



### DECEMBER 2018 UPDATE

#### It's that time of the year again; Christmas!

**Over the past few months, many new developments have taken place and it's wonderful to share these with you, our clients, families, staff and other stakeholders.**

On page 2 you will learn about just some of the recent accomplishments of our clients. It is great to see so many individuals achieving their goals and growing in their confidence and independence.

I am happy to share with you that Villa C, at our Bosworth Street site in Richmond, is fully operational and has four clients living in the house. We anticipated a 'full house' this December, but, as the demand for Specialist Disability Accommodation is very high, this occurred in October, this year. In addition to Villa C, Villa A at 40 Bosworth Street is now also in operation. We currently have two clients living at this villa and we're working towards having a 'full house' around April 2019. It's been a very busy period for the House Manager and staff to make each person feel welcome, to liaise with family and friends, to assess support needs and to provide high quality person centred support. I believe Sharron and her team are achieving the indicators throughout all stages!

New Haven Farm Home values and relies on relationships with other organisations and individuals from the community we are all a part of. One of these

relationships is Harvey Norman at McGraths Hill. All three proprietors, Skye Donaldson (Bedding), Luke Hallett (Furniture) and Brenton Crelley (Electrical) provide us goods at market cost and have worked closely with New Haven Farm Home to supply, deliver and install all our furniture, electrical and bedding to our new homes.

Over the last months, staff, leadership team and Board have worked towards a Statement of Organisational Values for New Haven Farm Home. Ms Jen White, from Jen White HR Consultants guided us through this process, resulting in a set of clear values. I will elaborate on this process further in this newsletter.

On page 7 you will find my update on the implementation of the NDIS and how this impacts on our organisation and clients. There have been a number of positive developments and we are looking forward to an improved relationship with the NDIA.

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter, "Inclusion". I hope you enjoy reading our latest update and I encourage you to share it with your family, friends and networks.



Jacques Stap  
Chief Executive Officer



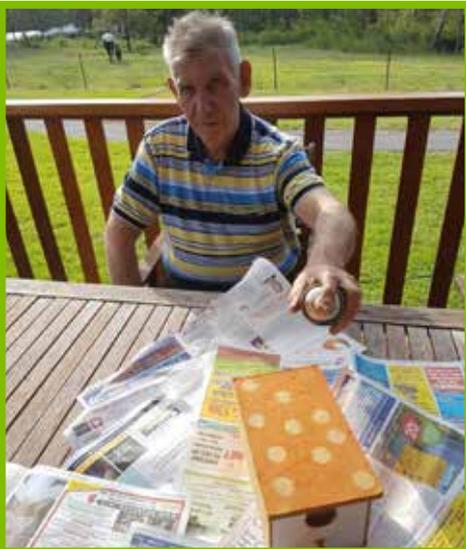
Warby is learning to cook. He did a great job preparing a tasty meal of quiche and chips to share with his house mate recently.



Robert likes going to the gym. He especially enjoys training on the bike and his strength and endurance is improving with every workout.



Michael hosted afternoon tea. He invited some of his friends to his home and made everyone a cup of tea to enjoy with cake.



Darrell and David made some colourful bird houses to hang up outside their home. They did a fantastic job painting and decorating the houses too!



Doug did an amazing job hand painting a small cheese board at the Koori Art Group that he attends. The group enables Doug to meet with other Indigenous men who share his interest in art.



Jess has enjoyed doing some painting recently. Painting is not only relaxing for Jess, but it helps her to develop her hand/eye coordination in a fun and creative way.



Shaun has been doing a great job looking after the garden maintenance outside his home. Shaun mows the lawn and keeps the gardens watered and tidy.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY

Regardless of our strengths, challenges, likes, dislikes, goals, interests, and abilities, we as humans all like to have a sense of control and independence in our lives. We want to have the right to make our own decisions, and be accepted, respected and included by others. All of these everyday life elements give us dignity and a sense of purpose.

Think about some of the things you do each week. Perhaps you enjoy meeting friends for a drink; do your grocery shopping or buy meat at the local butcher; go to work or participate in a community group. Maybe you are part of a social group or sports team or enjoy cooking meals to share with your friends and family. In all of your weekly activities you have goals to achieve and feel a sense of satisfaction when you accomplish them.

