

FAR NORTH COMMUNITY SERVICES

Meet the ILC Team

Far North staff and families walk in the parade at Shinju Matsuri

People we support attended the National Disability Conference in Perth



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

It is with mixed feelings that I write my update this month. Far North continues to experience rapid growth as a direct result of the NDIS in WA and the energy and excitement that this brings is infectious. We are excited for the individuals and families who have access to supports and services, particularly those people who live in the more remote areas. We are energised by the challenge of establishing services in new areas and recruiting staff who share our vision and values.

The NDIS in WA has meant that people with disability and their families who live in Halls Creek are now able to access services. We are looking forward to commencing services in Halls Creek in the coming month as more people are developing their NDIS plan and choosing Far North as their preferred provider.

We have worked hard in the first year to prepare for growth. We laid down the foundations and Collene Longmore our Corporate Services Manager has made enormous contributions to this. Collene will be leaving us at the end of September as she is heading back to Perth to be closer to family. Collene has built strong relationships with many of the people we support, their families and our staff and I know that she will be missed by many of us. Collene always demonstrates professionalism, a sharp mind, capacity to multitask and churn out a really high level of work, whilst always keeping an eye on the big picture.

I have been very proud to represent and be part of the team at Far North at several events recently, including participating in the Shinju Matsuri float parade and at the

National Disability Services Conference. At Far North we are committed to being involved and included in community events and creating opportunities to develop and learn.

Kathy Hough
CEO

Shared Management

The NDIS means that you can choose your service provider to help with all or parts of your plan. At Far North we can coordinate and manage your funding in partnership with you, in one of 2 ways:

- **Coordinated management.** We coordinate and manage your funding on your behalf. Through a partnership approach, we recognise that you have the right to choose how, when, where and who delivers your supports and services.
- **Shared management** is one way of achieving Self Directed Support. It is where your funded supports are managed in a shared arrangement with Far North. Your funding will be received by Far North; however you will engage your own support staff. The responsibility for meeting relevant legal obligations is shared.
- Far North has arrangements in place with private companies, Government agencies and individuals to carry out **Fee-for-Service** supports and services.

Meet the Far North ILC team

Far North has been successful in obtaining 2 **Information, Linkages and Capacity Building** Grants. The grants will enable us to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in the Kimberley to engage with individual planning with the NDIS in WA in a culturally secure manner.

The project will focus on information being provided in culturally appropriate ways so that Aboriginal people have a greater awareness of the NDIS in WA and how they can test their eligibility, plan for supports and access reasonable and necessary services. This information will also be made available to non-Aboriginal people.

Far North Community Services Ltd will use a collaborative partnership approach to provide culturally appropriate information and advice on the NDIS in WA by working with existing organisations, aboriginal corporations and local and state government to departments to explain the NDIS in WA and referral pathways and planning processes.



The Team

Marcus Chibisa has lived and worked in the central Kimberley region with people with disability for the past five years and is well known and respected in many communities. Marcus is working part-time as NDIS in WA Information Coordinator and will support people living in Fitzroy Crossing, Halls Creek and surrounding areas.

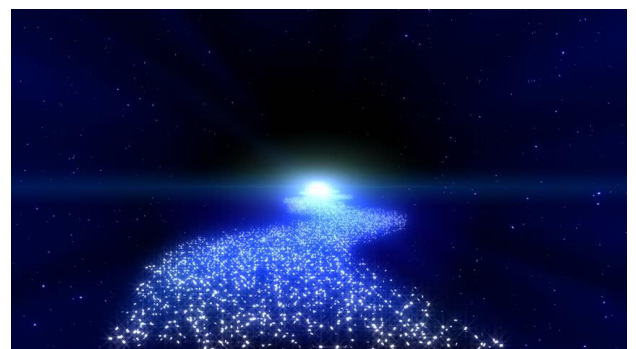
After many years working in the Drug and Alcohol, Mental Health and Family Support sectors, **Jade Presenza** has more recently managed multiple disability programs in both metro and rural Victoria. Her sense of adventure has led her to the Kimberley where she now calls Broome home and is employed full-time as a NDIS in WA Information Coordinator. Jade will support people living in Broome, Derby and the peninsula.



Tegan Parker's passion for disabilities started in her childhood and she has worked in the disability field for over ten years. Tegan is also the parent of an amazing child with a disability. Tegan will be supporting people living in the area North of Halls Creek, Kununurra and Wyndham.

Far North Shining Stars Program

On Monday 18th September the Board of Directors of Far North adopted The Far North Shining Stars Program. The Shining Stars demonstrate the Far North values and exceed expectations of their role



Exceeding expectations at Far North is defined as the demonstration of outstanding performance where results and quality in all aspects of performance is exceptional.

