

PEBBLE



July 2022

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Steph
Winter in the City

Message from the CEO and Chair



Greetings all,

At the start of this year SASI embarked on a COVID Recovery Roadmap for 2022 with an approach of: Response, Recover and Thrive for SASI to be durable and resilient, with a fresh and engaging 'back to business' approach.

What an encouraging start to the year we have had! – we send huge congratulations to each and everyone who has contributed in every way.

We are now at the 6-month mark and wanted to share some of the successes, challenges and some organisational structure updates.

Successes:

- Amazing staff retention of team members through COVID
- Open Day @ Seaford HubLaunch of School Leaver Employment Support(SLES) Program
- Expansion of SASI Marketing & Social Media Campaign
- Social & Play Groups @ Mt Martha
- Home to Community Recommencing
- Camps are a go go go ...
- Growth in Respite opportunities in Gippsland

Challenges:

- Never ending cycle of COVID, and now influenza!
- Attracting new team members for our new and expanding services
- The NDIA and its administrative demands
- Organisational structure updates
- Darya, Service Delivery Manager, steps into the position as Allied Health Manager + Authorised Program Officer (the PBS reporting stuff)
- Jackie H, has accepted the opportunity of Acting Service Delivery Manager and pick up the reigns from Darya to lead and oversee SIL services at Aspendale, Cheltenham and Springvale
- Nikki Fraser's, title has changed to Executive Manager Corporate Services to reflect her responsibility across Finance, HR & IT

July has seen the 'real' start of winter with many chilly sub zero mornings this week ! Our second 'Come and Try Day' at the Seaford Hub is on again on 27 July and already has 33 bookings for our two morning sessions ! A further morning may be held in August/Sept, with a similar event planned to showcase our Gippsland Hub.

Message from the CEO and Chair

cont...

One of our founding parents from SASI's Parents, Clients and Carers Committee Julie has stepped down from the committee after an incredible 5 years. Julie's insights have been invaluable to the work of the committee, which has helped the Board to understand the opinions and perspectives of those we are here to support. A Board Director chairs the Committee with the support of Kath and her team. It meets quarterly and we would welcome new carers to the committee to help shape SASI's programs and operations. Thank you, Julie for your generous support of SASI, the Board is very appreciative of your commitment.

We have embarked on our Strategic Plan for the next three years and are excited about the possibilities for our clients and families both existing and new.

Please let us know if you have any suggestions/feedback etc on anything SASI does, we are always keen to hear from you all

Stay warm

Happy reading

Cheers,

Kath (CEO) & Angelia (Interim Chair)

Improving Accessibility for all Abilities

In order to make the Gamer/IT Program more accessible Gamer/IT Program Leader Dave researched gaming equipment for people with limited mobility and found the Xbox Adaptive Controller. Troy tested it out and gave it a big thumbs up. Prior to SASI purchasing the new equipment, Troy had a limited choice of 4 games. Now he can choose from the entire Xbox library and actively participate in them!

The Gamer/IT Program is now fully accessible, providing clients with the many benefits of gaming such as skill building, teamwork, social interaction, problem solving, learning history and much more!



Above: Troy and David test-driving the new Xbox adaptive controller

Client Services & Operations Team



Hello everyone,

Hope that you are all keeping well 😊 unbelievably we are at week #29 of 2022 and feels like we have continuously navigated coughs, colds, sickness and COVID it feels like endless tag team and I am sure it's the same for most households at the moment.

Needless to say this month my focus has been on keeping myself and those around me well and a staple in our home through winter that our kids love (yes the big kids too) is Chicken soup – truly a cure they say and I am a firm believer.

LET'S TALK ABOUT ...

New Child Safe Standards

As you know the Victorian Government announced new Child Safe Standards (Standards) that came into effect on 1 July 2022. The eleven new Standards replace Victoria's previous seven standards and principles. They set out minimum requirements and outline the actions organisations must take to keep children and young people safe.

Key changes include new requirements

- to involve families and communities in organisations' efforts to keep children and young people safe
- for a greater focus on safety for Aboriginal children and young people
- to manage the risk of child abuse in online environments
- for greater clarity on the governance, systems and processes to keep children and young people safe.

Why has this come about?

The Standards are changing to provide more consistency with Standards in the rest of Australia and to strengthen protection from child abuse.

Victoria has had mandatory Child Safe Standards since January 2016.

In 2017, the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) recommended that a new version of child safe standards be adopted by each Australian state and territory.

