



JFA Purple Orange Newsletter

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In this edition:

- [Federal Election 2013](#)
- [Practical Design Fund Reports](#)
- [Workshops for people living with disability and their families](#)
- [Perspective 2013](#)
- [Julia Farr Youth Conference](#)
- [DIRC Disability and Ageing Expo 2013](#)
- [Gearing Up - Tasmania](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

Federal Election 2013

On Saturday 7 September Australians went to the polls. We now have a new Federal Government in the LNP and Prime Minister Tony Abbott.

On Monday 16 September Mr Abbott announced his 30-strong cabinet and outer ministry. Senator Mitch Fifield was appointed Assistant Minister for Social Services (Kevin Andrews was appointed Minister for Social Services) which will include responsibility for disability reform.

Since the announcement, disability advocates, social commentators and members of the opposition have voiced their concern that there is no longer an individual portfolio for disability.

Former Minister for Disability reform Jenny Macklin commented in *The Australian* (Jenny Macklin laments loss of focus on DisabilityCare, Wednesday 18 September 2013) "It is deeply worrying that the biggest social reform in a generation is not a high enough priority for the new government to warrant the attention of a cabinet minister".

Editor of the ABC's Ramp Up, Stella Young, commented in the same article that while Senator Mitch Fifield was a good choice given his prior involvement in the development of the NDIS, "I wish the role itself was considered important enough to be inside the cabinet room".

At JFA Purple Orange we are less concerned about ministry title and more concerned about how the person will provide effective leadership to help ensure the new disability policy and funding arrangements genuinely achieve a paradigm shift in how people are supported. In other words, it's about the results.

Outside Cabinet, we assume Senator Fifield will actively uphold the new government's policy commitment to the disability community, while inside Cabinet we assume Minister Andrews will carry accountability for the reform, which we hope and trust includes accountability for ensuring disability reform remains prominent on Cabinet's agenda. In other words, it's about the influence.

[Back to Top](#)

Practical Design Fund Reports

Earlier this year JFA Purple Orange undertook two projects as part of the Commonwealth Government's Practical Design Fund in preparation for the National Disability Insurance Scheme, DisabilityCare Australia.

We are very pleased with the results from both projects. The first project used a co-design methodology, supplemented by an extensive consultation at various centres around Australia, to identify what people would want from a disability funding online marketplace, which we called an 'eMarket', similar to eBay, Gumtree and TripAdvisor.

There was strong support for an eMarket and our report highlighted what people wanted from an eMarket, together with our recommendations about how it might be commissioned and operated.

The second project looked at the exercise of values-based leadership in disability service agencies. We ran a series of two-day workshops, in the five NDIS launch sites, to more than 150 leaders from disability agencies, assisting them to explore the values that might help ensure agencies can be genuinely helpful to the life chances of people living with disability and their families.

The workshops were run in conjunction with the South Australian Council of Social Services (SACOSS).

The workshops were well-received and our report included recommendations for how to maintain the momentum of values-based conversations in service agencies.

The reports from these projects are now publicly available from the DisabilityCare Australia website via this link:

www.disabilitycareaustralia.gov.au/document/204

[Back to Top](#)

Workshops for people living with disability and their families

JFA Purple Orange is holding free workshops for people living with disability, family and friends in October and November 2013

The workshops are designed to be helpful to any person living with disability or family member, and may be particularly timely for people taking up the State Government's offer of converting their current disability support arrangements to an individualised budget, or families who are the first wave of participants in DisabilityCare Australia.

We have structured these workshops to help people explore how to make the most of their support funding in support of stronger life chances.

The workshops are held between 1:00pm and 3.30pm at Our Space, 104 Greenhill Road, Unley in Adelaide. If the times or format don't work for you, get in touch and we can explore other ways to get information to you.

The Department for Community and Social Inclusion has contributed funds toward this program.

These are the workshops:

Workshop Title	What it Covers	Date
You and Your Life	This workshop explores what a good life might mean for you and your family, and what might be possible.	Wednesday 16 October
Making a Plan	This workshop explores the types of planning that might work best for you and your family, and how this links with planning arrangements at DisabilityCare Australia and for State Government individualised funding.	Friday 18 October
Choices and Voices	We look at the values of control and choice which underpin the new disability funding arrangements, what you can expect and the ways you can make sure your voice is heard about what you want.	Wednesday 23 October

Connected	A good life is more than formal paid disability supports. This workshop explores ways people can connect to opportunities in their communities.	Wednesday 30 October
Choosing your Personal Assistance	This workshop explores what a good relationship means between a person and their paid helpers, and what you might look for when choosing a person or agency to help you.	Wednesday 6 November
My Home, My Castle	This workshop explores the difference between a house, a home and a staff workplace, and which is more important to you.	Wednesday 13 November
Safeguarding for a Good Life	This workshop explores the concerns people have about staying safe, and what this means when you want to do more in your life.	Wednesday 20 November

[Back to Top](#)

Perspective 2013

Each year, JFA Purple Orange hosts the Perspective Art Exhibition which explores themes relevant to people living with disability, their families, personal networks and the wider community. The exhibition is a celebration of the work of artists living with disability as well as non-disabled artists.

We launched this year's exhibition on Friday 2 August, focusing on the theme of *Stories*. Stories evolve from people's life experiences. They reflect our unique journeys of love, loss, change, resilience, acceptance, courage, family, friendships and more. We invite you to share your story through your art.

The exhibition this year includes wall-hung in a range of media, plus ceramics and audio-visual works. Accompanied by killer lighting and our world-famous-in-Adelaide catering, the launch was a success with artists and guests in attendance, including Senator Amanda Rishworth.

