

**BRAVO DISABILITY
SUPPORT NETWORK INC.**

Bravo works with individuals and families to plan and implement flexible, individualised options for natural and funded supports.

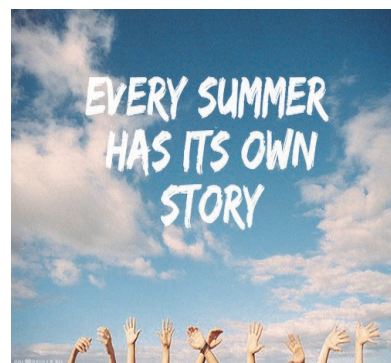
BRAVO Brief

December 2015—Update from the Manager

Welcome to our summer edition. This time of the year is hot and busy for many of us.

We are always interested in your stories. If you would like to provide a story for our newsletter please send it to us.

Bravo has successfully completed our Quality Certification Maintenance Audit in November. We have been approved for meeting the intent of the Human Services Quality Standards. Thank you for everyone for their time and involvement with this audit.



The Commonwealth and Queensland Governments, are currently negotiating a bilateral agreement which will detail how the NDIS will roll out across the rest of Queensland and as such NDIS information is constantly changing. Due to this we are considering what people would like to know and how they would like Bravo to assist them in their preparations for the upcoming NDIS introduction in July 2016. Please accept our apologies for not holding our proposed session that was mentioned in the last newsletter. If you would like any information we are happy to meet individually and discuss at your convenience.

The Bravo website has been taken offline due to a number of technological issues. We hope to have the website back online as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience.

Keeping storm safe is a priority to all of us during the current season. For further information about planning to be prepared for an emergency situation go to the Gympie Council website:
<https://www.gympie.qld.gov.au>

Take care, stay safe and healthy.

Patricia Wilson

*"Summertime is always the best of
what might be." — Charles Bowden*



The Bravo office will be
CLOSED from
4:30 pm on the
24 December 2015
and
Re-opening
8:30am 4 January 2016.

For urgent matters
call the
Extended Hours phone on
0429 825 336



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 and

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.

Office Hours are: Monday to Friday **8.30 am - 4.30 pm.** Wednesdays **12.30 pm - 4.30 pm**

Our office is closed on all public holidays and we are not funded to provide support on public holidays

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



Vacation Program

For **December 2015** the Family Fun Day will be held on Tuesday 15.12.15 at the Kandanga Pool

For January 2016 school holiday events these have been organised individually.

Please call **Cindy** at Bravo if you have any queries.



Pool Safety

Drowning is one of the leading causes of death in Queensland children under the age of 5. All swimming pool drownings are preventable.

Queensland's current [pool safety laws](#) were introduced in 2009 and aim to reduce the incidences of drowning and serious immersion injuries of young children in swimming pools.

The laws affect new and existing pools. Existing pool owners have until 30 November 2015 to comply with the new pool safety laws.

Bravo will be requesting Pool Safety Certificates from all Host Contractors that have a pool at their home.

NDIS timeline for implementing the NDIS

2015

- ◆ Negotiate Bilateral Agreement with the Australian Government including: planned intake of eligible participants, transfer of current clients, and the schedule of funding movements
- ◆ Communication and engagement activities for people with disability, their family and carers and providers
- ◆ Workshops for providers across the state, including in regional, rural and remote communities, to build awareness of the NDIS and how to prepare to operate in a new competitive market-driven disability system
- ◆ Project future accommodation needs of people with disability
- ◆ Transition existing block funded arrangements, where practicable, to an individualised approach
- ◆ Expand opportunities for people to have more choice and control over their disability services
- ◆ Queensland Government departments develop NDIS transition plans
- ◆ Targeted activities to support people with disability, families and carers to prepare for the NDIS
- ◆ Targeted activities to support providers to prepare for the NDIS
- ◆ Expand workforce development activities

2015 to 2019

- ◆ Queensland Government departments continue to take action to improve mainstream services as set out in their Disability Service Plans

2016

- ◆ NDIS commences in Queensland (July) with planned intake of eligible participants into the scheme as set out in the Bilateral Agreement

2016 to 2018

- ◆ Continue activities focussed on transitioning people with disability, families, carers and providers to the NDIS
- ◆ Continue communication and engagement activities on the transition to the NDIS for people with disability, families, carers and providers

2017

- ◆ Queensland Government departments develop and publish their Disability Service Plans 2017-2019

