Advocacy and Code of Conduct for SASI Employee's and Volunteers.
- The development of an Activity Feedback and Evaluation Form; providing FROC staff with a feedback mechanism in order to ensure that all important information is passed onto the Recreation Coordinator/Manager.
- The development of a client exit form, ensuring that the appropriate exit procedure is used when exiting clients from the service.
- The development of spreadsheet to keep track of all 1:1 in home/community access shifts – this assists in keeping track of client/staff movements, and ensuring that all invoicing information is kept in a central location.
- The development of a spreadsheet for client and staff details, which helps to ensure that this information is up to date and accurate.
- All current FROC clients have up to date Person Centred Plans and Respite Service Agreements, and these documents have been uploaded to Supportability and filed in their client hard files.

The FROC program is tracking well with its service hours this year. As of December 2016, the FROC program has delivered 2,309.25 hours via our DHHS funded programs. The yearly target for FROC is 4,414.75. All programs are running at capacity, with very few client cancellations.

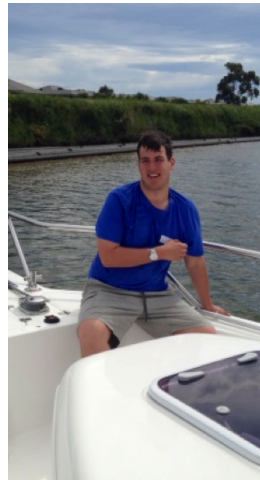
An increase in staff numbers and availability on the FROC program has resulted in much less agency usage. Prior to this, the FROC program relied heavily on the use of agency staff on all of our programs, particularly during peak periods such as school holidays. Agency staff are now only used by some of our fee for service clients (client nominated), as well as in emergency situations such as staff cancellations at late notice. We have managed to staff all activities on the upcoming January school holidays with only SASI staff. This has not previously been possible. Less agency usage financially benefits the program, but also assists in mitigating risk, as we are able to ensure that staff are appropriately skilled and trained.

Plans are in place for the introduction of a Skill Development Program for school leavers and young adults in 2017. It is proposed that this program will run from SASI Head Office, and assist attendee's to develop a range of daily living, social and independence skills. The content, structure, marketing materials and strategy has been developed for this program; however we are yet to source clients. We are hoping to achieve this in 2017.

## FROC HIGHLIGHTS REPORT



A group of SASI clients attended the annual 'Mates Day on the Bay' on Sunday 16th of October. This was a great day, as per usual, with many of the clients getting the opportunity to catch a fish whilst jumping on board fishing boats belonging to the many volunteers that take part in the day.



A big focus of mine has been in relation to improving staff and family morale and relationships. This has been achieved through regular communication with both staff and families, as well as regular quarterly meetings with staff. I feel that staff and family relationships have improved greatly since commencing in the role in May 2016. To my knowledge, there haven't been any client complaints for quite some time, and feedback from families and staff has been largely positive.

The FROC program has participated in a number of expos, events and conferences throughout 2016. Some highlights have included the Respite and Recreation Expo and the Victorian Autism Conference.

Some of the recreation activities that we have run throughout 2016 have included,

- A snow day at Lake Mountain
- Eureka Skydeck
- Parks, Gardens and Barbeques
- Royal Melbourne Show
- Imax, Melbourne Museum and Scienceworks
- Beach walks and day trips
- Bushwalks and Forest Trails



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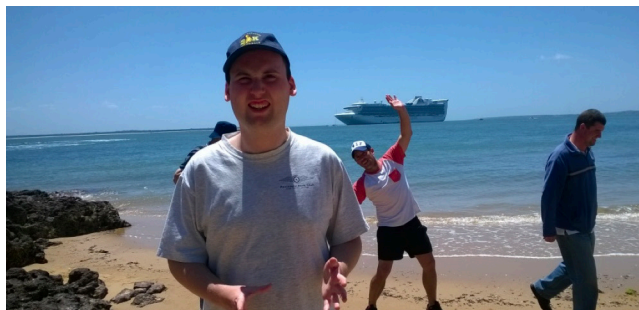


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