

Category 1 (ID:4601)

Amount Requested: \$3,025.00

Autism Community Network

Mr Steven Drakoulis
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Summary

Q 1. Project Name

Autism Kids Bowling Sylvania

Q 2. Brief Project Description (100 word maximum)

As part of providing support for local families impacted by autism, we are introducing a regular social activity where kids with autism and their siblings can enjoy an activity together.

Project Details

Q 3. Please provide an outline of your project (250 words)

We will promote the opportunity for local families to come together socially each month (except December). Children with autism miss out on most mainstream activities due to their difficulties understanding social rules or just being accepted by their peers. This activity allows them to engage with other children while at the same time exercising their fine and gross motor skills and developing their social skills. It brings entire families together who understand each other, knowing no one will judge them, to create fellowships. We are aware of how much therapies impact on families financially and that for many cost is a barrier to participation. By funding this day once a month we make sure all those who are looking for an activity for their child will have at least one option that is provided to them by their local community.

Experience across our many groups around Sydney has shown us that the more autistic children are able to participate in suitable activities the more confident and capable they become with dealing with broader day to day challenges. This translates to their parents' ability to mix more in the community, resulting in better mental health for them and benefit to the local community.

Q 4. Please list your desired project outcomes * please note you will be required to report against these outcomes

We want to see an increased number of children on the autism spectrum attending social and support events. We want to have kids participating, trying new things and developing their social skills. We want to see genuine friendships form among children who may never have had a friend before. We structure our activities so that families brought together are encouraged to share information and experiences so that they realise they are not alone and that there is strength in working together to help their children overcome some of their challenges.

We already support 161 families with autism in the Sutherland Shire. According to ABS data, the Shire is home to almost 300 people with autism. This program will provide outreach to those families. We want to see their families become more involved in the community by taking part in more activities.

Q 5. Which of the following ClubGRANTS priority areas below does your project address?

A4 - aged, disability or youth services

Q 6. What impact do you hope to have on your identified ClubGRANTS priority area?

Our goal is to provide autism families with suitable social and support options, enabling them to break their isolation. Each option we provide in the community is part of the greater aim to help them become a more involved member of their community. When your child is likely to experience sensory meltdowns, the parent is less likely to make that extra trip to the shopping centre or to an event, or become involved in community life. Especially when they are constantly being judged for their child's behaviour. These programs help the child develop confidence, social behaviours, and become more conditioned to accepting new experiences.

Q 7. How will you assess whether or not your project outcomes have been achieved?

All attendances are recorded so we will be able to report on the popularity of the gatherings. We take photos of the events and we seek feedback from parents. We will also be monitoring how many are also participating in other activities as a result of seeing the benefit of this program.

Q 8. Who will your program benefit?

People with disabilities

Q 9. Any other beneficiaries

Their parents, their siblings and their community. The benefit of autistic children with less anxiety and greater social skills

willing to participate will improve their own family's ability to be a healthier, more active member of that community.

Q 10. Approximately how many local resident recipients will your project benefit?

We currently support 161 families with autism in the Sutherland Shire.

Q 11. Approximately how many local resident volunteers will be involved?

1

Q 12. Will ALL the ClubGRANTS funding you have requested be spent within the Local Government Area in which you are applying?

Yes

If not, approximately what percentage will be spent outside the local area?

Q 13. What is the proposed commencement date and completion date for the project?

Commencement date:

01/07/2018

Completion Date

30/06/2019

Q 14. Is this project a one-off initiative or will it require funding in future years?

At this stage we are aiming to create a social opportunity for local kids and their families to come together to create a social network. The relationships we hope will be formed are more our priority than the activity's long term run. They may as a group have the option to continue bowling in the future if they wish but we want to help them meet each other this year.

Q 15. What are your plans to ensure that the benefits of the project will be sustained? (250 words)

We provide a network of activities throughout the Shire and Sydney itself to help families affected by autism. This project plays its role in building a network in the local area where more families are able to connect for mutual support. While professionals play a role, the greatest value to any carer is the knowledge and understanding by other carers who share their experiences and fellowship.

Q 16. Are you working with other partners in this project, or have you asked for support from anyone else?

No

Q 17. If yes, please identify your partners and provide a brief explanation of how the partnership will work

no other partners

Funding Information

Q 18. Can your project be broken down for part-funding? If so, how?

If we receive less funding we can promote it as us paying for te first game, which will still provide value an assistance for the participating families.

Q 19. Will your project still be viable if you receive less than the requested amount?

Yes

Q 20. Has your organisation received funding from another club in the past 12 months?

Name of Club	How much was received?	When was the funding received?	Purpose of funding
Club Merrylands Bowling and Guildford Leagues Club	\$3,450.00	2017	Cumberland Autism Active Kids
Club Rivers	\$4,950.00	2017	Cooking Club
West's Ashfield	\$4,950.00	2017	Music Therapy
City of Sydney RSL	\$2,750.00	2017	Sydney Social Family Days
	\$16,100.00		

Does your project have any other sponsors? If so, who and for how much?

No

Q 21. Project budget

Income Description	Amount	Expenditure Description	Amount
Sutherland Club Grants	\$3,025.00	11 sessions x 15 kids x \$15	\$2,475.00
ACN In-kind volunteer	\$660.00	IK Facilitator \$30/hr x 2 hrs x 11 sessions	\$660.00

		Admin \$50 x 11 sessions	\$550.00
		\$3,685.00	\$3,685.00

Q 22. Please provide your organisations banking details. (If you have an auspice, please provide that organisation's details)

Commonwealth Bank - Autism Community Network

Account Name

Autism Community Network

Account Number

10417253

BSB No:

062234

Q 23. The club may wish to provide applicants with a cheque, please advise as to who the cheque should be made out to for this purpose?

Autism Community Network

Previous Funding

Q 24. Note to applicants: only complete this section if you have received funding over the past three years.

Year Received	Amount Received	Purpose of funding	Report Submitted (Y/N)
2017	\$2,750.00	Sydney Social Family Days	N - program still running
2017	\$4,950.00	Music Therapy	Y
2017	\$4,950.00	Cooking Club	N - program still running
2017	\$3,450.00	Cumberland Autism Active Kids	Y
2016	\$5,600.00	Fit & Friendly Sutherland	Y
2016	\$2,357.00	Ryde Arts About Autism Club	Y
2016	\$5,300.00	Hurstville Fit & Friendly	Y
2016	\$5,300.00	St. George Art Club	Y
2016	\$5,300.00	St. George Cooking Up Life Skills	Y
2015	\$5,600.00	Fit & Friendly Sutherland	Y
2015	\$5,000.00	Canterbury Drama	Y
2015	\$5,300.00	Hurstville Fit and Friendly	Y
2015	\$4,800.00	Parramatta support group	Y
	\$60,657.00		

Authorisation

Title: Mr
Name: Steve Drakoulis
Position: General Manager