In 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) undertook a review of the Victorian Standards to ensure they were as strong as possible and to consider how they could better align with the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

What are the new Standards?

An overview is provided below:

1. Organisations establish a culturally safe environment in which the diverse and unique identities and experiences of Aboriginal children and young people are respected and valued
2. Child safety and wellbeing is embedded in organisational leadership, governance and culture
3. Children and young people are empowered about their rights, participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously
4. Families and communities are informed, and involved in promoting child safety and wellbeing
5. Equity is upheld and diverse needs respected in policy and practice
6. People working with children and young people are suitable and supported to reflect child safety and wellbeing values in practice
7. Processes for complaints and concerns are child focused
8. Staff and volunteers are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children and young people safe through ongoing education and training
9. Physical and online environments promote safety and wellbeing while minimising the opportunity for children and young people to be harmed
10. Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is regularly reviewed and improved
11. Policies and procedures document how the organisation is safe for children and young people.

Where to get help?

To understand more about child safety in organisations, you can reach out to Chirag Shah, Quality Assurance Manager by emailing chirag.shah@sasi.org.au or for further information:

- Visit the Commission's website: www.ccyp.vic.gov.au
- Telephone the Commission: 1300 782 978
- Email the Commission: contact@ccyp.vic.gov.au



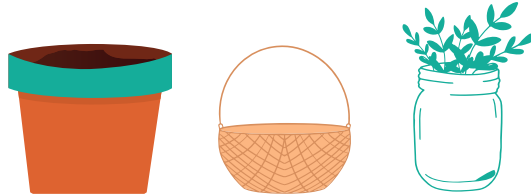
WHAT'S NEWS:

Pots, pots and more pots

We are super excited that our Horticulture Program at Seaford Hub is getting prepped and ready for Spring and the team would love your unused pots, pans and containers for clients to create some unique, edible and decorative pieces.

So if you have any of the following items laying around that the team could use as alternative Plant Pots they are keen to take them off your hands:

- Wellies – we can repurpose an old pair of wellington boots into a cute planter ...
- Mason Jars & Storage Jars. ...
- Tea Cups & Mugs. ...
- Bird Houses. ...
- Watering Cans. ...
- Wicker & Wooden Baskets or Crates ...



If possible please drop them to @ Seaford Hub or contact Sarah Stringer : sarah.stringer@sasi.org.au for further info.

Client Committee

Reminder ... would you like to be part of the planning for events and activities and be part of the process of providing information to flow to clients from management.

If yes ... come join the SASI Client Committee. They meet once at quarter virtually @ 7pm, dates for the remainder of the year are:

- August 2nd
- October 11th
- December 13th

For further information, please contact by email: zlata.lisars@sasi.org.au

Parent Carers Client Committee (PCCC) are recruiting

The PCCC represents users of all support services offered by SASI, including Active Choices, Supported Independent Living, In Home Support, Recreation and Respite Services.

The PCCC discussions revolve around the decisions and directions related to the quality of current and future services provided by SASI. Importantly, it enables the voices of parents, carers and clients to be heard, providing constructive feedback and having a direct impact on the services that will best support children and adults with autism and other complex disabilities. This is particularly important as we move to a post-COVID world with the resumption of services, some new and some modified, to best provide what is needed for our loved ones.

We are currently seeking new people to join us at the Parents, Carers & Clients Committee (PCCC).

If this sounds like something you'd love to do, please send an expression of interest and your contact details to melissa.violani@sasi.org.au so we can get in touch!

To register your interest in our any of our services, please visit www.sasi.org.au

Warmest regards,

Melissa + Client Services & Operations Teams

Horticulture Hub @ Seaford

Spring is in the air according to the popular and thriving Horticulture Program.

Making super good use of space with inclusive and accessible equipment, the aim of the program is to grow all the vegies and get seedlings ready for outdoor planting, growing and picking.

Next time you are at Seaford Hub pop in say hi and visit this wonderful place!



Above: Sue-Anne planting some seedlings with Sarah



SASI GETAWAYS are back!



Above L-R: Bryan, Dylan and Paul



L-R: Paul, Bryan, staff Rachael and Dylan out for a walk

The Support Services Team are excited to announce that we had our first post covid Weekend Getaway at Saltbush in Balnarring and it was a success! Bryan, Dylan and Paul together with staff Rachael and Naz all seemed to have a great weekend away. They stayed 2 nights at Saltbush in Balnarring in a lovely cozy cottage. They did plenty of activities such as pizza making, visiting Moonlit Sanctuary, card games, beach walks and out for coffee/hot chocolate. We are so pleased we were able to make this happen, thanks to the great staff and clients for making it such a great time. We have just added more dates, if you're interested in attending a future weekend getaway, please get in touch!



