

**BRAVO DISABILITY  
SUPPORT NETWORK INC.**

Bravo provides respectful, reliable,  
responsive, innovative, high  
quality disability supports for life.

# BRAVO Brief

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Like our page to keep up to  
date



### **Do you have a story?**

We would love to hear  
from you!

#### **Compliments,** **Suggestions and** **Complaints**

We welcome your  
suggestions for  
improvement in any of our  
programs.

This ensures that you can  
receive the highest possible  
standard of service from our  
organisation.

All complaints, compliments  
& suggestions are treated  
confidentially.

Bravo has brochures and  
forms available to assist you  
with your  
complaints / compliment  
system or you can also give  
us a call on 5482 5336.

## **April 2020 — Update from the Manager**

Hi and welcome to another edition of the Bravo Brief.

Last newsletter, we were living our lives as normal, literally overnight our world as we once knew it, changed. The Coronavirus pandemic has undeniably changed our way of life, communities and the world. Now more than ever we support each and our community to recover so that this virus does not define us, but makes us stronger as we work our way through this crisis.

In these unusual times, Bravo remains committed to continuing to provide services for both existing and new Individuals / Participants depending on our capacity. Some of Bravo services are being delivered remotely and we have adjusted our workforce to deliver direct services in a way that reduces the risk of contracting or spreading the Coronavirus by:

- ◆ Minimising the number of Individuals/ Participants that Bravo Team work with so that we contain the flow on of any potential infection
- ◆ Minimising activities by determining how are essential the activity is
- ◆ Not attending non-essential gatherings
- ◆ Respecting and practicing social distancing and hygiene measures by staying 1.5 meters away from others (where possible), washing your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds with soap & water, avoiding touching your face
- ◆ Staying home if sick
- ◆ Limiting travel to local areas only (unless medical appointments)
- ◆ Providing flexible working arrangements (where possible) to limit the need for face to face interactions

Last month the Governance Board continued their annual Strategic Planning for the continued sustainability of the Bravo community. We were privileged to have Ken Leigh and Len Airey assist the Board with their decision making as we waive our way through the complexities of our ever changing current systemic systems. We would like to thank and acknowledge the financial assistance of National Disability Service (NDS) for Len's support.

We hope that you are staying safe and finding activities you can do with your family and friends without risking further spread of the Coronavirus.

Connect with us by facebook, email, phone or write to us if you want something in a future edition. Your feedback is important. Our Team is always here to assist you.

Until next edition, take care.  
Patricia

"Stop worrying about the  
world ending today.  
It's already tomorrow in  
Australia." Charles M. Schulz



**7 Alma Street, Gympie**

**Office Hours** are: Monday to Friday **8.30 am - 4.30 pm.**

PO Box 935, Gympie QLD 4570, Ph: (07) 5482 5336, Email: [info@bravo.org.au](mailto:info@bravo.org.au)

## DLQ—Virtual Workshops

Bravo is partnering with Disability Law Queensland (DLQ) to provide you Virtual Workshops, as below.

During the Workshops these are some of the topics that Amee Grattan will be covering for Bravo:

### **WILLS AND TRUSTS – 1.5hrs**

At Disability Law Queensland we work with families to develop their succession plans, including preparing wills and providing advice about trusts, every day. This workshop will give you the resources you need to achieve your estate planning objectives, and ensure the wonderful work you and your family are doing for your loved one with a disability can be sustained and maintained into the future.

### **GUARDIANSHIP, ADMINISTRATION AND EPOA – 1.5hrs**

This workshop will help you to understand your options when it comes to making decisions for an adult who has impaired decision-making capacity, as well as giving you a clear idea of what solid plans you can set for a child who may need decision making assistance when they become an adult.

If you are interested please call the office to register and we will organize a day and time to hold these sessions.

The **Dot Braille Smartwatch** Lets the Visually Impaired People See the World from a Different Angle

<https://www.wearable-technologies.com/2018/10/the-dot-braille-smartwatch-lets-the-visually-impaired-people-see-the-world-from-a-different-angle/>



Time  
Timer  
Stopwatch  
Alarm  
Accelerometer  
Gyroscope

## **New Carer Gateway**



Carers were able to access funding for supports from CRCC (Suncare) prior to 1 April 2020.

Funding for Carers has changed and now Carers can access support services through the new Carer Gateway with Wellways, <https://www.wellways.org/carers>

The Carer Gateway is a national service funded by the Australian Government.

Bravo will be supporting Carers with the transition to the new Carer Gateway. Please call the Bravo Office and speak with **Cindy or Marley**. They will talk you through the process to register.

These services are for you, if you care for a family member.

### **BRAVO DAY - Saturday 18 May 2020—Has been CANCELLED**

## **NDIS Update**

### **Things to do when you have an NDIS Plan**

- Take the time to understand your plan
- Talk to someone or share your plan (If this is what you want to do)
- Understand the different support categories and what they may be used for
- Think about what you want and how these activities meet your goals

### **Things to do when you have an NDIS Plan Review**

If your 12-month plan review discussion is approaching.

Think about:

- how your first NDIS plan has gone for you
- any changes you might want for your next NDIS Plan

Some questions you may want to think about before your plan review meeting are:

- What supports are working for you?
- What's not working?
- Was there any funding you didn't get to use? Why?
- Did you run out of funding for something you needed more of? Like consumables, or therapy sessions?
- Are there other things you realised you needed throughout the year, that you hadn't thought of when you had your planning meeting?
- Have there been any big changes in your life? Or are there about to be? For example, you want to move out of home or are finishing school?
- Did you get new equipment in your last plan that might need repair or maintenance?
- Has the way you managed your NDIS funds worked for you?
- How you are going with achieving the goals in your NDIS plan?
- Do you have new goals to add? Perhaps goals that build on your achievements over the past year of your NDIS plan?
- Are you happy with the service providers you are using?



