



CanDoNews

Quarterly Newsletter of CanDo4Kids Townsend House

Feel proud!

It is always pleasing when you have time to contemplate the effect that one of your interventions has in our community. 18 months ago, after intensive discussions with the Flinders University and Flinders Medical Centre, CanDo4Kids allocated \$156,000 over a three year period to the establishment of the only free public Auditory Processing Clinic for children in South Australia.

Auditory Processing Disorder means that a child can hear, but to various degrees, without being able to process what they are hearing. The waiting list for children to be screened for this disorder was up to 3 years! This was having a major negative effect on the development of these kids and was often crystallising in symptoms such as poor behaviour, inability to learn at an age appropriate rate or in very serious situations it was also leading to misdiagnosis into areas such as Attention Deficit Disorder.



From Paul Flynn
CEO CanDo Group Charities

We provided a 3-year grant to establish the CanDo4Kids Auditory Processing Clinic for children at Flinders Medical Centre in 2006. The waiting list has now been reduced to 3 months and many children who have had diagnosis are now able to have therapy for their symptoms.

CanDo4Kids has also established the Auditory Processing Disorder Intervention Clinic where children are having therapy at our home base at Hove. There has been very encouraging results from these therapy sessions and the outcomes for the kids have been fantastic.

As a valued contributor to the charitable services that CanDo4Kids provides to South Australian kids, you should feel justifiably proud that your support makes a big difference in their lives.



Ambassadors and CanDo4Kids Day

Seven of South Australia's leading business and sporting identities are doing their bit to help by becoming ambassadors for CanDo4Kids-Townsend House.

The seven ambassadors are Thunderbirds and Australian netballer Natalie Von Bertouch, Crows ruckman Rhett Biglands, Port Adelaide ruckman Brendan Lade, Glenelg legend and State Manager of Coca Cola-Amatil Peter Carey, BankSA Managing Director Rob Chapman, B.L. Shipway Managing Director David Shipway and former Test cricketer Terry Jenner.

CanDo4Kids Chief Executive Paul Flynn said the organisation was extremely fortunate to gain the support of such an outstanding group of South Australians. The opportunity to have wonderful South Australians, who care about our community involved with our organisation,

News and Events



Crows ruckman Rhett Biglands, Port ruckman Brendan Lade & Glenelg Football legend Peter Carey with CanDo4Kids clients Ruby, Alana and Tahlia.

puts us in a very privileged position and their contribution to the outcomes for children in South Australia is immeasurable.

Ambassadors were presented with certificates by CanDo4Kids patron, Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, AC CVO MBE, the then Governor of South Australia, in April at CanDo4kids Day.

The art of make-up

From cleansing to applying foundation and eye make-up, seven teenage clients of CanDo4Kids have covered it all!

The girls, each with a vision impairment, are involved in the 'Learn how to apply make-up' group, every second Friday.

The Occupational Therapy Service initiated a pilot program in response to client referrals for assistance with make-up application, and all blind/vision impaired female clients aged above 13 years were invited to take part.



The application of make-up is a complex skill most commonly learnt as a teenager and requires a great deal of practice and persistence. The program sessions focus the development of these skills using adaptations, such as magnification mirrors.

The program is greatly assisted by the generous donation of time and resources from the team at The Body Shop, West Lakes.

Feedback from the girls has been great, with many saying that they are more confident, self-assured and independent now they can do their make-up themselves.

Esther, a participant in the course, said she liked learning how to apply foundation and do her eyes.

"I liked how they let you try putting make-up on yourself - it has given me more confidence," Esther said.

Another participant said that she could now do her makeup with little or no assistance.

"It's made me more independent. I don't have to ask my mum anymore!" she said.

Self-esteem encompasses respecting and accepting yourself and being proud of who you are, and appearance can also be important for those who have a vision impairment.

Through their involvement in this program, young women have had the opportunity to learn about make-up in a supportive environment where they have enjoyed the freedom to express their individuality through make-up, chatting, friendships and music.

Left: Rebecca practicing some new techniques.



The Hand Skills Group - a stepping stone

Each Tuesday five visually impaired children aged three and four years take part in the Hand Skills Group run by CanDo4Kids, in preparation for the move to their local kindergarten.

The Hand Skills Group gives them an opportunity to try fine motor activities like painting, cutting, drawing, and threading, which are generally more challenging for children with a vision loss.

Each Hand Skills session has a different theme (like 'The Garden', 'Animals' or 'Car Races') around which the activities are developed.

The sessions also help the children with developing an understanding of routines and taking turns, while encouraging them to interact with other children in the group.

The children at this age are learning to work independently of their parents, which gives them the opportunity to chat and develop support networks.

The Hand Skills Group has been running once a week during this school term, and it's been wonderful to see each of the children involved increasing in confidence and independence.



Mikayla determined to stay inside the lines.

All sounds are possible!



Symone receiving Auditory Rehabilitation from CanDo4Kids Speech Pathologist Bronwyn Macey.

In July eight-year-old Symone Steeds received a cochlear implant and a new lease on life.

At just four years of age Symone was diagnosed with severe-profound hearing loss in both ears and has since been using hearing aids, lip reading and sign language to communicate.

Following tests in early 2007 it was decided that Symone would be better suited to a cochlear implant – giving her access to all sounds and the future possibility of attending a mainstream school.

