



Issue 3, April 2011

# Purple Orange

The e-newsletter of the Julia Farr Association

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## Purple Orange Addresses Productivity Commission Hearing

On 18 April, the Julia Farr Association provided a verbal submission at the Adelaide Productivity Commission public hearing about the draft Disability Care and Support report. We highlighted that our submission amplified the concerns and views the disability community raised at the Loop workshops we held across the state over the past couple of months.

We felt the draft report contained many good elements including:

- The proposed arrangements are inclusive of people currently living with significant disability and have a highly personalised focus
- A strong expectation that mainstream services will be properly welcoming and inclusive
- The three options for distributing a personalised budget
- That people can add their own resources, and can transfer up to 10% to the subsequent year
- The consideration of employment of family members is thoughtful, and the pilot is a good idea
- Early intervention funding in addition to individualised budget
- Legislated ring fenced funding via consolidated revenue (taxation)

We also raised a number of concerns and queries about areas of the report we felt required further consideration including:

- What is the purpose of the one-off payment at the start at the introduction of co-contributions at the age of 65? We understand the rationale for this given the separate funding mechanism for aged care where there is an expectation of co-contributions according to personal means. However given the outcomes for disability support and aged care support are similar, we believe it is possible to run a unified scheme.
- Who decides the 'where possible' for someone participating in employment? It should be assumed that anyone is capable of being in mainstream employment (including self-employment) with the right supports.
- Who decides whether a particular approach, be it therapeutic or otherwise, is beneficial to the person? Our view is that people would have full flexibility, on the basis that it doesn't involve illegal activities, gambling, or any other activity that might reasonably be regarded as contributing to disability or disadvantage.

- How will the assessment be conducted? Our view is that it should be simple, accessible, co-designed, and nonintrusive. Larger, more technical assessments may have elements of validity and reliability in terms of measuring a particular thing, but this does not mean that those assessment tools have a goodness-of-fit with the work of the NDIS.
- That governance arrangements must include people with a lived experience of disability on the board of the National Disability Insurance Agency.
- That any quality assurance mechanism must be designed in collaboration with people with lived experience of disability, and focused on impact in people's lives.

In response to our verbal submission the Productivity Commission has asked us provide further comment about the importance of focusing on outcome measures, safeguarding, a simple assessment process and mainstream employment. We will include responses to these areas and the information requests raised in the draft report in our written submission due 30 April 2011.

## Call to Artists for Purple Orange's 2011 Art Exhibition

Each year we hold an art exhibition showcasing the works of artists living with disability and artists whose submitted work explores themes relevant to the disability community.

The theme of this year's exhibition is **Personal Leadership**: What does it mean to you? What are the barriers and drivers to achieving personal leadership?

Artists are encouraged to interpret the theme broadly and explore issues relevant to themselves, the disability sector and/or the broader community.

The closing date for art work to be received is Tuesday 31 May 2011, and the exhibition will be opened on Monday 27 June 2011.

For more information, terms of exhibition and application forms please click [here](#), or contact Rachel Lawson on (08) 8373 8333 or email [rachell@juliafarr.org.au](mailto:rachell@juliafarr.org.au)



Last year's People's Choice Winners (from left): *A Good Life*, *A Simple Life*, *A Contemplative Life* by Andrew Beck (1<sup>st</sup>), *Dancing Over the Valley of Shadow of Death* by Tanya Vallejo (joint 2<sup>nd</sup>), and *The Good Life* by Tim Holman (joint 2<sup>nd</sup>)

## Deep Quality - Michael Kendrick's Adelaide Events Now Sold Out!

Starting next week, Purple Orange will host in Adelaide a leading voice in the international disability community, Dr Michael Kendrick, to deliver **Deep Quality: a two-week leadership course in Optimal Individualised Service Design (OISD)**.

**The course is now full** – this is great news.

Based on the success of this course elsewhere in Australia, the Adelaide Deep Quality event will address person-centred approaches to supporting people living with disability, and the gap between ideal and realistic service delivery.

This is the first time that Deep Quality has been hosted in South Australia, and will be an invaluable experience for anyone wishing to be involved in the development of truly personalised support arrangements in people's lives.

Also, for the first time with this type of event, Purple Orange will be offering follow-up support to course participants as they take the material and wisdom back to their local settings, so that participants can stay in touch, and reconnect with others on a periodic basis to share experiences.

We are looking forward to sharing the outcomes and success of the course with you in future editions of this newsletter.

## Youth Group is Seeking Mentors

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Julia Farr Youth was formed in 2008 by a group of young adults living with disability to voice concerns about youth disability issues and take action to change themselves and others.

The group's grand vision has resulted in the Julia Farr Youth Mentor Program, matching mentees (aged 11-16) with mentors (aged 16-30) to offer guidance, skills, and advice based on their own experiences living with disability.

Currently Julia Farr Youth is looking for a female mentor who lives in the northern suburbs and enjoys outdoor activities including hiking and fishing, and watching movies. Interested mentors should ideally be aged between 16-30 years, able to get to Gilles Plains, have lived experience of disability and a positive outlook and be able to spend a few hours each fortnight with a female adolescent living with an intellectual disability.

For more information, please contact Georgina Edwards at [georginae@juliafarr.org.au](mailto:georginae@juliafarr.org.au) or phone (08) 8373 8333.

## We Value Your Feedback!

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At Purple Orange we are working hard to make our communications as accessible as possible.

If you have trouble accessing any part of this e-newsletter please contact our Communication Officer Brigitte Elliott at [bridgettee@juliafarr.org.au](mailto:bridgettee@juliafarr.org.au) or phone (08) 8373 8333.

Additional information on the work of Purple Orange can be found on our website [www.juliafarr.org.au](http://www.juliafarr.org.au), and in Robbi's [Purple Orange blog](#).

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