

VOL. 27 | FEBRUARY 2024

# INDEPENDENT DISABILITY SERVICES

## EMBRACING CHANGE & EMPOWERING COMMUNITY

Welcome to the latest edition of the IDS Newsletter!

As we approach March, we embark on a journey of change and empowerment, bridging past achievements with future aspirations. This month, we bring you a diverse array of stories, updates, and initiatives that highlight our commitment to our community's well-being and growth.

Celebrate the outstanding contributions of IDS staff members by nominating them for the prestigious Excellence Awards. Learn more about how you can recognise those who have gone above and beyond in serving our community.

Join us as we commemorate International Women's Day under the theme "Inspire Inclusion".

Discover how we're celebrating the achievements of women and promoting gender equality in our community.

Learn about our commitment to creating a safe and respectful workplace environment. Explore the initiatives we're implementing to address occupational violence and support employees who speak up.

Meet our Hero of the Month and discover their inspiring story of dedication and service to our community.

You'll dive into our exciting lineup of recreational activities designed to promote joy, engagement, and community connection. Save the dates and join us for memorable experiences.

Stay connected with IDS and access resources, updates, and more through our client app. Download now to enhance your experience with IDS.

This month we invite you to embrace change, empower our community, and strive for a brighter future. We hope you enjoy exploring this edition of the IDS Newsletter!

# IDS EXCELLENCE AWARDS: NOMINATE NOW!

The IDS Excellence Awards are back, and we want your nominations!

This is your chance to recognise an IDS staff member who has demonstrated exceptional dedication, living the IDS values and making a real difference in our community.

There are two categories: one for the office team and one for the DSW team. Along with the honour, each award comes with a cash component.

Nominations are open until March 15th.

Visit our website to submit your nomination or contact Chris Bailey at [admin@idsa.org.au](mailto:admin@idsa.org.au) for assistance.

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: CELEBRATING "INSPIRE INCLUSION"

Join us as we celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) 2024 under the theme "Inspire Inclusion".

This global event celebrates women's achievements, raises awareness about discrimination, and promotes gender parity.

Our IWD event will take place from 5pm at Radisson on Flagstaff Gardens Melbourne, located at 380 William St, Melbourne VIC 3000.

For any special requirements or more information, please contact Tashley at 9340 5100.

Tickets can be purchased at trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/CPCUM>.



## IWD 2024

*International Women's Day*

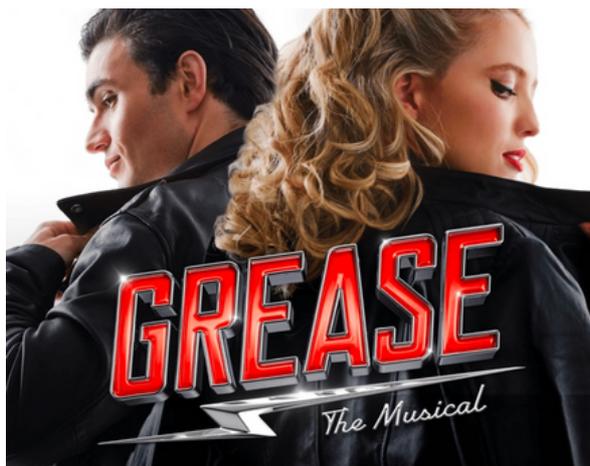
**INSPIRE INCLUSION  
IDS IWD EVENT**  
FRI 8TH MARCH  
RADISSON ON  
FLAGSTAFF GARDENS  
STARTING AT 5 PM  
TICKETS \$75.00



CONTACT 03 9340 5100 TO GET YOUR TICKET AND CELEBRATE IWD!

# MARCH RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES: MEANINGFUL CONNECTION WITH IDS

The IDS calendar is brimming with a variety of engaging recreational activities designed especially for our valued clients. There's something for everyone, from exploring new skills to enjoying shared experiences. For more information or to sign up, please contact our friendly office team at [9340 5100](tel:93405100), or drop us an email at [support@idsa.org.au](mailto:support@idsa.org.au). We can't wait to share these joy-filled moments with you!



