

BUILDING INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

Three Community Development forums

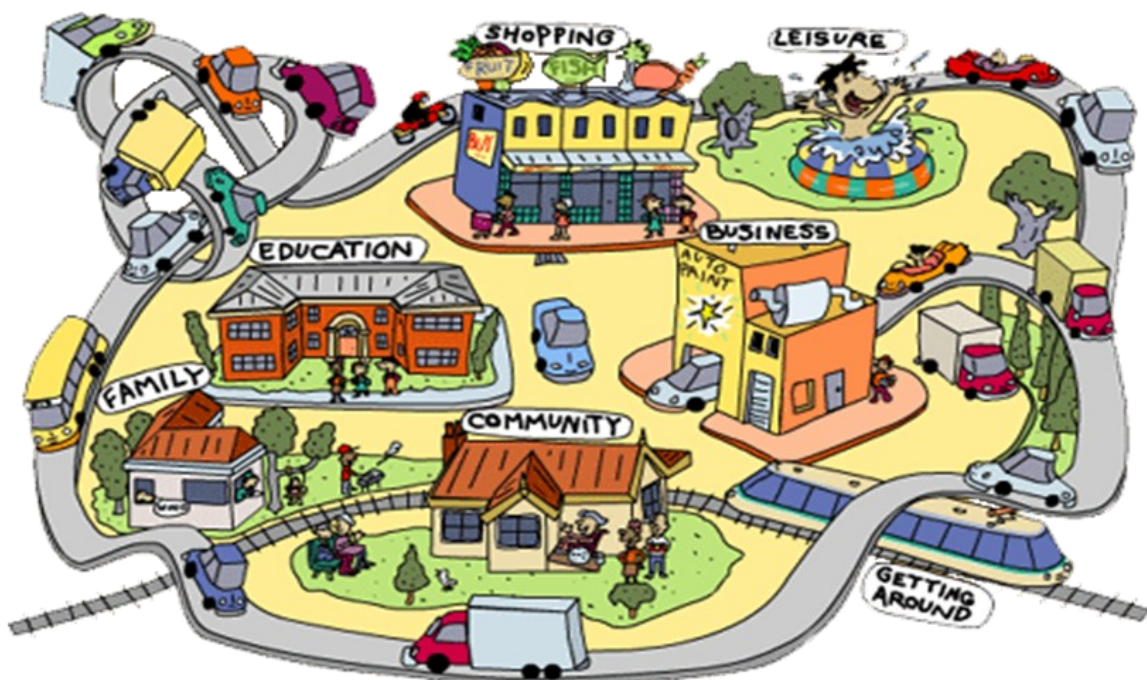
Presented by the

Victorian Inclusive Community Development Network

in

Partnership with

VALID



August, September and November 2016

JASPER HOTEL, 489 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne

General enquires:

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Up until 9th July

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After 12th July

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VALID

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About the Forums

The **Building Inclusive Communities** forums are designed to provide an opportunity for people with disabilities, service providers and community development workers to engage in a range of discussions focussing on community development practice and issues of inclusion and community membership.

The forums will include presentations from researchers with interests in disability and community development and a range of practice and lived experience presentations/ perspectives. There will also be opportunity for workshop discussions and reflections on key issues, challenges and opportunities associated with creating communities that are inclusive of people with disabilities.

With the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme it is a very exciting and challenging time in disability – we hope the forums give you a chance to network and connect with people from a range of different contexts who are interested in building more inclusive communities.

The forums are hosted by the **Inclusive Community Development Network** in partnership with **VALID**.

Dates and Time

Forum One

'Greater Expectations' Tuesday 2nd August 9.30am – 4.00pm

Forum Two

'Creating Community' Tuesday 20th September 9.30am – 4.00pm

Forum Three

'It Can Happen If'Linking Individual and community planning
15th November 9.30am – 4.00pm

Cost

Building Inclusive Communities forum:

\$195.00 per person per forum

\$525.00 per person for 3 forum bookings

\$45.00 per forum Concession

Registration includes coffee and tea on arrival morning, afternoon tea and lunch.

Location

Jasper Hotel is located within metres of Queen Victoria Markets. Superbly positioned at 489 Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, Jasper Hotel has all of the city's transport, shopping, sporting and cultural facilities on its doorstep.

