

Winter 2022



Community

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Welcome to our Winter Edition!

In this quarters edition we have four new stories that demonstrate our organisation's values: Faith, Empowerment, Excellence and Fun. We hope you enjoy this latest edition!

(Photo: Tracey and Bruce enjoying the music of the Uncanny X-men)

From the desk of the CEO

EQUALITY VERSUS EQUITY



In the first image, it is assumed that everyone will benefit from the same supports. They are being treated equally.



In the second image, individuals are given different supports to make it possible for them to have equal access to the game. They are being treated equitably.



In the third image, all three can see the game without any supports or accommodations because the cause of the inequity was addressed. The systemic barrier has been removed.

In the disability space we often hear a lot of words about equality, respect, dignity. Especially as we advocate for and support those in our community who may be living with a disability.

At LDS we are a faith based organisation and we often have conversations about our perspective on the above and how these relate to or can be lived out through our values. Our values are Faith; Empowerment; Excellence and Fun.

As I see the wonderful work we do and what God does through LDS, I am convinced that our unique faith based values are a critical part of how we treat each other equitably.

I am learning a lot about how people with disability are perceived (rightly or wrongly) and especially how perspectives and prejudices can make a profound influence on wellbeing. What I love about the biblical message of the God who loves us, is that our value is not determined by our strengths or weakness or who we are or whether we live with disability or whether we are captain of the football team or leader of the debating team.

Our worth is defined by a God who loves us all unconditionally and who sees our value from that perspective of love. God, calls us to be his love and share his love as we serve others. This is the underpinning value of Faith that drives LDS in all we do.

From the desk of the CEO

At LDS we are:

- Unconditionally loving and accepting of all people
- Committed to mentor, support and encourage all in their faith journey
- People that recognize that everyone is individually gifted by God
- Expressing love while serving in any capacity.

I was pulled up recently for being passionate about helping our clients improve themselves and was reminded that our clients are not “broken”. We are not there to “fix them”. Our aim at LDS is to provide our supports to our clients (removing systemic barriers to them achieving their life goals) but we do it with our clients, and enable them to express their unique gifts and character. We not only serve our clients with love, but we are there to create the space where our clients can serve and love others. It is a subtle but really powerful difference of perspective. When we see our clients express happiness because they feel useful and belong, it is truly a blessing to behold. I so love it when we attend functions where clients are serving us and each other, our staff and supporting community are all serving equally and equitably. It often in these events that you no longer recognize or see any disability, just everyone having a great time. This is our value of Faith in action and a reflection of the really special community that LDS is.

We are continuing to explore partnerships with churches and with other housing providers to create outstanding accommodation options for people who want to live independently. The challenges of rising land costs and building costs are real, but we continue to explore ways to build a secure asset base for LDS so that we can offer tenure and secure affordable housing for many years to come. This is a slow process, but we trust God will open doors. We are especially focused on partnerships where we can create strong connections to local communities and activities.

We have had a challenging year and we are all working hard to make sure we continue to provide quality and safe supports. We have experienced some turnover of staff, but we continue to hire and build our awesome team who share our values and have a real heart for serving and creating space for our clients to serve others. We are adding to our team leader structure and will be recruiting for additional client service managers in the near future. LDS is planning to grow in the number of the houses we support, but importantly we are committed to build connections for our clients (in Christian or non-Christian communities) and find ways to empower our clients and create secure happy homes.

I am so grateful for the close knit community of everyone in the LDS family. I do look forward to catching up with as many of you as I can when we host some long overdue end of year functions.

Yours in His service,
JvR

FAITH



Recently two of our clients attended church as an expression of their faith and curiosity. Mark attended a local Catholic Church and Sean paid a visit to one of Adelaide's Cathedrals. The expression of faith is important to LDS, it is one of our values and it is important that we offer our clients the opportunity to build connection and community through visiting a church.

At LDS we are committed to support our clients to express their faith in any way that want to as a core value of our organisation. This may include volunteering in their community, through work, attending fun activities at faith based community groups or by attending services.

Fun nights at EBC

Recently some of our community attended the EBC Thank God it's Friday event. From all the posts on Facebook it was a brilliant fun filled and joyful evening.

It is wonderful that the EBC community has accepted many of our clients into their community and that people can be themselves and enjoy a lovely night out with friends.

This is an expression of connection and community built on the foundation that Jesus loves everyone. Thank you to EBC and all the volunteers.



daily word

Jesus said to Jairus, 'Don't be afraid, just believe and she will be healed' (Luke 8:50)

Jairus was a man of strong faith, and he believed that Jesus would have compassion and help him. He trusted even when the people told him not to bother Jesus because his daughter had died. They mocked and laughed when Jesus talked about her death as just being asleep. His hand of healing was able to revive her and restore her to her family.

When faced with a similar situation ourselves or in the lives of our loved ones, we have the certain confidence that whatever happens, Jesus will be there with us. His loving hands will never let go of us.

EMPOWERMENT

Sharon is a client that lives in one of our properties in Mansfield Park and recently her TV stopped working and she was worried that she would miss out on watching her favourite programs and the Crows game the next day.

Using the LDS Empowerment funds Sandy (Team Leader) and Bryan (Support Worker) sprung into action.

While Sharon could have waited to go through the process to apply for some money for a new TV, her support team knew that Sharon needed a TV immediately and couldn't wait a week or so for the approval.



So, the team decided that the best approach was to buy a replacement TV for Sharon so that she wouldn't miss out and would have company over the weekend.

