

[View this email in your browser](#)



Quick Links

[Join our Facebook Network](#)
[We Are Hiring](#)
[Fiona McBurney Match Day Experience](#)
[Events](#)
[Family Support](#)
[Open Employment](#)
[Paid Research Opportunity](#)

Join our Facebook Network

Have you joined our Down Syndrome Community South Australia Family Network on Facebook?

Our private Facebook group is a welcoming, supportive space for people with Down syndrome and their families across South Australia. It's a place to ask questions, share experiences, connect with other families, learn from one another and stay up to date with events and opportunities happening across Adelaide and regional South Australia.

If you haven't joined yet, we'd love to welcome you!

Join our Facebook Family Network:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/9703993126306906>

We Are Hiring

Exciting new employment opportunity in SA - Project Officer
14 hrs per week to deliver a range of workshops for the SA community. Flexible days and times, to meet the needs of the community for workshop delivery.

We're recruiting: Skills for Life Project Officer (Part-time)
Adelaide based | July 2026 – December 2027

Down Syndrome Community SA is looking for someone who enjoys working directly with people, facilitating groups, and delivery workshops that build confidence, independence and practical life skills.

This role will deliver existing structured workshops for people with Down syndrome across a range of life stages. The workshops are already developed — your role is to bring them to life in a practical, engaging and supportive way as part of a small, collaborative team.

You will work with the Project Coordinator based in WA.

We are looking for someone who:

- is a confident communicator
- enjoys facilitating groups
- works well in a small team environment
- can take direction while working independently
- is organised, practical and reliable
- values inclusion and lived experience
- Has good computer skills and time management to deliver workshops and reporting on time.
- Confident to deliver online workshops regularly.

This is a meaningful opportunity to support people with Down syndrome to build skills for independence and participation in everyday life.

What we offer:

- SCHADS Level 3.1 Part Time
- flexible part-time hours
- supportive and experienced team in SA and WA
- opportunity to deliver a structured statewide capacity-building project

Some regional travel, including occasional overnight travel, may be required.

To request the Position Description or apply:

ceo@downsyndromewa.org.au

Applications will be reviewed as they are received.

Applications close: 20 July 2026 at 5pm



We are Hiring!

Project Officer- Skills for Life
Applications close 20 July at 5pm.

Contact ceo@downsyndromewa.org.au for
Position description or Application

Fiona McBurney Match Day Experience

The Fiona McBurney program is named after the sister of retired AFL Umpire Steve McBurney who passed away in 2009, had Down syndrome and loved football. This year it has been fabulous to see members of our DSCSA community engage in the Fiona McBurney Match Day Experience. Each of the participants has had the opportunity to assist the Umpires at an AFL match on Adelaide Oval while wearing an official AFL uniform. The participants have also had the opportunity to undertake an official guest trainer role for the Umpires at their allocated match.

Since we last shared Jakeb, Isaac, Morgan and Adele have enjoyed the experience reporting that it was a fabulous day and some even sharing that it was 'the best day ever'!!!

In the coming months our final participants Coutney, Mitchell and Hugo will get to enjoy this opportunity. Keep an eye out later in the year as we open up applications for the 2027 AFL season.



Events

School Holiday Movie Morning

We're looking forward to catching up with many of you during the school holidays at our Minions and Monsters movie event at the Capri Theatre.

Thanks to generous funding from ScrapHeap, we were able to provide 50 complimentary tickets for individuals with Down syndrome and their families. We hope everyone enjoys a wonderful morning of fun, laughter and connection with our community.

🎟️ School Holiday Movie Day Out – Minions and Monsters! 🎬

Looking for a fun, family-friendly school holiday outing?

Join us for a relaxed movie session everyone can enjoy!

Movie: Minions and Monsters

Rated PG – all ages welcome

Where: Capri Theatre, Goodwood Road, Goodwood

When: Friday 17 July

Time: 1:30pm

Tickets include movie entry + popcorn!

Limit of 3 tickets per family (extra tickets will be available at the door for \$11pp – plenty available)

Book at <https://www.trybooking.com/DMBJD>

SCHOOL HOLIDAY MOVIE DAY OUT
MINIONS AND MONSTERS

**MOVIE RATED PG –
ALL AGES WELCOME!**

DATE: FRIDAY JULY 17TH

TICKETS AVAILABLE HERE:



**LOCATION: CAPRI
THEATRE, GOODWOOD
ROAD, GOODWOOD.**

TIME: 1:30PM



**ILLUMINATION'S
minions
& monsters**

 **Down Syndrome
Community**
South Australia

Save the Dates!

- Variety Zoo Picnic (All school age children)
Wednesday 24th September
- Variety Christmas Party (Primary school age)
Thursday 5th November
- Variety Christmas Disco (Secondary school age)
Friday 6th November
- The Children's Christmas Party (0-12 years)
Saturday 21st November

Family Support

As we move through the middle of the year, we've been busy behind the scenes supporting individuals with Down syndrome and their families across South Australia. Thank you to everyone who continues to connect with us, attend our events, ask questions and support one another. Here's a snapshot of what we've been working on.

Supporting Families from the Very Beginning

One of our most important roles continues to be supporting expectant parents and families who have recently received a prenatal or postnatal diagnosis of Down syndrome. Through our ongoing partnership with the Women's and Children's Hospital referral service, we are privileged to connect with families during what can often be an emotional and uncertain time.