Accommodation

For those travelling from the country or interstate, Jasper Hotel offers a selection of rooms and suites over 8 levels with city or Victoria Market views. See the following link for more information: <https://www.thebookingbutton.com.au/properties/jasperhdirect>

Parking

For information about parking near the Jasper Hotel see the following link: <http://www.cbdpark.com/>

Public Transport

Tram

Several trams reach the city from various north and north-western suburbs including routes 19, 57, 59 and 68 that travel along Elizabeth Street stopping outside Jasper Hotel. Trams on Elizabeth Street connect with most other services from Melbourne's outer suburbs.

Other tram routes within 200 metres of Jasper Hotel are Swanston Street 1, 3, 5, 6, 8, 16, 22, 64, 67, 72 and Latrobe Street 24, 30, 34

Train

Catch any service into the city centre via the City Loop. Depart at Melbourne Central Station and take the Elizabeth Street exit to the corner of Latrobe and Elizabeth Streets. Walk 200 meters north along Elizabeth Street to Jasper Hotel, located on the left hand side over Franklin Street just before Therry Street.

Bookings, Cancellation and Refund Policy

Registration must be paid no later than 10 working days prior to the event. 50% of the registration fee is refundable if notice of cancellation is received more than 10 working days prior to the event; NO REFUND is available where notice of cancellation is received less than 10 working days prior to the event. Substitution of attendees is allowed, provided written notice is provided.

Additional Needs/Requirements

We are committed to meeting the needs of all Forum Participants. Please make sure you complete the sections in the registration form regarding your access requirements including any special dietary needs to avoid disappointment.

Changes to the Program

While every attempt will be made to deliver the forums as advertised, please be aware that sometimes events beyond our control may lead to unavoidable changes to the program.

Forum One

2nd August 9.30am – 4.00pm

‘Greater Expectations’

For many people with disabilities low expectations can seriously constrain and limit the potential for community participation and inclusion. This forum will focus on strategies for raising expectations about the possibility for meaning and fulfilment that can be derived from community membership and participation when we are prepared to imagine and create responses that affirm and embed aspirations in community life.

Presenters include:

Walter Kadiki – Performance Poet

Walter Kadiki grew up in Romford, Essex, and began composing deaf poetry at a very young age: “Poetry was a special channel for expressing my innermost feelings without the strain of being misunderstood. My earliest poems were mostly about the frustrations of living in the hearing world, of being misunderstood, underestimated and frowned upon.”

Walter is one of Australia’s leading Deaf poetry performers. He has worked with numerous community groups, and his poetry has been performed in venues across Melbourne and in the UK.

Professor Joe Graffam - Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Development and Training) Deakin University

Professor Joe Graffam earned his BBSoc at Cal State University and his MA and PhD at UCLA. He worked within the Neuropsychiatric Institute at UCLA for 5 years before coming to Australia. He holds a Chair in Psychology at Deakin University, where he is currently Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research Development and Training). He is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). Joe has been conducting research into employment and community integration of people with disability and ex-prisoners for the past 30 years.

Eva Sifis - Performer and Advocate

Eva was a dancer working across Australia and performing cabaret shows in Japan when she sustained a serious Acquired Brain Injury when hit by a car in 1999. For Eva everything had to be learnt again – “walking, talking, relating and, most importantly, dealing with a new me”. Eva applied herself to her recovery: physically, mentally and spiritually with great dedication.

Since her accident, Eva has worked widely within the national disability arts arena with Arts Access (South Australia and Victoria) and Club Wild (Melbourne), and the City Of Port Phillip (Melbourne). Eva has also volunteered with Restless Dance and No Strings Attached and the Wilderness Society in South Australia. More recently Eva’s focus has shifted to advocacy where she has taken on roles at Arts Access Victoria coordinating the Lesley Hall Scholarship and facilitating disability awareness training. Eva has also commenced a training role with Women with Disabilities Victoria educating sector workers on the issue of violence against women with disabilities – one of the most at risk groups in our community.

Artistically, whilst living in Melbourne and acting in community theatre, Eva enjoyed a solo return to the stage at Carlton’s La Mama Theatre in 2014 where she developed her autobiographical story ‘Embryonic Zombie Butterfly’ using movement theatre.

Eva’s studies include massage, Wholistic Wellness and Community Development.