Now think about some of the things you learnt or were challenged by. Are you learning how to use a computer or to cook a new recipe? Are you working to improve a relationship; increase your fitness; or learn an instrument? Whatever you might be learning or experiencing, patience, support, respect and encouragement from others makes challenges and learning feel more achievable and rewarding.

Imagine not being supported by others to live life the way you wish. Imagine how you would feel if others didn't believe in your capabilities or didn't take the time to show you that your opinions are valued. Imagine if people didn't have patience for you or if you were no longer supported to participate in your weekly activities. It would likely feel very frustrating and your self-esteem and confidence would certainly be impacted.

Just like you, people living with a disability like to achieve their goals; belong to community groups; and have a sense of control over their lives. Many of the things you did this week were also done by someone living with a disability. People living with a disability need support, respect and encouragement when learning new skills or facing challenging situations, just like we all do.

People living with a disability often need additional support in their everyday activities such as cooking meals, doing the shopping, catching public transport or participating in activities as part of a local club or group. Your patience and encouragement can support the members of our community who are living with a disability to have the self-esteem and confidence to achieve their goals.

New Haven Farm Home is a Hawkesbury based not-for-profit organisation providing person centred support to people with a disability. The team at New Haven Farm Home assists people living with a disability to be empowered – in the decisions they make for their own lives; supporting them to work towards the goals they would like to achieve and the skills they would like to learn. New Haven Farm Home assists people living with a disability to develop their living and social skills, encouraging each individual to live their life the way they choose as valued members of the community.

So next time you see someone with a disability; maybe think about what you might have in common. Maybe you could consider some different ways to be patient and encouraging, as they work towards their goals and ambitions. And remember, people living with a disability are people with interests and skills; just like you.



**Ward is a talented musician. He plays the piano and the drums and has the amazing ability of learning to play songs just by listening to them.**



**Jess is learning how to cook. She is being supported to prepare and cook meals for her house mates and enjoys baking morning tea to share with her family.**



**Michael does the grocery shopping. He is being supported to become more independent in using a shopping list and in selecting the groceries needed in his home.**



Jon hosted a fantastic halloween party for everyone in October. Jon did a great job decorating both his home and around the outdoor area with lots of spooky decorations.

Thank you to Jon and William's family for joining us at the party and for helping Jon put on such a fun event for everyone.

There were some great costumes, and everyone really appreciated all of the effort Jon went to again this year.



# NHFH NEWS

On the 3rd of December we celebrated the International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD), a United Nations sanctioned event. This event aims to promote the rights and wellbeing and increase awareness of people with disability across all spheres of society. The Australian government has supported IDPwD since 1996. This year's theme is 'Empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring inclusiveness and equality'. It is designed to focus on empowering people with disability for inclusive, equitable and sustainable development, reflecting the organisation's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and pledge to leave no one behind. New Haven Farm Home is proud to support people with disability across the Greater Western Sydney area.

As discussed in my previous NHFH NEWS section, all our NDIS participants have had significant alterations to their plan. Supported Independent Living (SIL) budgets for each of our clients has been reduced. However, this has been (partially) compensated by a community participation budget. To ensure community participation funds can be administered properly, many of our clients Service Agreements had to be changed to include this component. During this month you will be asked to sign a new Service Agreement, which includes this service item.

Over the period from July to November, staff, our leadership team and Board have worked, with the support of Ms. Jen White, towards clear organisational values and norms. These newly identified values will guide us in developing and realigning our organisational culture with the effective provision of services and the organisation's sustainability. The methodology used in these activities was based on the examination of our current values and exploring what ethics and related conduct is required for now and in the future.

During the same period, our Board and leadership team have developed a new Strategic Plan 2019-2022. For family members, we have included a copy of the Strategic plan in this Newsletter.

The themes in our Value Statement are Excellence; Working Together; Respectfulness; and Continuous Improvement. Elements such as Accountability and Responsibility are of significant importance for the organisation to develop capability and capacity. Even though the process was for some of us daunting, I am confident that it will make significant inroads in our capacity to succeed in the ever-changing disability sector.

