Community for Everyone

Community for everyone
Become a social connector!

About the project

Community For Everyone is a pioneering project designed to bridge the gap between profoundly isolated people with disability and their community.

The project aims to enhance the social inclusion and active participation of people with disability by connecting them with volunteer social connectors who share similar interests.

The project will bring together local citizens with and without disability and project advisors who have expertise in community development and inclusion.

The project hopes to demonstrate how people with intellectual disability can be better supported to be active members of their community.

The project is taking place in Parramatta, Ryde, Lake Macquarie and Newcastle.
People with intellectual disability will be matched with local citizens in each location
The project is for 2 years with opportunities to remain engaged after the project.

Social connectors

A social connector is a voluntary role for a person committed to inclusive communities where everyone belongs.

- You will be matched with a person with disability in your community who is currently profoundly isolated.
- You will get to know the person and their current interests and connections.
- You will strive to support the person to be better connected to others with shared interests.
- You will receive ongoing training and support with these efforts.
- You will participate in social connector meet ups to share ideas and learnings
- You will participate in an evaluation of the project led by people with intellectual disability.

Time contribution: Varies. Approximately 5 hours per week plus relevant training.

Location:

10 social connectors will be in Parramatta/Ryde.

10 social connectors will be in Lake Macquarie/Newcastle.

People with disability and their family members who meet the selection criteria are encouraged to apply.

Key Selection Criteria

- A commitment to the rights and social/economic inclusion of people with disability
- Strong communication skills
- Networking skills
- A commitment to your local community with local knowledge and connections
- Problem solving skills
- Ability to both work autonomously and respectfully liaise with others
- A 'can do' approach – creativity and an ability to take initiative and leadership
- Enthusiasm to work alongside people with disability to move towards positive, socially inclusive outcomes.

Willingness to:
- Complete training provided
- Participate in social connector meet ups
- Participate in evaluation
- Receive feedback and follow direction of the Project Lead
- Obtain a police and working with children check
- Follow the policies and procedures related to the role.

About Side By Side Advocacy

Side By Side Advocacy is a not for profit advocacy organisation based in Parramatta. We started more than 30 years ago and specialise in advocacy for people with intellectual disability. Our vision is for a world where all people are equal and valued.

Social connectors in Ryde and Parramatta will be supported by Side By Side Advocacy.

About Hunter Circles
Hunter Circles is a not-for-profit organisation that was established in 2021 to support people with disability to take their rightful place at the heart of community. Our vision is a Hunter community where everyone matters, where everyone belongs and where people can be the fullest version of themselves as citizens.

Social connectors in Lake Macquarie and Newcastle will be supported by Hunter Circles.

There is more information about Community for Everyone on our website.
Here is a link: Community for Everyone

For more information about becoming a social connector in Ryde or Parramatta areas you can email Kim at Side By Side Advocacy via eo@sidebysideadvocacy.org.au or phone 9808 5500.

For more information about becoming a social connector in Lake Macquarie and Newcastle contact Jenny at Hunter Circles via info@huntercircles.org or phone 0401 388 164.

Alternatively, please complete the application if you are interested in getting involved in this exciting project as a social connector!

See the link to the application below.

Social Connector Application