

## Autism Community Network

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## Summary

### Q 1. Project Name

Autism Social Families Sutherland

### Q 2. Brief Project Description (100 word maximum)

Children with autism typically struggle to find activities 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.

## Project Details

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

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 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.

### 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 more kids participating, trying new things and developing their social skills.  
We want to see genuine friendships form among children who may never had 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.

### 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 able to see if children are getting

### Q 8. Who will your program benefit?

People with disabilities

### Q 9. Any other beneficiaries

Their parents, their siblings and their community. As noted above, the benefit of autistic children with less anxiety and greater social skills 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?

**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?**

We would like to have this as a regular community event so ideally \$1000 each year would enable us to achieve that. Alternatively we can look at providing it in a neighbouring community.

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

The more opportunities families have to bring their children to social events, the greater their capacity to participate will grow. With the various other programs we provide in the community, this activity during school holidays when their routines are otherwise interrupted is a valuable means of social support.

**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

## Funding Information

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

Most of the funding we are seeking is to provide snacks and refreshments for the children who attend, we could reduce the costs of those. If Sutherland Council waives the hire fee for the hall at Illawong Community Centre that would also reduced the costs.

**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
	<b>\$16,100.00</b>		

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

**Q 21. Project budget**

Income Description	Amount	Expenditure Description	Amount
Sutherland Club Grants	\$1,400.00	4 x \$250 per school holiday period	\$1,000.00
ACN In-kind volunteer	\$800.00	4 x facilitator \$30/hr x 4hrs	\$480.00
		4 x aide \$20/hr x 4 hrs	\$320.00
		Venue 20 sessions x \$50	\$200.00
		Admin, promotion \$50/term x 4	\$200.00
	<b>\$2,200.00</b>		<b>\$2,200.00</b>

**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	N - program still running
2017	\$4,950.00	Cooking Club	N - program still running
2017	\$3,450.00	Cumberland Autism Active Kids	N - program still running
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
	<b>\$60,657.00</b>		

## Authorisation

**Title:** Mr  
**Name:** Steve Drakoulis  
**Position:** General Manager