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Adam and Malcolm met Santa at
the Christmas lunch

Message from the CEO and Chair

Greetings everyone!

Well, we have made it almost to the end of 2023 so applause all round to everyone.

Providing support to our families and clients in 2023 has not been without its challenges, however I have to say that we have been so fortunate in having a highly skilled and committed workforce who have risen to every challenge thrown at us this year

The SASI Board and I would like to pass on our grateful thanks to each and every one of our wonderful staff who return day after day to provide superb support to our clients and their families.....

You are all absolute stars!!



Our COVID Recovery Roadmap: Response, Recover and Thrive continues as we navigate our way into 2023.

We would also like to thank those staff who have taken up new challenges during the year to assist SASI achieve everything we have this year.

We wish everyone a wonderful, peaceful and happy time over the upcoming holidays, take time to relax and spend quality time with your friends and family. And, we look forward to seeing each and everyone of you in 2023 !!

Happy reading

Cheers,

Kath (CEO) & Rob (Chair)

Client Services & Operations Team



Hey everyone,

Welcome to the last edition of Pebble for 2022 ☺ another year has passed and we have continued to work collectively to support the lives of autistic people and their families.

As we approach the end of the year, with many of us are looking forward to a well-earned break, it is a great time to pause for reflection on the year that was and I asked myself this question and what I noticed is my gratitude for the simple things is stronger than ever before.

Personally: I am grateful for the times I can walk along the beach with my family and our dogs and I am most especially grateful for special friendships, laughter and catch-ups over coffee and new and old relationships.

Professionally: I am extremely grateful for the opportunity to be challenged every day and actually look forward to each day to do work that matters by contributing to people's lives. Somewhere where I trust my teammates to do what they need to do and where they trust me to take care of my responsibilities as well. I am also enormously grateful to my exceptional teams who bring their best selves to work to be of service to SASI clients who we are fortunate to support.

I hope as we end this year, you have the space to be in touch with gratitude for the special things in your world.



LET'S TALK ABOUT ...

The NDIS Review seems to be gaining more momentum, with NDS invited to attend a range of state, territory and national consultations held in the past week.

Last week members from NDS attended the Workforce Roundtable with the NDIS Review secretariat, key points raised included:

- the challenges of addressing perceptions of work in the sector, both as work that is undervalued and considered low skilled
- the challenges presented by a highly casualised and mobile workforce
- barriers to entry such as current worker screening processes
- how to create meaningful career pathways and training and development opportunities for workers in the sector.

The breadth raises the question of the need for discussions focused on more specific topics and with more targeted groups, including providers, however the Review is still early in the process and is gathering a variety of viewpoints at this stage.

The NDIS Review team is also seeking feedback from all parts of the disability sector on how the NDIS is working, what's not working, and possible solutions to address these issues. Feedback is sought by 31 December 2022 (see [Have your say | NDIS Review](#)).

To keep up to date with the latest developments in the NDIS Review you can now visit the [NDS website](#)[NDIS Review page](#)

And finally, as we head to the close of a very busy and at times challenging year, we are looking forward and we are excited about our plans and to coming back refreshed and energised.

To all SASI clients, families and carers, support workers, team members, suppliers, contractors and community partners - enjoy this time with your friends and loved ones, and we hope you also enjoy a well-deserved break.

Wishing you happiness and health in 2023.

Warmest regards,

Melissa + Client Services & Operation Teams



Christmas Celebrations



Dianne, Jarrod and Nigel



Anne, Malcolm and Malcolm Sr



Belinda



Michael and Ben



Brett and Todd



Gloria and Peter



Belinda and Ben





Seaford Hub Christmas Lunch



Dieter



Anne, Malcolm and Malcolm Snr

Brent and David



Staff and clients enjoying Christmas Lunch together



Out & About

Christmas Shopping



Above top: Todd met Santa
Below: Belinda shopping



Christmas Chores

Below L-R: Richard Gardening and Shopping: Joe cleaning the fence



Final blog from this SASI blogger...

Since 2017 I have had the privilege of writing blogs for SASI. Each of the blogs have come from my own personal experience from raising a child who is on the spectrum. They've also been influenced by friends who also have children with autism or who themselves have an autism diagnosis.

During this time, I've also researched many things about autism in order to ensure the blogs were not just about my child, but they were also relevant to other children on the spectrum, and I have included statistical and scientific evidence where appropriate. The process has been extremely educational for me and I have learnt many things about autism, myself, my child and other people who live with autism every day.

[Read More](#)

Below a photo of Nicola's children, whom inspired her to write the blogs that we have enjoyed for many years.

SASI wishes Nicola all the best in her new ventures.



Fabiana Administration Officer

How long have you worked for SASI?

1 Year an 3 months

What does your role at SASI involve?

I view my role as a support to all different departments, I get to do some creative work as well as admin. I really enjoy the variety!

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

I would love to be a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures to watch all the movies and vote for the Oscars

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

MAFS and 90 Day Fiancee, I know it's tragic but it helps me zone out.

Three words that best describe you?

- Loyal
- Determined
- Funny



Fabiana

What is the one thing you cannot resist?

A cheese board



What do you do when you are not working?

Going to the movies or the beach. Reading a good book and enjoying a glass of sparkling with friends

Why do you enjoy working at SASI?

I love the different backgrounds that our staff have. On our recent Staff Forum my team was comprised of people from all continents and that made me smile. I think that us immigrants have a lot to offer but not every workplace is welcoming of this diversity.



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Want to share your ideas?

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**statewide
autistic
services**

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

