

Down Under Institute



3pm Sunday
22 February 2009
to
Thursday
26 February 2009

Novotel Tainui Hotel
7 Alma Street,
Hamilton
New Zealand

Come to Hamilton, New Zealand,
to renew friendships, form new networks and
weave together knowledge and understanding of
inclusiveness, diversity and community building.

A learning
and
networking
adventure
by Oceania.

Lifestyle Trust, Hamilton



**LIFESTYLE
TRUST**

Lifestyle Trust works alongside individuals and their whanau, friends and associates to facilitate the process of growing interdependence. The service is person-driven, with individuals choosing their own directions and gaining skills which enable them to live life in the way they choose.

Lifestyle Trust promotes greater acceptance and inclusion of people with disabilities as well as reciprocal relationships within the community.

Lifestyle Trust supports people in making their own choices and developing their own identity – choosing what activities fill their days, who they get to know, where they belong and where they live, learn, work and play. This is achieved through Circles of Support and proactive community building.

Disability Resource Centre, Hawkes Bay



A charitable trust formed by a group of parents and interested parties from the community, Disability Resource Centre has developed a range of services:

~ Network Personnel is a specialised employment agency, which assists people with disabilities to access paid employment in mainstream work settings. It provides ongoing support, with universal eligibility for paid work in integrated settings. As career goals are achieved, new goals are set and worked towards.

~ Individualised support is provided for people with disabilities, so that they can participate fully in their community and lead valued lives.

~ A series of modules focuses on work-related skills and life skills.

~ Home Support workers provide a variety of services in the clients' own homes, with a focus on maximising independence for people who choose to live in the community.

Toronto Summer Institute

Down Under Institute was inspired by the Toronto Summer Institute, an international gathering that provides a learning marketplace for all who value inclusion, community building and diversity. Participants explore areas such as Person-centred Planning, Asset Based Community Development, MAPS, PATH, Circles of Support and Inclusive Education.

While sharing the same values as the Toronto Summer Institute, Down Under Institute captures an antipodean flavour and a recognition of the unique identity of Oceania.



"A community
without a place for
everyone
really has a place for
no one."

~ Mike Green

Fill your basket of knowledge and understanding

The first-ever Down Under Institute

is for those who wish to explore international best practice in the areas of inclusion, diversity and community building.

This is where every conversation begins with "Yes! - and ...".

you

are a person who has experience of disability in your family, you are from a marginalised group, you are a decision-maker in perhaps a government agency or a council, you are a service provider, you are an educator, or you are a person who believes that we can make the world a better place.

You seek new ways of thinking.

You know there are no easy answers.

You are keen to be inspired to engage in action.

Most of all, you share a belief that inclusion is not up for debate.

Down Under Institute is for you!

Keynote contributors

Jack Pearpoint, Inclusion Press, Marsha Forest Centre, Toronto, Canada

Jack is an independent Canadian publisher, who leads workshops, seminars and institutes in the area of inclusion, diversity, teamwork and change. He is internationally recognised for his colourful planning tools - MAPS and PATH, as well as Circles of Friends, Solution Circles, and graphic facilitation. He uses music and storytelling as tools to transform organisations, families and individuals.

Lynda Kahn, Inclusion Press, Marsha Forest Centre, Toronto, Canada

Lynda is an advocate for people with disabilities, an educator and a facilitator who helps people discover solutions to the challenge of creating communities where all people are included. Co-leader at Inclusion Press, Lynda served as Rhode Island's Executive Director of the Division of Developmental Disabilities (DDD) from 1996 to 2005. She also served on the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS) Board of Directors from 2000, and was the organisation's president and past-president.

Mike Green, ABCD Organizing, Denver, USA

Mike offers ABCD (Asset Based Community Development) training and consultation to organizations to engage their local communities as partners for collective action. He teaches and consults throughout North America. Mike's focus is the practical implementation of ABCD principles. Mike's present framework for practice came from three key life experience areas: community organizing, social work and business.

We aim to

~ deepen understanding of issues surrounding structural barriers to inclusion.

~ foster conversations about belonging and community membership.

~ welcome the gifts of people on the margins.

~ build community capacity.

~ encourage ways of engaging with community.

~ create a forum for leading-edge practices.

~ create an environment of collaboration.

~ share success stories.

~ raise hope.

~ see new possibilities.

~ develop local and international connections and alliances.

~ discuss, contemplate and share ideas.

~ develop the enthusiasm for implementing new practices.

Sponsorship

Down Under Institute offers you the opportunity to promote a business which shares similar values and principles to those which underpin this gathering.

Your investment of \$750 + GST will be used to offer a place at Down Under Institute to a person from a marginalised group who may otherwise find participation beyond their means.

To discuss this further, please contact Lyn Addison. lyn@lifestyletrust.org.nz

To contact us

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Website <http://www.lifestyletrust.org.nz>

Email Lyn Addison, Lifestyle Trust. Email lyn@lifestyletrust.org.nz.

Places at Down Under Institute are limited. As the organisers would like to ensure that there are representatives across all sectors at the gathering, we seek expressions of interest from those who would like to participate. Please provide the following information by the end of May 2008:

Surname _____ First Name _____

Postal Address _____

Telephone - landline (____) _____ mobile (____) _____

Email _____

Organisation (if applicable) _____

Please indicate your field(s) of contribution:

People with disabilities and their supports. (This includes families.)

Other marginalised people (such as new migrants).

Service provider to a marginalised group.

Educator. Please indicate which sector _____

Key decision maker:

local government

central government

policy maker

other (please indicate) _____

INFORMATION

The enrolment fee of \$843.75 (GST inclusive) is to be paid in full by 30 October 2008. The fee covers: Sunday Powhiri (including meal), breakfast on the Monday and Thursday, morning and afternoon teas. The fee also covers a Down Under Institute T shirt.

The fee does not cover lunch on any of the days. Delegates are encouraged to experience the Hamilton café scene. Evening social functions, too, are at delegate's own expense.

ACCOMMODATION

Rooms are being held at the Novotel or the Ibis at a reduced rate. Hotel Ibis has five accessible rooms. Novotel has eight accessible rooms. Delegates are responsible for booking their own accommodation. Booking forms are included with the enrolment package.

Bookings must be confirmed on or before 22 January 2009.

PRIVACY ACT

This information will be used by the conference organisers for the purposes of this conference. A list of delegates will be made available to delegates and sponsors of the conference. Unless you advise otherwise we will include your name and particulars on any such lists.

INQUIRIES to Lyn Addison, Lifestyle Trust. Email lyn@lifestyletrust.org.nz. Telephone 64-(0)7- 8474255.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST IN DOWN UNDER INSTITUTE BY THE END OF MAY 2008 TO
Down Under Institute, Lifestyle Trust, PO Box 15447, Dinsdale, Hamilton 3243, New Zealand.**