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Welcome to October's Newsletter

Hello

Branch News

It is my pleasure to introduce our newest staff member to the Branch, Mirela Sandu. Mirela started in September and is the new Out Reach Coordinator.

Hi my name is Mirela Sandu, I have 2 children, a daughter who is 17 and a son who is 16 who has Autism and Fragile X. I have worked in the disability sector in the central/west/north shore and Rodney districts for the past 5 years so bring to my new role a wealth of experience, skills and knowledge. In my spare time I paint and read but there is not much of that in our house. I am looking forward to my new role supporting our many families who have children who are newly diagnosed.



AUTISM NZ AUCKLAND BRANCH SUPPORT GROUPS:

YOUTH WITH ASPERGERS/ HIGH FUNCTIONING AUTISM SOCIAL GROUP

We meet on the 1st Sunday of each month. 12.00-2.00pm at 65 Morningside Dr., St Lukes.
Facilitator -Sushila Krishnamoorthy on sjsk@xtra.co.nz
Mob. 021 102 06 40
or Natasha Delgarno on natasha.delgarno@autismnz.org.nz
Mob. 021 393 846

ADULTS ASPERGER SYNDROME/HIGH FUNCTIONING AUTISM

DROP-IN
Venue : Rear of building. 65 Morningside Dr., St Lukes.
Dates : 1st Tuesday of every month.
Time : 12-2pm
Contact Natasha on natasha.delgarno@autismnz.org.nz

WOMEN WITH ASPERGERS GROUP
Meets 1st Saturday of every month (except January) 3.00pm-5.00pm at 65 Morningside Dr., St Lukes
Facilitator Christine Lee christine.mansford.lee@gmail.com or Natasha.delgarno@autismnz.org.nz

ph. 021 393 846

Autism N.Z. Inc
Auckland Branch Staff

Annual General Meeting Guest Speaker: Labour List MP Carmel Sepuloni

Auckland Branch will hold its AGM on Wednesday 26th October 2011. 7.30pm at 65 Morningside Drive, St Lukes. We are pleased to announce that Labour List MP Carmel Sepuloni will be attending as our guest speaker. Carmel is the spokesperson for Disability Issues, Victims Rights and Associate spokesperson for Social Development. Come along and bring your questions for Carmel.

Please RSVP to Auckland@autismnz.org.nz by the 24th October 2011. We are also need new energetic members to be on our committee, for further information on the draft document on the key roles please [click here](#).

Seminars

MAKATON NEW ZEALAND/AOTEAROA

Beginners Workshop Thursday 3rd & or 10th November
9am-2.30pm @ Wilson Centre Conference Room 1 St Leonard's Road, Hauraki, Takapuna.

Makaton is a communication programme, especially designed to help children and adults with communication and learning difficulties to better understand our speech and develop their own communication skills. For further information please [click here](#).

Learning Better Together A Seminar on Inclusive Practice

Thursday 27th October 2011

9.30am-3.30pm

Buttefly Creek
Tom Pearce Drive
Auckland International Airport

Karen Loneragan -
Branch Manager

Emma Cutts -
Team Leader
Service Delivery

Jo Lloyd -
Programme Coordinator

Natasha Delgarno -
Adult and Youth
Liaison Officer

Mirela Sandu
Outreach Coordinator

For further information on the seminar please [click here](#).

Individualised Funding for speakers of Other Languages

The Parent & Family Resource Centre, with support from the Waitemata District Health Board Child Development Service, is hosting a seminar on Individualised Funding (IF) for families with a disabled member, who speak a different language. IF is a new funding tool option for delivery of some disability support services.

Wednesday 09 November 9.30am till 1pm
Come along, for further information [click here](#).

Show us Your Disability Policy

Election Meeting for the Disability Community

Help get disability onto the political agenda. You are invited to an election meeting for the disability community where you will:

1. Find out about the political parties' disability policies
2. Hear each party's spokesperson answer questions from disabled people, parents and care givers, and disability organisations
3. Find out how to enrol to vote and the voting process

Learn about the electoral referendum

When: Monday 31 October 2011, 1.30pm to 4pm

Where: Western Springs Garden Hall, 956 Great North Road
For further information please [click here](#). To register please [click here](#)

Big Day Out with Thomas

12th & 13th November 2011. Please [click here](#) for further information.

Respite Care & Disability Support Services Forum

Wednesday 2 November 6 - 8.30pm

The Parent & Family Resource Centre (PFRC) is facilitating a Parents' Forum on Respite care and other Disability Support Services. In September PFRC distributed a survey regarding respite care for the autistic community. We have been inundated with responses ranging from complete lack of knowledge of respite services, through to heart-breaking stories of a lack of support.

For further information on this forum and to register your attendance please [click here](#).

Child Locators

Safety is paramount when it comes to children. Child Locators are ideal from 18 months-6 years of age. Simple and easy to use, they work indoors and outdoors and gives parents and caregivers peace of mind. For further information please [click here](#).

Help Programme

Following a diagnosis of an autism spectrum disorder, many parents and carers feel isolated and unaware of what do to next. By providing basic information on communication and behaviour strategies and education and benefits, parents are given guidance on how to support their child now and in the future.

Programme Dates:

Session One: Tuesday 25th October 6pm - 9.30 pm

Session Two: Tuesday 1 Nov 6pm - 9.30 pm

Session Three: Tuesday 8 Nov 6pm - 9.30 pm

Session Four: Tuesday 15 Nov 6pm - 9.30pm

Session Five: Tuesday 22 Nov 6pm - 9.30pm

Session Six: Tuesday 29 Nov 6pm - 9.30pm

To register please [click here](#).



Autism New Zealand Inc.
Including Asperger Syndrome and Related Disorders

Sell or Rent Your Property with Harcourts and Support Autism NZ!

Call 0800 harcourts or email referral@harcourts.co.nz when you are thinking of selling or renting a property. Harcourts will donate 10% of the commission or 3 months of the Property Management Fee to support Autism NZ! This will cost you nothing, but will make a huge difference to those living with Autism in your community.



The views expressed in this newsletter and any advertisements are not necessarily those of Autism New Zealand Inc. (Auckland Branch). From time to time, in the interest in providing the widest possible range of information to our members, we may include some of the new approaches to autism now available. This does not however imply Autism New Zealand Inc. (Auckland Branch) endorses any particular approach.