



FUNDING OF COMMUNITY IDEAS

APPLICATION FOR ABILITY LINKS BROKERAGE

Name	Autism Community Network (ACN)
Organisation	Autism Community Network
ABN number	64 103 662 535
Contact Details	Steve Drakoulis, 02 9543 9036
Project Title	Hawkesbury Autism Holiday Support
What is the Proposed Project?	Children with autism typically struggle to find activities suitable for them to participate in typical environments. When the routine of the school term is broken it can cause more anxiety and isolation for them. By introducing suitable social activities during each school holiday period they have a place to go to, meet other children who are like them and participate in low impact fun and social activities.
Proposal Background	The ACN provides support for families and individuals impacted by autism, to help create a better supported and more inclusive community. We run groups and activities across 13 Sydney regions and the Illawarra. As there is little support available in the Hawkesbury, we responded to local families' requests and introduced support services for the area.
Where will the project be held?	Various locations in the Hawkesbury region.
How will it benefit the community?	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. The varied activities we run in the LGA are designed to provide a momentum of suitable programs to develop our children's social skills.
How does this project support the aims of social inclusion and community capacity building?	Each school break, we provide simple family activities for children on the autism spectrum to participate. we include their parents and their siblings in these. the activities range from watching a dvd together or a crafts day or a family bbq. the



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	<p>objective is to get the kids out of the house and give them the type of social experience which will not cause further anxiety, and make them more confident to want to be more social. playing with other children who will not judge them or place higher expectations on their limited ability to cope helps develop their social skills. it also enables their siblings to meet others who understand their lives as a sibling of a disabled brother or sister. Parents meet through such events and form their own social and support circles with people who understand them.</p>
Target Group	Autistic children and their families
What difference will the project make to the target group?	Autistic children can experience isolation, anxiety, mental health issues and a sense of low self worth. Regular activities that allow them to connect and enjoy positive experiences help chip away at the deficits and build confidence and friendships.
How can people with a disability be included in the development and implementation of this project?	Our policy is to allow the structure of our groups to be flexible to respond to the community's needs. Participants and their families are asked for input and ideas on activities that they like to do and also would like to try as something new. This input is integral in tailoring the groups to the likes and needs of the participants
Partners	Richmond Lions Club, Windsor Library
Stakeholders/collaborators	<p>All children on the autism spectrum in the local community and their families.</p> <p>Local clubs, such as Richmond Golf Club and The Richmond Club, who provide venue support local Member for Richmond, who has been introduced to our local coordinator and is happy to promote the support in the region.</p> <p>Lions Club of Richmond, who have helped us raise awareness and funds</p>
Duration	Ongoing
Project Start and End	1 July 2018 to 20 June 2019
Resource Requirements-other	Venue, Facilitator, Aide, Resources, Administration
Anticipated project costing- please include as many details as possible including GST breakdown if applicable. Approved applicants will be required to submit detailed expenditure reports during the implementation of the project.	<p>We require a budget of \$1,000 to provide this support during each school holidays period across 12 months. This is made of of the following:</p> <p>Resources \$200/session x 4 events = \$800 (inc GST)</p> <p>Administration (manage, report, training, promotion, printing) \$50 x 4 events = \$200 (no GST)</p> <p>IN KIND DONATION : Facilitator \$35/hr x 2 hrs x 4 sessions = \$280</p>



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	<p>IN KIND DONATION : Aide \$35/hr x 2 hrs x 4 sessions = \$280</p> <p>IN KIND DONATION : venue \$30/hr x 2 hrs x 4 sessions = \$240</p>
Is your Organisation GST exempt? (this has no influence on the outcome of the application)	No, we have registered for GST
Funding source	We do not receive any recurrent government funding, we rely on grants, fundraising, donations and community support.
Is the project sustainable without Ability Links funding support in the future?	It is. Our aim is to develop awareness in the area, grow the numbers of carers involved, and create a team of local volunteers helping support their community.
Date Developed	28/03/2018
Developed By	Steve Drakoulis



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Please complete these reflective questions.

At what level does this project support people with a disability to build their skills, abilities and confidence?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

To what extent does this proposal promote collaborative relationships amongst organisations, services and communities in the region?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Does this project support people with a disability to more easily connect with wider community resources rather than disability services?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Does this project support the rights of people with a disability to be included, valued and belong?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Does this project support deep community connections for people with a disability as opposed to a token presence?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Does this project provide wellbeing and safety for all involved?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Will the project contribute to improved physical access of the physical and sensory environment?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Does the project contribute to training and develop awareness of inclusion?

1 2 3 4 5



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Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Does the project include education awareness opportunities?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Does this project contribute to changes in policy and attitude to build inclusiveness?

1 2 3 4 5

Minimal

Core Part
of Project

Please forward this application and any supporting documents to:
Met North: klindberg@uniting.org and loknight@uniting.org
Southern: Rstuttard@uniting.org and Jbowker@uniting.org



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Internal use

Overall Assessment (Comments):

Linker:

Project Officer:

Coordinator:

Program manager:



Outcome (Signatures required):

Project Officer			
Approved <input type="checkbox"/>	Declined <input type="checkbox"/>	Project Officer:	
Signed:		Date	
Details/Explanation (Project title, approved amount & conditions)			
Amounts up to \$2000			
Approved <input type="checkbox"/>	Declined <input type="checkbox"/>	Coordinator:	
Signed:		Date	
Details/Explanation (Project title, approved amount & conditions)			
Amounts up to \$10,000			
Approved <input type="checkbox"/>	Declined <input type="checkbox"/>	Program Manager:	
Signed:		Date	
Details/Explanation (Project title, approved amount & conditions)			
** For amounts over \$10000 approval is obtained via purchase order approval.			