By accessing the LDS 'empowerment' funds - allocated budget to enable clients to replace items or to make their house a home or for any worthwhile purpose - through a quick call to the Senior Client Services Manager for approval and the new TV was picked up.

Sharon had a great weekend, with only a few hours without a TV and even though the Crows lost, she still enjoyed the new TV.

At LDS we empower our staff to make quick decisions on how to support their clients so that the clients can feel safe and secure. Over the past year we have purchased new curtains, basketball rings, sporting equipment and cooking equipment.

Through the empowerment fund we empower our staff to empower our clients! Just another example of the LDS difference in serving our community.

EXCELLENCE

At LDS we are proud of our team of support workers. In this edition we introduce you to three of our awesome team: Julie Green, Mirza Asim Baig and Melissa Grant



Hi, I'm Julie Green and I lead a happy, easy going life with my wonderful husband and live in a small country town north of Gawler. I have 7 grandchildren aged from 1yo to 17 years old. Love, love, LOVE my job and look forward to each and every day and intend to stay with LDS for the rest of my working life.

My Name is Mirza Asim Baig, I am 38 years old. I worked as a Courier Delivery Contractor for about 7 years before joining LDS. Working as a Disability Support Worker and joining LDS was one of the best decisions I've made in last decade. I love spending time with my family and travelling to new places with my wife. I also doing volunteer work within my free time.



I'm Melissa Grant and I enjoy playing golf and am a member of the Grange Golf club. I also am a member of the Lockleys Lawn Bowls club where I play A grade pennant competition.



I love watching football and my favourite team are the Adelaide crows. I have been a support worker for LDS for 5 years and enjoy helping my clients reach their maximum potential.

FUN

What a quarter it's been at LDS with many new initiatives, programs and fun across the whole organisation.

From creating candles to supporting our favourite teams at the footy through inducting the new team to support our new Ferryden Park house we have been busy.

One of our values is fun. Our support workers want to have fun at work each day, helping to bring joy and fulfillment to our clients. Anyway we can support our clients to achieve their life goals is what gets us up in the morning. Here's to much more fun at LDS as we emerge from Winter and into Spring!



Some important news from around LDS:

- Land has been cleared at Tea Tree Gully and the building application has been lodged for our new build with St. Johns Church. We are still aiming for a 2023 completion.
- Our new advertising campaign has been filmed with stars from our St Mary's house. Look out for our new ads in the Lutheran, facebook, online, CruiseFM and FiveAA.
- We welcomed new clients this quarter in Ferryden Park, Hillcrest and Glandore - welcome to the LDS family.
- The Annual Christmas party has been booked for Saturday 26 November at the Glandore Civic Centre. More information to come, please reserve this date in your calendar.
- LDS has completed the NDIS Quality & Safeguarding recertification review and is now awaiting the final report. It has been great to benchmark ourselves so that we continue to improve.

VACANCY ALERT



Unley - SHIMRON House

House mate required for a 1:6 SIL in a newly renovated home, shared space with a male in an attached unit.



Hillcrest - Snell Street

Seeking one housemate to share with a male in his 30s who loves to cook in our cluster home. Lots of natural light, a garden and BBQ area, this home is situated in a hub with three other LDS managed houses. Seeking 1:2 SIL funding. Currently no overnight support within this home.



Glandore - Mersey Street

Seeking a sociable person with SIL and passive overnights to share with two females who love fun, outdoor activities & community activities.. Seeking 1:2 supports throughout the day and 1:3 passive overnights.

FUTURE LOADING



Expressions of Interest being taken for future homes at: Tea Tree Gully and Tanunda.

Looking for a safe and secure happy home? Or interested in any of these properties, then please contact Jordan Matthews:

jmatthews@ldssa.org.au or 0431 685 808



Vaccinations

LDS is encouraging all clients, staff and families to have:

COVID 3rd Vaccination
COVID Winter Booster
Flu Vaccination

Any client in a SIL or who is vulnerable are entitled to each of these vaccinations.

Please speak with your Team Leader to arrange an appointment today



Thomas cooking at home

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE LDS MISSION



PRAY FOR OUR MISSION

Include LDS in your prayers and ask God to bless our mission of delivering Faith, Empowerment and Excellence to people living with disability.



VOLUNTEER YOUR TIME

Do you have a special skill that you'd love to share with a LDS Client? Our Clients love to cook, create, play sport and help in the community. If you'd like to be involved in our mission please contact us on 08 8212 7766 or visit our website.



SERVING COMMUNITIES

Do you have community activities, projects, jobs where people living with a disability can be involved? Reach out to us as our community is looking to serve the wider community and to work with you to build strong, integrated communities.



HELP BUILD OUR NETWORK

LDS wants to positively impact in the lives of people with disability. If your community has a disused building, land or other facility that could be converted to disability housing please talk to us.



DONATE & OFFERINGS

You can donate direct to LDS by calling 08 8212 7766 or visiting our website. You can donate to LDS through leaving a legacy, setting a bequest or investing in housing for people with a disability. If your Church would like to dedicate a special offering to our mission please feel free to get in touch with us.

LEARN MORE AT WWW.LDSSA.ORG.AU OR 08 8212 7766

SUPPORTING INDEPENDENCE AND INDIVIDUALITY

Creating happy homes through supported independent living, specialist disability accommodation and community participation programs. Empowering adults living with a disability to achieve their life goals.



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facebook

Make sure that you follow LDS on our facebook page. It is wonderful to see clients out-n-about and experiencing life to the full.

[Click Here](#) or
<https://www.facebook.com/Lutheran-Disability-Services-SA-227010588122374>



Naomi sorting out her roster