Richard Stone - Manager Capacity, Access and Inclusion, City of Warrnambool

Richard comes from a long line of mariners and still maintains a strong connection to the ocean both recreational and professionally. Richard's areas of employment have been in community development and disability where he has been working for the past 30 years. This has included management positions in both Government and Non-Government agencies in the areas of Strategic and Community Planning, Direct Service Delivery, Workforce Development and Community capacity Building. Richard currently works for Warrnambool City Council in the role of Manager Capacity, Access and Inclusion.

Dariane McLean - Convenor, Behaviours of Concern, Peer Action Group & VALID Advocate

Dariane has thirty plus years of experience in disability support, particularly in the area of supporting individuals with a history of exhibiting behaviours of concern. Dariane has a post graduate degree in psychology and training in person centered active support, trauma informed support leading to reduction of restraints, and optimal individual lifestyle assistance. Dariane's roles at VALID have included individual advocacy, systemic advocacy, and facilitating training in effective use of individual support packages including self-management, and VALID Families as Planning Partners course. Her current roles include providing specialized individual advocacy, heading up a project for the development of the VALID Behaviours of Concern Peer Action Group, and systemic advocacy in relation to effective supports for people who exhibit behaviours concern. Outside of her disability work, Dariane provides counseling support as a private practitioner to the general population.

Dariane is married and the mother of seven adult children including a 37 year old son who is significantly affected by autism and has a history of behaviours of concern. She has been a strong advocate for her son and his life goals which has led to him moving from locked supported accommodation to individual community based living.

David Craig - Coordinator Community Development, VALID

David has worked in the disability sector in Victoria for over 38 years. Over this period he has worked in a variety of roles that include – community recreation development and operational management roles with a large disability service provider, sessional training and lecturing work in disability and recreation courses in tertiary institutions, a short stint in a residential aged care organisation and 13 years leading a state-wide disability advocacy organisation. He was also active in the establishment of state and national peak body organisations in the disability advocacy sector. He has undertaken project and consultancy work across ageing and disability sectors in recent years and is currently leading the community development work at VALID, an independent state-wide disability advocacy organisation in Victoria.

Forum Two

20th September 9.30am – 4.00pm

‘Creating Community’

As a highly contested space/environment, community presents both enabling and disabling potential for people with disabilities. To participate fully in the life of the community work often needs to be done to change the way that communities imagine, plan and respond to people’s needs and aspirations.

This forum will provide an opportunity to explore the enabling/disabling potential of community life. It will include presentations from a range of perspectives that have used a community creating framework to strengthen inclusive planning and practice that builds connections to informal supports.

In the second forum in the series we will again facilitate debate and discussion by drawing on themes from the morning presentations and other key issues associated with developing strategies and practice that builds inclusive communities.

Presenters Include:

Michael Crane – Poet and Author

Michael Crane's work has been published in many literary journals and magazines including *Overland*, *Meanjin*, *The Australian*, and the *Best Australian Poems 2011, 2014 & 2015* and *Australian Love Poems*. He has organised the successful *Poetry Idol* series to large audiences at the *Melbourne Writers Festival* from 2007-2012 and published the annual song lyric and poetry magazine, the *Paradise Anthology*.

Michael publications include *released A Dog Called Yesterday - Selected Poems and Prose* (2003 *Ninderry Press*); *Poems from the 29th Floor* (2007 *Picaro Press*); *Postcards from the End of the World*, (2013) a Michael Crane sampler; and a new book of prose poems in 2015 called the *Church of Contradictions*. Michael has performed with the *Black Eyed Susans*, *Things of Stone and Wood*, *Chris Wilson*, the *Junes*, *Stephen Cummings*, *Rebecca Barnard*, *Angie Hart*, *Brian Nankervis* form *Rockwiz* and toured iconic poet *Les Murray* four times since 2007. Michael has also written many short stories and a detective novel.

Lorna Hallahan - Associate Professor, School of Social and Policy Studies, Flinders University, SA

Lorna holds a PhD from Flinders University (2005) having completed a Bachelor of Social Work. from University of Queensland in 1982. Prior to her appointment at Flinders, Lorna practiced in a range of settings, including disability advocacy and the management of a loss and grief service. Lorna has been a significant and long term contributor to the development and analysis of disability policy. Her research is currently focused on the Evaluation of the Trial of The National Disability Insurance Scheme through the National Institute of Labour Studies at Flinders. In 2015, Lorna was appointed the Independent Reviewer of the South Australia Adoptions Act (1988) and she holds positions on the South Australia Ethics Health Advisory Council and the South Australia Premier's Women's Council. Lorna speaks and writes regularly on ethical issues for workers in complex human services.