**Wednesday 6th March**  
Grease The Musical

**Thursday 14th March**  
Rain Room Experience

**Friday 22nd March**  
Bus Trip to Ballarat Arts and Crafts Fair

**Tuesday 27th March**  
NGV Triennial Melbourne Arts Centre

## **EMPOWERING VOICES:**

# **SPEAK UP AGAINST OCCUPATIONAL VIOLENCE**

In workplaces worldwide, the daunting issue of occupational violence persists, posing a grave threat to the safety, well-being, and dignity of employees. Whether it's verbal harassment or physical assault, the spectrum of occupational violence is broad, with its repercussions extending far beyond the workplace confines.

However, one of the most formidable obstacles in addressing this issue is the prevalent culture of silence enveloping it. Many employees may shy away from reporting incidents of violence, fearing retaliation, disbelief, or stigma. Additionally, employers' tendency to overlook or dismiss complaints only perpetuates a cycle of impunity and inaction.

At IDS, we stand firm in our support for individuals to speak out against occupational violence. This courageous act is fundamental in affecting real change in the workplace. Within our organisation, we cultivate a culture of trust, respect, and accountability, ensuring that employees feel empowered to report incidents without fear of reprisal.

Looking ahead to 2024, IDS is committed to implementing robust policies, procedures, and support mechanisms to address and mitigate instances of occupational violence among our staff.

If you have any concerns, please don't hesitate to contact IDS management at [9340 5100](tel:93405100) for support and further information. Your well-being is our priority.

## **CLIENT BIRTHDAY WISHES:**

# **IDS CELEBRATES YOUR SPECIAL DAYS**

Independent Disability Services (IDS) is excited to extend our warmest birthday greetings to our wonderful clients who celebrated their birthdays recently.

We extend birthday wishes to the following people: Susie, Grace, Zoe, Adrian, Melanie, Michael, and Nazmi.

May your special day be filled with joy, laughter, and cherished memories.

Each birthday celebrated with IDS serves as a reminder of our shared commitment to enhancing every day. Your journey inspires us, and we eagerly anticipate continuing to support you. Here's to a truly remarkable Happy Birthday!

## **HERO OF THE MONTH:**

### **RECOGNISING EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

Our dedicated DSW, Jules, found their calling while playing soccer, leading them to pursue a career supporting others. They were captivated by the fulfilling nature and flexible opportunities in disability support, prompting them to enrol in training to make a difference.

At IDS, Jules enjoys the diversity of daily tasks and treasures moments like bonding with David over golf. Their typical day starts with reviewing client plans via the Vworker app, ensuring they have all the necessary information for effective support.

With two years of experience, Jules prioritises person-centred care and finds balance by indulging in their passion for soccer. They encourage others to join the field, highlighting the rewarding impact of aiding individuals. Their approach emphasises listening, empathy, and respect to ensure client comfort. IDS stands out for its supportive environment, aligning perfectly with Jules' values of dignity and belonging.

We highlight an IDS staff member who goes above and beyond each month. Stay tuned for our next hero!

## **STAY CONNECTED:**

### **DOWNLOAD OUR CLIENT APP TODAY!**

Ready to experience seamless communication and enhanced support? Experience the convenience and connectivity with our IDS apps today!

With the IDS Client Management System, our workers stay connected and provide timely updates through the Vworker app. For you, our valued clients, communication is at your fingertips through the VAboutMe app on your mobile devices or via the client portal accessible through NBN.

Haven't registered for the VAboutMe app or the client portal yet? Don't miss out! Reach out to our client services team at 9340 5100 or send an email to [support@idsa.org.au](mailto:support@idsa.org.au). Let us help you get set up and provide the necessary training.



# Independent Disability Services

Changing lives, empowering people



Want to join our online community?

Connect with our social media community by following us on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.



Love us? Leave us a 5-star Google review!

Search for Independent Disability Services (IDS) on Google or [click here](#). For any additional comments and feedback, call us at (03) 9340 5100.



**Rebecca**  
3 reviews

★★★★★ 4 months ago

Hello I'm one of IDS clients who continue to receive through their valued respected client centred supportive support from the amazing office staff who always are dedicated answering the telephones with cheerfulness and understanding with ... [More](#)



1



**John Lee**  
1 review

★★★★★ 10 months ago

it not aother services ... but wonderful life i acheived from there support .... thanks heaps idsa



2



**Zeba Hekmat**  
10 reviews · 1 photo

★★★★★ 2 years ago

My sister uses IDS for home supports and she could not be happier. They are thoughtful, responsive and always put her needs first. Lovely to deal with too. Five stars!!!



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