*- Jacques Stap*



Ian is a very talented artist. He recently painted this colourful canvas of a potted cactus. Ian attends a regular art class where he is learning new painting techniques and meets with others who share his interest.



Pat really enjoys going to his weekly volunteer work at GuideDogs NSW. He was very proud of himself this month as some of the dogs he has helped to look after have moved on to help people who need their assistance.



Jon really enjoys doing handyman tasks and building things. Jon is also very interested in history and medieval times. He is currently making a large medieval style shield out of wood and is doing a great job.

# CONGRATULATIONS MICHELLE!

**Congratulations to Michelle James, one of New Haven Farm Home's Support Workers.**

Michelle received this quarter's Employee Recognition Award for her ongoing commitment to delivering high quality person centred support to New Haven Farm Home's clients.

Michelle was nominated by her peers for her constant professionalism and the dedication she shows to supporting both clients and other staff.

Michelle is always very creative and shows lots of initiative when supporting clients to achieve their goals.

Craft, cooking, art, photography, bird watching and even recording frog calls for the Australian Museum are just some of the fun ways Michelle works alongside clients to help them build their skills and share their interests.

Michelle has over 19 years of experience within the disability sector and has been a New Haven Farm Home team member for nearly 2 years. Seeing clients happy, learning new skills, being more independent and confident gives Michelle motivation each day. She is a passionate team player who is committed to encouraging others to see people's abilities, not their disability.

Thank you Michelle for your dedication and hard work. We also congratulate and thank Helen, Melissa and Leanne D who were nominated for their efforts over the last quarter.



Darrell's cooking skills are constantly improving as he learns new recipes. He enjoys sharing the meals he cooks with his friends, and recently learned how to cook beef stroganoff. Well done Darrell!



Ziggy is learning how to ride a horse and attends regular lessons. His confidence is increasing and he even competed in a competition recently and was awarded with 4th and 5th place ribbons!



Robert enjoys going to the Riverstone Men's Shed to meet with other men in the community. He is currently making a chopping board and a set of coasters and they are looking great!

## WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK

**We would love to hear your feedback!** Share with us your favourite articles, the topics you are interested in reading in our future newsletter editions or the ways you, your organisation, workplace or social group would like to get involved by contacting our Relationship and Support Manager, Nicole.

(E: [ncastillo@newhavenfarm.org.au](mailto:ncastillo@newhavenfarm.org.au); Ph: (02) 4579 6131)



David is becoming more independent in the kitchen. He recently cooked a tasty lunch to share with his friends and everyone thought it tasted great.



Harry enjoys participating in karaoke nights at local pubs and clubs. Harry's loves to sing Johnny Cash songs and it is great to see his confidence growing.



JT had fun playing footgolf at Richmond Golf Club. It was a great chance for JT to participate in a sporting activity with others in the community, have fun and get some exercise.

## DISABILITY SECTOR UPDATE

The NDIA recently released its Annual Report for 2017-18. This report definitely put a positive spin on achievements and there is always more than a little bit of data burying. Nevertheless, the data they provide gives a vital insight into how the Scheme is actually performing.

### THE FEEL-GOOD STATS

It is easy to get caught up in what is going wrong with the NDIS and the magnitude of the problems we face. No statistic should be used to dismiss the real stress and grief that the Scheme has caused many people with disability and their families. But it is also important, for our own sanity, to remember that there are also some things that are going right. Here are some examples for the annual outcomes' framework questionnaire:

- 91% of parents of children between 0-6 believe the NDIS has helped their child's development.
- 82% of parents of children between 0-6 believe it has increased their child's ability to communicate their needs.
- 69% of parents of children between 7-14 believe the NDIS had improved their child's ability to develop and learn. It is interesting to note the difference between this and the 0-6 aged group. This makes a strong case for early intervention.
- 71% of Participants over 25 said the NDIS had helped them with activities of daily living.

### NON-BLOWOUT

Just a timely reminder that the 'NDIS blowouts', which we keep hearing about in the press is completely fake news. This year the Scheme came in under budget, as it has every other year since its inception. Moreover, projections show that it is likely to remain within the Productivity Commission's estimates in the coming years.