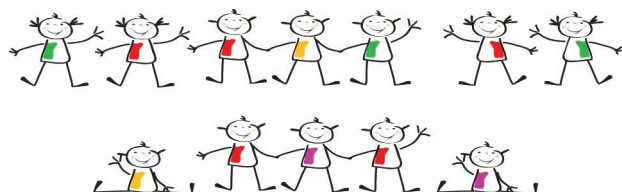
2017 and 2018

- ◆ National Disability Insurance Agency's presence increases and Queensland Government decreases
- ◆ Participants enter the NDIS as set out in the Bilateral Agreement

2019

- ◆ Future State – Full implementation of the NDIS in Queensland in July 2019

<https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/reform-and-renewal/disability-services/national-disability-insurance-scheme-in-queensland/preparing-queensland-for-the-national-disability-insurance-scheme/our-timeline-for-implementing-the-ndis>



"Nothing is too small to know, nothing is too big to attempt." ~ William Van Horne

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.*

30 Nov - 13 Dec **Due 14 Dec**

14 - 27 Dec **Due 21 Dec**

*This payment will be one
week in advance.*

28 Dec - 10 Jan **Due 11 Jan**

11 - 24 Jan **Due 25 Jan**

25 Jan - 7 Feb **Due 8 Feb**

8 - 21 Feb **Due 22 Feb**

22 Feb - 6 Mar **Due 7 Mar**

thanks

Bunnings Sausage Sizzle Fundraising events

A **big thank you** to all our amazing Volunteers who have supported us this year with our Bunnings Sausage Sizzle fundraisers.

**Bravo's next BBQ dates for
January are:**

♦ **Saturday 02.01.2016**

♦ **Thursday 28.01.2016**

If you wish to be part of the volunteer team please contact the office. We look forward to hearing from you!



Bravo Team

Thank you to everyone who attended the last Team Meeting of the 2015 year. We hope those people who were able to stay to for our end year Festive Season Celebration enjoyed themselves.



The training held at this meeting included: Language, Social Media, Policies & Procedures, Nutrition, Healthy Food Choices, Annual Fire Safety Training & Storm Preparation, and Salary Sacrifice.

A Team Member comment:

"Just to thank everyone at Bravo for a well organised and informative team meeting yesterday. Well done to all the team, I enjoyed it all. "

The next **Compulsory Team Meeting**
will be held on **9 February 2016** 9am - 1pm
Venue to be confirmed

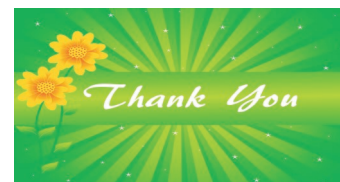
Introducing our New Family Facilitator

Hi everyone

My name is Terry Utting. I am happy to have been given the opportunity to be the new Family Facilitator. I have over 20 years of experience in the community service sector in both support work and various areas of management in Queensland and consultancy work in Victoria. I have an extensive list of qualifications but more importantly I have a passion for working with people to build a positive difference in their lives so that they can say "I am living the Life I want".

Farewell to our Personal Assistant

Krista Lonngren was with us for a 6 month contract to assist the Manager and Facilitators manage some of our extensive paperwork. Thank you to Krista for her contribution to Bravo.



Sensory Santa!!

Gympie Central

Sunday 6th December – 8.30am to 10am

Sunday 13th December – 8.30am to 10am

p. 0422 416 509

"Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid" Albert Einstein



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

Contact the Governance Board by:

Email

governance@bravo.org.au

Mail to

Governance Board

c/o Bravo Disability

Support Network Inc

PO Box 935

GYMPIE QLD 4570



"People don't notice whether it's winter or summer when they're happy."

Anton Chekhov

An update from the Governance Board

01 December 2015

Hello everyone,

The Board has recently taken part in the Quality Assurance Assessment in which some members, individuals and families were included. We have received positive feedback from the Assessors. As with most organisations in these changing times the Board has some updating of policy legislation to do which will keep us busy during the last few weeks of 2015.

It is time again for the survey for 2015/2016 as Strategic Planning is drawing closer. Your responses to the survey have played a big part in directing decision making processes at the planning meetings. Even more so this year as you know that the NDIS is asking organisations to be innovative in planning in response to this change. Bravo needs to hear your thoughts and suggestions to give the Board a united platform from which to work.

The Bravo Constitution will be reviewed this year and benefits of Incorporation versus Corporate Body will be discussed.

The Annual General Meeting for the 2014/2015 year was a success though we would like to have seen more members' faces at the tables. The Board was re-elected and even though our efforts were recognised and our successes were praised we do feel we need the backing of as members of our organisation as is possible.

Bravo membership is growing all the time so thank you to all those who have renewed this year. Please remember you can renew your membership at any time during the year.

Before we know it Christmas will be upon us and we hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Dianne Melnyk,
Jackie Harding,
Dave Cohen,
Roxanne Macgregor,
Lesley Nissen,
Barbara Kingston.



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.