CanDo4Kids Speech Pathologist Bronwyn Macey said that when she first met Symone in 2005 she was rather shy and uncertain; however, since receiving the implant she had undergone a major transformation in her behaviour and was now a lot more expressive, outgoing and confident.

Symone's mum, Veronica Steeds, said that before receiving the implant Symone could barely hear her, but now she could talk to her daughter even when she was across the playground or in a different room in the house.

"Bronwyn and CanDo4Kids have been an amazing support for Symone and have played a vital role in her transformation," Veronica said.

The kids 'Dare to Dream'

Under the guidance of staff from CanDo4Kids, ceramist Erin Lykos and painter Sue Nirta, about 20 young CanDo4Kids artists came together in July, to each produce a piece of artwork for exhibiting to the public.

Titled 'Dare to Dream', the project provided a unique opportunity for the Deaf/hearing and blind/vision impaired teenagers to gain a variety of life skills which will, in turn, promote confidence and a sense of belonging within the community. In addition the project provided the opportunity for each of the participants to be creative and express their individual thoughts and feelings through a variety of different mediums. For many individuals with a sensory loss expressing their thoughts and feelings through art can be extremely important and is necessary in their own development.

Conducted over a three-day period, the initiative developed by CanDo4Kids in association with KPMG staff, provided CanDo4Kids members with a total experience of creating, exhibiting and ultimately selling their work.

Our young artists along with Erin, Sue and invited artists Angus Rayner and Patricia Taylor, exhibited their artwork at the Hughes PR Gallery on Rundle St after an opening on August 31.



Ellen (left) & Dallas thoroughly enjoyed creating their artwork.

Each of the exhibiting artists also donated a piece of artwork for auction on opening night, with all proceeds being donated to CanDo4Kids.

The children's artwork was also available for purchase, with all proceeds going to the individual child.

Overall the participants had a great time and produced some wonderful artwork!



Petals in the Park

The Adelaide Botanic Garden will come to life in October with the Trial Rose Festival - 'Petals in the Park'.

The Trial Rose Festival has been an annual event for several years and has received a breath of fresh air for 2007 with CanDo4Kids coming on board to organise the event.

While the aim of the event is to celebrate the rose, this year's event will take on a festival charm, set outdoors in and around the International Rose Garden in the Botanic Garden. It will feature live entertainment (including the Zephyr Quarter, Marmalade Circus, Carolyn Ferrie, Amity Dry and band plus others), art exhibitions (including internationally acclaimed artist Jacqueline Coates), discussion panels, rose-related stalls and food and wine.

Scheduled for October 19 to 21, the main fundraising element of the festival will be a ticketed benefit concert after closing (8pm - 9.30pm) featuring musical theatre star Simon Gallaher, singer/songwriter Amity Dry and friends singing tunes from musical greats such as Westside Story, the Lion King, Dreamgirls, Wicked, Jesus Christ Superstar and many more.

All profits from the festival will go to CanDo4Kids to assist the organisation to continue to provide free services to

Events Diary

Please visit our website for all the latest information on upcoming events: www.cando4kids.com.au



Additional Supporters

CanDo4Kids-Townsend House is fortunate to have strong community support backed up by innovative revenue-raising activities such as CanDoNet, the first community-owned internet service provider.

CanDo4Kids is proud to have CanDoNet on board as the major sponsor for our newsletter.



South Australian children and young adults who are deaf, blind or sensory impaired.

This event is the launch pad for the Rose Society of South Australia Centenary and World Regional Rose Festival being held in Adelaide in 2008.

To book your tickets log on to www.cando4kids.com.au or phone 8298 0900.



Lotteries and Fundraising

Lottery drawn 7/12/07



Christmas Lottery

Total Prize Pool \$83,675

Only 12,500 tickets at \$40 per ticket for your chance to win this amazing prize package:

1st Prize
\$40,000 Cash

2nd Prize
Travel Voucher value \$7000 plus \$2000 spending money

3rd Prize
BBQ and Outdoor setting \$3600

4th Prize
Barossa Daimler Collingrove Escape \$1200

5th and 14th Prize
Digital Cameras \$300 each

15th - 34th Prize
Premium Wine Packs \$100 each

34th - 334th Prize
Mitre 10 Glenelg Gift Vouchers \$50 each

335th - 729th Prize
The Body Shop Gift Vouchers \$25 each

Tickets \$40 each - BONUS OFFER
3 for the price of 2!

You can now support us online!

Visit our website:

www.cando4kids.com.au
or call our hotline on 8298 0915

What is CanDo4Kids and what's it all about?

CanDo4Kids focuses us on the free charitable services we continue to provide to blind, vision impaired and deaf, hearing impaired children and young adults in South Australia. We have a 133 year tradition of addressing the many needs in our community in these areas. We focus on what kids 'Can Do' and give them the skills and self-confidence to highlight their potential.

How to contact us?

Townsend House, 28 King George Ave, Hove, SA 5048
PO Box 43, Brighton, SA 5048
Phone: 8298 0900, Fax: 8377 1933
Email: info@cando4kids.com.au www.cando4kids.com.au



Charity Direct is a sign of ethical fundraising which means every cent donated to CanDo4Kids goes directly to the provision and support of Children's services.