Above: Dylan pointing at a snake at the Moonlit Sanctuary



Above: Paul, Bryan and Dylan enjoy a meal and games at the cottage



Above: Paul feeding a friendly Kangaroo at the Moonlit Sanctuary

SASI Masterchefs

The weather has been too cold to go out, what do we do when the temperature drops? We cook! This past month, clients across the sites and services had a go at cooking to keep cosy and warm up!



Left: Masterchef Megan is making Lemon Cupcakes to take with her when she meets her Dad for a picnic lunch.



Above: Masterchef David, from Mordialloc is completing his Goal Mastery task of making Baked Beans for lunch!



Left and Right: Masterchef Jarrod from Springvale looks really happy to help making dinner



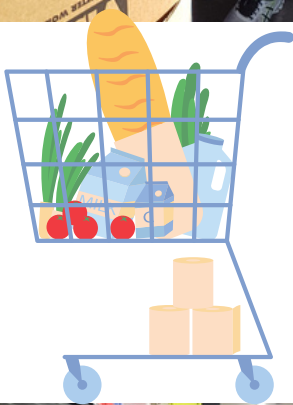
Latest Adventures

Out and About



Who doesn't love choosing their own produce?
Or picking out a special something for a special someone?
SASI team members are happy to support clients to be as independent as possible and to achieve their goals on a daily basis!

Left : Joe
Right and below: Todd



Above: Megan shopping

Below: Matthew paying for his lunch



Above: Malcolm choosing a card for a family member



Getaway for the weekend with SASI

Are you looking for an adventure? Look no further! SASI's weekend getaways have it all. Enjoy a 1 to 2-night retreat with a host of activities such as games, bush walking, beach activities and more.

Choose your location from the beautiful Balnarring Beach on the Mornington Peninsula or the quaint little Gippsland Cottage in Newborough.

All getaways are fully supported with qualified, professional and passionate staff who will be with you every step of the way.

"Our staff are experienced in working with clients with ASD as well as physical and intellectual disabilities," tells program manager Georgia. "They love what they do and will make sure the weekend is full of fun activities which are orientated to the interests of the participants."

"It's a great opportunity to meet new people and make friends with people who have similar interests. It's also a chance to step out of your comfort zone and try something new."

If you have relevant NDIS funding and you're interested in finding out more, get in touch with SASI and register your interest. Simply visit the website at www.sasi.org.au, click on 'Weekend Activities' and fill in the 'Expression of Interest' form. Once you send through the form a member of our Intake and Planning Team will be in touch with you to discuss your specific requirements.

What are you waiting for? Let's go on an adventure with SASI!



Lemon Delicious

by Chefs Aisha and Brent



INGREDIENTS

3 Eggs
1/2 Cup of Sugar
1 Cup of Milk
1 Tablespoon of SR Flour
1 Tablespoon of Lemon Rind
1/2 Cup of Lemon Juice
3/4 Sugar

DIRECTIONS

Separate eggs into 2 bowls
Beat yolks and 1/2 sugar with mixer until light and creamy
Add lemon juice, milk and rind
Fold in sifted flour
Whisk egg whites until soft peaks
Add remaining 1/4 sugar
Fold into lemon mixture and transfer to a greased dish
Place into a larger dish with water and cook for 40 minutes

Monjur Support Worker

How long have you worked for SASI?

6 years, including when I was a casual.

What does your role at SASI involve?

I am with the Langwarrin team and I work supporting the clients in Supported Independent Living. During the day we run programs individualised to each of their goals.

If given a chance, who would you like to be for a day?

I like soccer so I would like to be Mohammed Salah- he plays for Liverpool!

What TV Show/Movie is your guilty pleasure (yes, time to admit you love it)?

Blacklist.

Three words that best describe you?

Hard worker, respectful and kind man .



What is the one thing you cannot resist?

I cannot resist a nice, hot cup of tea!

What do you do when you are not working?

I like to play soccer.

Why do you enjoy working at SASI?

Great organisation with great reputation.

Contact Details

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E: enquiries@sasi.org.au

W: www.sasi.org.au

Want to share your ideas?
Email us on
enquiries@sasi.org.au



**Supporting children, teenagers, adults with
autism and other complex disabilities**