Quarterly Shining Stars award winners will be announced quarterly and will receive a \$100 giftcard and certificate. From these winners, an annual grand prize will be provided to the Shining Star of the Year, winning up to \$3000 to undertake a professional development approved course or program that will benefit the individual in their career progression.

Further information on the shining stars program will be provided at our AGM in October when it is officially launched by our Chairperson Chris Maher.



Far North will be holding our inaugural Annual General meeting in late October 2017.

Everyone is invited and we'll keep you updated on date, time and venue.

Welcome and Farewells

Welcome	
Chai Silvery	Broome Technical Supports Officer
Mark McKinnon	Broome Coordinator
Elke Heaton	Derby Coordinator
Jim Hawkins	Broome Support Worker
Melissa Larkins	Broome Support Worker
Anneke Siefken	Broome Support Worker
Corinna De Souza	Derby Support Worker
Sam Sandhu	Derby Support Worker
Arthur Segundo	Derby Support Worker
Audrey Segundo	Derby Support Worker
Jana Maertins	Broome Support Worker
Colin Cardell	Kununurra Support Worker
Vickie Rumsey	Kununurra Support Worker

Farewells	
Katherine Stewart	Broome Support Worker
Collene Longmore	Corporate Services Manager
Allan Watts	Broome Support Worker
Tara Meldrum	Broome Support Worker

NDS Customised Employment and Self Employment

Far North staff will receive training in this individualised approach to vocational supports on the 5th October by the School to Employment Transition team at NDS with the view to rolling out the customised employment support to people throughout the Kimberley. If you would like more information on this exciting program please contact Elaine on 9193 5207 or Elaine@farnorth.org.au .

Customised Employment

Customised Employment is an individualised approach to vocational supports and services: one person at a time. It consists of two stages: Discovery and Job Creation. The goal of Customised Employment is to tailor jobs/self employment to fit the skills, interests, strengths, and support needs of the individual whilst meeting the needs of business/the market for a service or product.

Self-Employment/Micro-Business/Business-Within-A-Business

Microenterprise is a relatively untapped but legitimate and often successful employment option. Operating on a small scale, filling a niche in the market place, it is ideally established around an individual's interests and hobbies. Participants can explore, develop and potentially operate their own small business or microenterprise, gaining new skills in business, customer relations, marketing, social media and the industry that they are operating in. Having the opportunity to use their unique skills and abilities to generate some income and gain a public profile. This can often lead to the formation of natural relationship and social and community inclusion.

Website



The Far North website is now live. Our website is www.farnorth.org.au and we have established a facebook page (needs a little work!). Check us out.

Quality Assessment Process

In June Far North had an independent quality assessment for Standard 6, Service Management. This interim assessment was conducted so that Far North could be registered for the NDIS in WA.

On the 14th and 15th November Beth Marchbank and Bettina Phillip will be visiting Broome to conduct a full Quality Assessment of Far North.

Organisations funded by the Disability Services Commission have to show that their services and supports improve the lives of people with disability, their families and carers. This is done through this quality assessment process.

The Commission uses independent quality evaluators to check that people with disability are receiving the services and supports they need from their service provider. When a service provider is notified of their next quality evaluation, they are required to invite all service users, families and carers to participate.

Please contact Jen Mofflin at Far North if you do not want to be contacted by the Quality Evaluators. Jen can be contact on 9193 5207 or Jen@farnorth.org.au

NDS WA Conference

The NDS WA Conference 2017 is the premier disability conference in Western Australia.

Far North was extremely well represented at the National Conference with 4 individuals we support attending, 7 staff and one parent. The Conference was held on 11th and 12th September at the Crown, Perth.



The conference explored the realities and opportunities of delivering change and creating great outcomes at a time of significant reform in the disability sector, in particular the transition to full roll out of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

Quality

- Excellent
- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

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The conference streams included Quality and Safeguarding, Sustainability and Transition and Workforce and Employment. Everyone learnt a lot and enjoyed getting to know each other.



Phoebe Duncan and Linnea Bjorklund



Sarah Kay and Tahlia Davey attending the NDS Conference Cocktail Event. Tahlia spent time talking with Minister Dawson who knew her family members and spent time in her community.



Jamilla is Volunteering

Jamilla has commenced as a volunteer at Broome's Bird Park. She loved her first day!

Shinju Matsuri

Shinju Matsuri was the first event for Far North and there was involvement by staff and the people we support in walking in the parade and with a fabulous stall. A magnificent day was had and we've included quite a few photos to show us off!