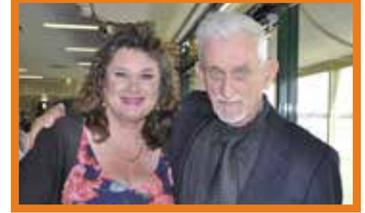
### INDEPENDENT PRICING REVIEW

The review report includes interesting information about the impact that the recommendations from the Independent Pricing Review (IPR) have had on providers. Apparently, changes implemented so far have improved providers' margins by 2-4%. Margins are even higher in rural areas, and for providers working with people with complex support needs.

- Jacques Stap

# CHRISTMAS LUNCH

It was fantastic to celebrate Christmas with our clients, their family members and our staff on Saturday 8th December.



## NHFH AT THE HAWKESBURY SHOW!

New Haven Farm Home are very excited and honoured to have been selected as the 2019 Hawkesbury Show Charity!

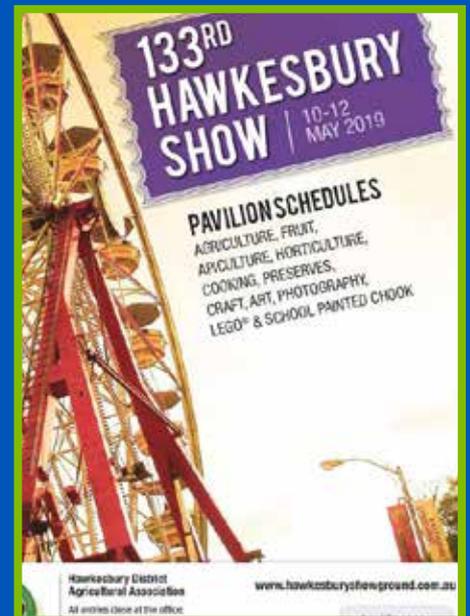
The 133rd Hawkesbury Show will be held from Friday 10th May to Sunday 12th May at the Hawkesbury Showground.

Participating in the Hawkesbury Show will provide New Haven Farm Home with a great opportunity to share our organisation and the achievement and talents of our clients with other members of the community. It will also provide us with the chance to speak with more families and people living with a disability who might benefit from support.

Over the next few months New Haven Farm Home's Relationship and Support Manager will be planning and preparing our stall including asking for community support through the donation of raffle prizes which will help us to raise funds at the show to provide even more opportunities for our clients.

If you or someone you know might be able to donate a prize towards our Mega Easter Raffle please contact Nicole at [ncastillo@newhavenfarm.org.au](mailto:ncastillo@newhavenfarm.org.au) or phone 02 45796131 / 0491 278 774.

We would love your support as we prepare for this exciting event.



## NEW HAVEN FARM HOME VALUES

New Haven Farm Home's values play a central role in all that we do; the way that we work together with one another and with the community; the way we communicate, and in the person centred services we provide to people living with a disability and their families. We value:

**EXCELLENCE • WORKING TOGETHER • RESPECTFULNESS • CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

# PERSON CENTRED SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY



Shaun loves Christmas and has been learning how to make decorations to hang up around his home using paper and a variety of art supplies.

Your generous gift this Christmas will bring additional learning, development and community inclusion experiences to the lives of people living with a disability, enabling them to further develop their skills and share in activities that we all enjoy.

## JUST SOME OF THE WAYS YOUR GIFT CAN HELP:

- \$20** enable participation in activities at a local club or community group
- \$50** provide art supplies to support creativity and learning
- \$100** support someone with intensive public transport training, increasing their independence and confidence
- \$250** provide a weekend away to experience new places or visit family and friends
- \$500** enable someone to enroll in a course to develop their education and skills for employment

*Yes, I would like to help provide opportunities for people living with a disability*

### Please accept my gift of:

\$20     \$50     \$100     \$250     \$500     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### My Details:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: H / W / M: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Payment Details:

- Cash     Cheque (payable to New Haven Farm Home Ltd)
- Direct Transfer (BSB: 062622 Acc: 2802 6370, Ref: your name)

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

*We will send you a copy of your receipt soon*

- Please contact me to discuss more ways I can help
- Please keep me up to date with client achievements and New Haven Farm Home services
- I am interested in learning about current vacancies



SHARE A MESSAGE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

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