While these conversations can be challenging, they are incredibly valuable. We are here to provide balanced information, practical support, and genuine connection to help families feel informed, supported and less alone.

It has been wonderful to be able to welcome some of these families into our community recently after the birth of their babies.

Supporting Children Through School Transitions

This is a busy time of year for many families as children prepare for important educational transitions.

We are currently supporting students and families moving:

- from preschool into school
- into mid-year Reception intake
- from primary school to high school
- and young people preparing to leave school.

Our support often includes participating in "Team Around the Child" meetings, assisting families to advocate for their child's needs and goals, and working

alongside schools to build understanding and develop inclusive supports that help students thrive.

NDIS Support

We continue to assist families with navigating the NDIS and keeping up to date with changes as they happen.

We're pleased to now be working closely with the South Australian NDIS Engagement Team. This partnership allows us to:

- receive the latest NDIS information and training
- provide feedback on behalf of our community
- ensure families have access to current, accurate information and support.

If you need assistance understanding your plan, preparing for a review or accessing supports, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Sharing Lived Experience

Over the coming weeks we'll also be presenting at the Flinders University Rural Forums in Renmark and Mount Gambier, before returning to Adelaide later in the year.

These forums provide medical, nursing and allied health students with the opportunity to hear directly from people with Down syndrome and their families. Through open conversations and panel discussions, we share lived experiences and answer questions about healthcare, education, inclusion and everyday life.

It's always a privilege to help shape the knowledge and understanding of future health professionals, contributing to more inclusive, respectful and person-centred care for people with Down syndrome.

As always, thank you for being part of our community. Whether you've reached out for support, attended an event, shared your experiences or simply stayed connected, you help make our community stronger.

If there's any way we can support you or your family, please reach out—we're always here to help.

Jennifer McCullough

jennifer@dscommunitysa.org.au

Open Employment

Our SA Employment Ambassadors recently represented our community by taking the opportunity to work alongside the team from Baker Hughes an international energy company at the Australian Energy Producers Conference at the Adelaide Convention Centre. Isaiah, Joseph and Mia conversed with visitors at the

conference and shared information about Down syndrome and our community by handing out information brochures, caps and Down syndrome Lots of Socks!

The Baker Hughes team provided fabulous feedback sharing that they loved having members of our community to work alongside them at the conference which showcased inclusion in a practical way which had a genuine impact! Isaiah enjoyed meeting the Australian Assistant Minister of Resources Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm. Our ambassadors represented our community splendidly and we are very proud of them - congratulations team!

If you or someone you know is interested in finding a job, please contact me on the email address below. Similarly, if you or someone you know would be interested in having a conversation about potentially employing someone with Down syndrome from our community, please let me know: louise@downsyndrome.org.au



Community Engagement

We were recently able to offer a 2-hour online workshop to our community thanks to the generosity of The Growing Space Founder and owner Sam Paor - Sam facilitated the workshop which was funded by a Scrap Heap Grant that we had received. The workshop focussed on Self-Management of NDIS plans. As always Sam provided us with an enormous amount of relevant, easy to understand information and we are very grateful for her sharing some of her absolute wealth of knowledge! We regularly offer opportunities for workshops via our newsletters and social media platforms.

Members of our community have continued to be involved with the Respect Our Ability Advisory Group which met in June. This group is a collaboration with SACID and Speak Out Advocacy - Tasmania. The work being done is around making resources such as introduction to Governance training etc - aiming to provide information to companies and community groups on how to positively include members with lived experience of intellectual disability onto Boards and committees.

The body of work also aims to help support community members with intellectual disability understand what it means to be on a Board, to be involved in community leadership and about aspects of governance.

Kind regards,
Louise
louise@dscommunitysa.org.au

Paid Research Opportunity

Paid Research opportunity with The National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health (NCEIDH) - The Centre

We have an amazing paid research opportunity for members of our community with Down syndrome (over the age of 18).

Participants will be reimbursement with a \$120 gift card total.

Researchers from the National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health (the Centre) are looking for people with intellectual disability to take part in a research study.

A research study is a way to find out new information from people who take part. The study is testing whether virtual reality helps people get ready for their yearly health check, also known as a Comprehensive Health Assessment Program (CHAP).

What does the study involve?

You will take part in two sessions.

- In one session, you will wear a virtual reality (VR) headset and see what a health check is like.
- In another session, you will read an Easy Read factsheet about health checks.

You will:

- Attend two sessions in person at SACID in Prospect.
- Each session will take about 1 hour and will happen at least two weeks apart.
- In each session, we will ask some questions before and after the activity.
- About three months later, you can also choose to take part in an optional interview about your experience.

You can take part if you:

- Speak English
- Are 18 years of age or older
- Have an intellectual disability
- Can wear a virtual reality headset

You cannot take part if you:

- Have epilepsy
- Have a vision impairment not corrected by wearing glasses
- Have taken part in other virtual reality research with the Centre

If you would like more information or would like to take part, contact Stefan Michalski at s.michalski@unsw.edu.au or on (02) 9348 2092. You can reach Stefan between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.



Copyright (C) 2026 Information Service SA - Down Syndrome Australia. All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:
Information Service SA - Down Syndrome Australia 220 Collins St Melbourne, VIC 3000 Australia

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#)