"The elevator to success is out of order. You'll have to use the steps... one step at a time."  
Joe Girard





### Pay Periods

**Employee Timeonline due  
BY 10AM - MONDAY of pay  
week including  
\*Public Holidays\***

*If your roster is incorrect  
please contact the office  
BEFORE you submit.*

13 April—26 April	<b>Due 27 April</b>
27 April—10 May	<b>Due 11 May</b>
11 May—24 May	<b>Due 25 May</b>
25 May—07 June	<b>Due 8 June</b>
8 June—21 June	<b>Due 22 June</b>
22 June—05 July	<b>Due 6 July</b>

### Public Holidays

Date	Holiday
10 Apr	Good Friday
11 Apr	Holy Saturday
12 Apr	Easter Sunday
13 Apr	Easter Monday
25 Apr	Anzac Day
4 May	Labour Day

### Fundraising Events

#### Bunnings Sausage Sizzle

**Thank you** to all our amazing  
Volunteers.

**Bravo's next BBQ :**

♦ **Has been cancelled due  
to the COVID 19**

If you wish to be part of the  
Volunteer team please  
contact the office.

Bravo would like to thank  
**Bunnings**  
for the donation of \$500 Gift  
Card due to the suspension  
of its Sausage sizzle due to  
the Coronavirus pandemic.

## **Bravo Team**

During the last 3 months Bravo has welcomed many new employees to the Team especially Support Workers. We are fortunate to have so many people within the Bravo Team who have are passionate and committed in their work that continues to provide supports for people with disabilities that ensures the safety of all.

The next **Team Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 20/05//2020.**

If we are unable to hold this event which is looking likely we may reschedule or change the training format to be completed online.

### **We would like to introduce some more new staff in the office!**

Hi, My name is Rachael and I am so excited to be apart of the team at Bravo. I recently moved to Gympie from Melbourne and am really enjoying exploring this wonderful region. In my spare time I love baking desserts, swimming and hanging out with my family.



Hey there, my  
name is Jacob  
and I'm the new  
Administration

Assistant here joining the Bravo Team. I've had roughly two and a half years experience in Administration work and I'm happy to continue it working in this industry. My interests mainly include things like board games, computer games and having the afternoons with friends. Although, I have also been recently working out and love doing it.

Hi, my name is M'Kaila and I have joined the Bravo team as a Trainee Receptionist. I have done a range of things over the years—Child care, Aged care, Hospitality and Teacher aid work. I have three siblings and we are all really close with each other. Family is a huge part of my life and I'm excited to be apart of the Bravo family.



Hi there! My name  
is Aleisha, and I  
joined the Bravo team in January. I have  
experience in a wide range of roles, human  
resources, coaching and mentoring finance  
and psychology.

I grew up between Gympie and Rainbow Beach and throughout my life, have been an ample beach-goer, fisherwoman and adventurer. My husband, my two boys and I are a really sporty family, enjoying swimming, weightlifting, soccer, jujitsu and hiking, and we enjoy our adventure weekends! And book reading, whilst continuing to study psychology, has resulted in a personal library of over 1700 books, which I also enjoy adding to on a monthly basis.

"Age is an issue of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter" - Mark Twain

## **Governance Board**

Meets every third Friday of the month.

### **Members**

President:

*Dianne Melnyk*

Vice President:

*Roxanne MacGregor*

Treasurer:

*David Cohen*

Secretary:

*Jackie Harding*

Board Members:

*Lesley Nissen*

*Barbara Kingston*

**The purpose  
of our lives  
is to be  
happy.**

- Dalai Lama

### **Contact the Governance Board by:**

Email  
[governance@bravo.org.au](mailto:governance@bravo.org.au)

Mail to  
Governance Board  
c/o Bravo Disability  
Support Network Inc  
PO Box 935  
GYMPIE QLD 4570

## **An update from the Governance Board**

April 2020

Hello everyone,

We were thinking we were going to have a few wonderful celebrations ahead of us in Bravo Day, Easter and the School Holidays now these activities and more have been nipped in the bud! It is now left to us and our own devices to come up with some new celebrations.

By now you are all very knowledgeable about the Corona Virus and your responsibilities.

Fate has smiled upon Bravo in respect of this unforeseen disaster as prior to this emergency Bravo already had plans for some Office Employees to begin working from home. The expertise of our IT Technician has made the change for even more Employees to work from home a very smooth and successful transition. Bravo Aohdan! Many thanks from the Board.

Time passes and the light at the end of this very long tunnel could see happier families with a new understanding of each other.

The Board would like to thank:

- ◆ Old and new Support Workers who are showing continuing dedication to Bravo's Mission and their work for Individuals/ Participants and Families
- ◆ Office Employees who had been working in less than perfect conditions and some of whom are now working from their own homes. You are much appreciated.
- ◆ Bravo's Manager who's tenacity in steering Bravo through difficult times has seen Bravo establish as a substantial organisation and continue to be a leader in this Community.

Stay well and safe,

Regards from the Governance Board,

Lesley N,  
Barbara K,  
Dave C,  
Roxanne M,  
Jackie H &  
Dianne M.

*"Life is what  
happens when  
you're busy  
making other  
plans."*



### **DISCLAIMER**

The inclusion of information contained in this newsletter or attached about services provided by any organisation does not imply a recommendation by Bravo Disability Support Network Inc.