The exhibition runs until January 2014, so come and take a look. Most of the pieces are available for purchase.

[Back to Top](#)

Julia Farr Youth Conference

Save the Date: 14 – 15 April 2014

In early 2014 Julia Farr Youth is holding a two-day national conference in Adelaide for young people living with disability. Conference themes include empowerment, personal leadership, resilience and choice.

Julia Farr Youth won funding for the conference under the Department for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) Conference Initiative 2013-14.

To register your interest in attending the conference, contact Georgie at JFA Purple Orange on (08) 8373 8313 or email georginae@purpleorange.org.au.

[Back to Top](#)

Gearing Up - Tasmania

In August, JFA Purple Orange completed its third series of workshops for young Tasmanians living with disability. As part of Tasmania's *Gearing Up* expo series in Hobart, Launceston and Burnie, we were in Burnie to run four workshops to assist young people explore issues of decision-making, control and choice.

The workshops were busy, with no shortage of energy from the participants. We've had great feedback, particularly on our 'message-in-an-envelope'.

Congratulations to Darlene McLennan, National Disability Coordination Officer based at University of Tasmania for an awesome effort in pulling these events together.

DIRC Disability and Ageing Expo 2013

On Friday 16 August JFA Purple Orange participated in the DIRC Disability and Ageing Expo 2013 held at the Adelaide showgrounds, and we congratulate DIRC on another successful expo..

The expo provided a valuable opportunity to talk with people living with disability and their families about some of our key projects and initiatives including:

- Julia Farr Youth Mentoring – an innovative program in which a group of young adults living with disability mentor children and adolescents living with disability
- The upcoming Julia Farr Youth Conference to be held in Adelaide in April 2014

- Our JFA Purple Orange workshops which are being held in metropolitan and regional South Australia
- Work regarding the National Disability Insurance Scheme, DisabilityCare Australia
- The Julia Farr Housing Association.

Contact us on admin@purpleorange.org.au if you would like more information about any of the above projects and initiatives.

The day was a success with many people visiting our stall. Thank you to all those who visited us – we look forward to seeing you again next year.

[Back to Top](#)

Upcoming Events

JFA Purple Orange has been promoting a number of events recently. Here is a rundown of what we have coming up. We hope to see you at our events and invite you to call us on (08) 8373 8333 if you have any queries about registrations.

WEDNESDAY

**25
SEPTEMBER**

Film Event - 25 September 2013

Join us for a screening and discussion of three stories: Beautiful with Tired of Being and The Barossa Five.

When: Wednesday 25 September 2013, 12:15pm-1:45pm

Where: Our Space, 104 Greenhill Road, Unley SA

Tickets: \$20 (concession available) including light lunch

Follow this link to our website for more details:

www.purpleorange.org.au/news-links/purple-orange-news/jfa-purple-orange-film-event/

THURSDAY

**26
SEPTEMBER**

Event for Families - 26 September 2013

An opportunity to meet with other parents/primary carers of a child living with severe disability, with high/complex healthcare needs, to share information and create connections.

What: Afternoon tea

When: Thursday 26 September at 2:00pm

Where: Our Space, 104 Greenhill Road, Unley

RSVP: Call us on (08) 8373 8333 or email us at admin@purpleorange.org.au

This is a free event. Your child is also welcome to attend with you.

Follow this link to our website for more details:

www.purpleorange.org.au/news-links/purple-orange-news/event-for-families/

THURSDAY

**17
OCTOBER**

Good Practice Forum: Carers Place in DisabilityCare Australia (NDIS) - Thursday 17 October 2013

This half day forum is for carers, service providers, legislators and commercial operators who are, and will be, affected by the introduction of DisabilityCare Australia (NDIS). The Forum will include presentations and time for discussion and debate.

Time: 8.45am to 12.30pm

Location: Fullarton Park Community Centre, 411 Fullarton Rd., Fullarton SA 5063 (plenty of onsite parking available)

Enquiries: Moira Deslandes, Carers SA, Senior Policy and Carer Engagement Officer, (08) 8291 5600

Email: moira.deslandes@carers-sa.asn.au

Register: www.eventbrite.com.au/event/6454143517

MON/TUES

**21 - 22
OCTOBER**

Towards a Better Life - 21 and 22 October 2013

Training and Evaluation for Change (TEC) present Towards a Better Life: An exploration of the Social role Valorisation framework with regard to people who are marginalised.

The workshop examines how the acquisition of valued roles can contribute to changed societal perceptions and strengthen the likelihood that people with a devalued status will get a better life.

This workshop is designed for participants from a range of government, non-government and community or consumer sectors, including support workers, coordinators, managers, family members, members of management committees, people living with disability, people living with mental illness, older people and advocates.

The workshop will run from 8:15am – 5:00pm each day.

Follow this link to our website for more details:

www.purpleorange.org.au/news-links/external-news/towards-better-life/

MONDAY

**28
OCTOBER**

Parents Helping Parents - 28 October 2013

A DisabilityCare Australia Information Forum led by volunteer parents of children living with disability and Robbi Williams CEO of JFA Purple Orange, for parents and carers.

Come along for some answers and ideas about DisabilityCare and what it might mean for your child living with disability.

Where: Our Space, 104 Greenhill Road Unley

Who: Parents and carers of a child living with disability, or who has different learning needs (Dads and grandparents especially welcome).

When: Monday 28 October, 10.30am-12.30pm

RSVP: to JFA Purple Orange ASAP. We expect this event will fill quickly. Phone (08) 8373 8333 or email

admin@purpleorange.org.au

Follow this link to our website for more information:

www.purpleorange.org.au/news-links/purple-orange-news/parents-helping-parents/

JFA Purple Orange

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