Ricki Buchanan – Not Done Living

Ricky Buchanan is a disability and technology researcher as well as a blogger and advocate who is passionate about disability and chronic illness. Her focus is on those who are bedridden and housebound like she is, due to her own disability. Ricky blogs at Not Done Living and runs ATMac, a website about disability and assistive technology for Apple products such as Mac computers, iPods, and iPhones.

Aliey Ball, Arts Development Officer, Arts Access Victoria

Aliey Ball is a community arts & cultural development practitioner and multiple award-winning contemporary artist, living and working in Melbourne. Aliey has six years of tertiary education in fine art and design (VCA & RMIT), over four years' experience teaching art and design at tertiary level, eighteen years of professional arts practice and over a decade of experience working within the community arts & development sector.

Aliey has delivered a number of public art projects of distinction including The Venny (City of Melbourne) Winner Dulux Colour Award 2012 for Best Sustainable Interior, Winner Dulux Colour Award 2012 for Best Commercial Interior and Finalist for the 2012 Victorian Architectural Awards; Orchids & Bubbles 2010 (with designer Marc Pascal) for the Dandenong Hospital, Southern Health; Wangal 2007 for the City of Moreland; Birrarung (Yarra River) Mapping 2004 for the City of Stonnington; and My Best Egg Yet 1998 for Andrea Hull, Victorian College of the Arts.

Aliey is currently Arts Development Officer at Arts Access Victoria.

Dr Jacques Boulet - Co-Founder Borderlands Cooperative

Jacques has studied, worked and lived in five continents, starting in my native Flemish Belgium - where he obtained his Social Work Undergraduate Degree in 1965. Jacques worked (and learned a lot!) for 3 years as a volunteer in a major Community Development project in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and subsequently obtained a Post-Graduate Diploma in Community Development and Social Planning at the Institute for Social Studies in The Hague (Netherlands). He taught in Social Work and Community Development education programs in Germany throughout the seventies and was also involved in several grassroots community projects and activism. From 1980 to 1985, Jacques studied and worked at the University of Michigan (US), finishing his Masters in Social Work and also gaining a PhD in Social Work and in Sociology.

From 1985 to 1996 Jacques was a Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor in two Australian universities (Melbourne University and RMIT), leaving academia in 1997 to start - with friends - a local community learning centre, the Borderlands Cooperative (www.borderlands.org.au). Borderlands functions as a mixture of a meeting space for community activism and initiatives, a learning and research/consultancy centre with a huge library and an 'incubation space' for good ideas and alternative praxis. With Borderlands, Jacques has been involved in research and consulting work in community health, local government policy development, community arts, volunteering support and a broad range of organizational development projects. With Borderlands, Jacques was involved in the starting up of an accredited Master's Course, the **oases** Graduate School, which offers programs in Integrative and Transformative Studies addressing the social, spiritual, ecological and aesthetic issues of the day and finding answers for the pressing needs for change we face (www.oases.edu.au). He is the general editor of the *New Community*, the only community development journal in Australia, appearing quarterly (www.newcq.org).

Forum Three

15th November 9.30am – 4.00pm

'It Can Happen If'Linking Individual and community planning

Individual Planning presents an opportunity for people with disabilities to engage in planning conversations that identify their needs and aspirations for a good and meaningful life. Trends and themes from these conversations are an important source of knowledge that can be used to inform community planning. Just how we capture this information and use it to build stronger communities that reflect people's hopes and aspirations, however, remains a significant challenge. This forum will explore strategies for developing a coordinated approach to planning that links individual and community planning strategies to build more inclusive communities.

Presenters include:

Paul Ramcharan - Assoc Professor, Global, Urban & Social Studies, RMIT University

Paul Ramcharan has been involved in research for and with people with disabilities for over twenty years and has maintained an ongoing interest in self advocacy over that time, his most recent being an ARC linkage with colleagues at La Trobe University and Reinforce (a self advocacy group) about the history of self advocacy in Victoria. Since arriving in Australia in 2006 Paul has undertaken research around the views and experiences of people with disability and family carers of restrictive practices and has subsequently developed a Road map for Achieving Dignity without Restraint. Paul maintains a keen interest in disability research, human rights and inclusive research practice.

Sandy Jeffs - Poet and Author

Sandy Jeffs was among the first wave of Australian consumers in the 1980s to speak out publically about living with schizophrenia which she has lived with for nearly 40 years. She describes herself as a public loony and as a relic from the old days. Through her public speaking and advocacy, Sandy has been a human face to this often misunderstood and disputed condition. Sandy also describes herself as an old and submerging poet who has now published seven books of poetry including her best-selling *Poems from the Madhouse*. Her madness has informed much of her writing. In 2009 her memoir, *Flying with Paper Wings: Reflections on Living with Madness*, was published. Sandy's latest poetry collections, published in 2015, are: *Chiaroscuro* with Black Pepper Publishing and *The Mad Poet's Tea Party* with Spinifex Press. Sandy lives on the outskirts of Melbourne with her friends and animals in a place where it is Christmas every day.

Jenny McPherson - Peer Action Facilitator

Jenny left home to live independently at an early age and has experienced life in the community without the disability supports now available to her. Jenny brings a wealth of lived experience of how support systems can work for and against the individual. She currently lives in Geelong and is using her community development training and experience to support others to have a good life in the community.

About the Victorian Inclusive Community Development Network

The **Victorian Inclusive Community Development Network** brings together people who are interested in the promotion and application of community development practice in the context of disability. The Network aims to:

- Encourage healthy debate in a space that is open, challenging and nurturing;
- Promote reflective practice that deepens knowledge about effective community capacity building; and
- Support practitioners to be strong in implementing good community development practice in organisations and sectors that can sometimes be unsupportive to the principles and values that underpin collaborative work.

The Network meets bi monthly at VALID, 235 Napier Street, Fitzroy. Dates and times for the meetings for 2016 are:

Wednesday 17th August 4.00pm – 6.00pm

Tuesday 18th October 4.00pm – 6.00pm

Wednesday 14th December 4.00pm – 6.00pm

The meetings include Guest speakers, information sharing and topical practice discussions. Meetings are followed by dinner for those who are interested at one of the local Fitzroy eateries.

VALID Peer Action Groups

Peer Action Groups provide an opportunity for people with disabilities and their families and supporters to come together to support individual needs, address collective issues and make our communities more inclusive and welcoming to all citizens.

What is a Peer Action Group?

VALID's Peer Action Groups will be made up of between 5-12 people who will meet regularly (usually monthly) to:

- Get up-to-date information about the roll out of the NDIS and how this will affect participants in this disability funding support scheme
- Share information and ideas with other people on how to make good use of this funding
- To get new skills in making choices and taking control over decisions about work, recreation, skill development and home life
- To find out what kinds of activities and opportunities are available within the local community
- To have a place where there is encouragement to speak up and be heard
- To give advice on issues to VALID so that we can take up issues with the NDIS and seek to make systemic changes
- To get and give encouragement among peers and support to challenge discrimination and poor community attitudes to people with disabilities
- To build social connections and friendships with other peers

Most of the VALID Peer Action Groups will meet face to face at a local venue in the community. We encourage people who join these groups to attend regularly and to help in making their groups run well. Some of these groups will be for people with disabilities and some will be for families and some may be mixed groups.

For more information and/or if you would like to join in the Peer Action Group contact David Craig.

Registration

Organisation:

Contact person:

Address:

..... Postcode:

Phone Number: Mobile:

Email:

Name/s of people attending:

1. Additional needs/requirements

2. Additional needs/requirements

3. Additional needs/requirements

	Cost \$	Number of people	Total \$
Full Registration			
Forum 1	\$195 per person		
Forum 2	\$195 per person		
Forum 3	\$195 per person		
All 3 forums	\$525		
Concession			
Forum 1	\$45 per person		
Forum 2	\$45 per person		
Forum 3	\$45 per person		
TOTAL COST			\$

Closing date for registration:

Forum 1 - Monday 25th July

Forum 2 - Friday 2nd September

Forum 3 - Monday 7th November

Please send your registration form to brenda@valid.org.au or post to VALID, 235 Napier Street, Fitzroy 3065. Once registered we will send you a tax invoice.

VALID accepts cheques, direct payments and credit card payments (via the VALID website).

Make payment to:

Payee: Victorian Advocacy League for Individuals with Disability Inc

Bank: Commonwealth Bank Australia

BSB: 063 165

Account: 1002 0977

