



Aussie Deaf Kids Parents' Conference 2016



Conference Schedule

Time	Presentation	Speaker
8:30	Registration	
9:00-9:10	Welcome	Steve Pascoe
9:15-9:35	National Disability Insurance Scheme	Bruce Bonyhady AM
9:35-9:55	The Transition of the Hearing Services Program to the NDIS	Tracey Duffy
9:55-10:05	A Parent Perspective of the NDIS	Mark Wyburn
10:30-11:00	Morning tea	
11:00-11:30	Mindfulness and Parenting a Deaf Child	Kate Greenhalgh
11:30-12:30	Education for Deaf and Hard of Hearing in the 21 st Century	Dr Jill Duncan
12:30-1:00	Informed Decision-Making	Ann Porter AM
1:00-2:00	Lunch	
2:00-3:00	Building Strong Families	Paula Zalcborg
3:00-3:30	Learning from Adults Living with Deafness	Dr Paul Jacobs
3:30-3:45	Afternoon tea	
3:45-4:45	My World Young Adults Tell their Stories	Sophie Li Jarrad Nicholas Naomi Frost Sophie Hallam
4:45 – 5:00	Close	Ann Porter AM

Join the presenters and the Aussie Deaf Kids team for a refreshing drink at The Village from 5pm located at 557 St Kilda Rd, Melbourne VIC 3004.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is currently available in a number of trial sites across the country and will be progressively rolled out by district from July 2016. Families play an essential part in supporting the needs of their child with hearing loss and there are things you can do to be prepared when the NDIS becomes available in your area. Mr Bonyhady will provide an overview of the NDIS and what you can do to prepare.



Mr Bruce Bonyhady AM

Chair, National Disability Insurance Agency

Mr Bruce Bonyhady was formerly the President of Philanthropy Australia and also formerly the Convenor of the Independent Panel appointed to advise the Productivity Commission and Government during the Inquiry into long-term care and support for Australians with disability. He was a Member of the Disability Investment Group, Deputy Chair of the National Disability Insurance Scheme Advisory Group to the Council of Australian Governments and formerly Chairman of Yooralla.

Mr Bonyhady is a Director of Dexu Wholesale Property Limited and formerly Chairman of Acadian Asset Management Australia and a Director of UniSuper. He has also held a number of senior executive positions in the funds management industry and insurance industry in Australia and internationally. His former roles include Managing Director of ANZ Investments and Executive Vice President at BT Funds Management. His earlier career was as an economist and econometrician in the private sector and the Commonwealth Treasury.

He is the father of three adult sons two of whom have disabilities. Mr Bonyhady was appointed as a member of the Order of Australia in 2010 for services to people with disabilities, their families and carers.

The Transition of the Australian Government's Hearing Services Program to the NDIS

The Hearing Services Program, which is administered by the Office of Hearing Services in Canberra, will be transitioning to the NDIS. Tracey will discuss what this will mean for children and young people with hearing loss and how the transition will be managed.



Ms Tracey Duffy

National Manager Office of Hearing Services

Tracey Duffy joined the Office of Hearing Services as National Manager in August 2012. The Office within the Commonwealth Department of Health is responsible for the policy, program management and delivery of the Australian Government Hearing Services Program. Prior to that she held a number of roles within the Department - leading teams and undertaking consultation to establish new programs, policy development, reviews and reforms across a range of subject areas including food regulation, pharmaceuticals and aged and community care. Tracey also has

private sector experience in aged care and health and human services management advisory roles.

A parent perspective of the NDIS

What does the NDIS look like for deaf and hard of hearing children and their families? Mark will discuss what he has learnt as a parent living in a NDIS trial site.



Mr Mark Wyburn

Parent

Mark lives in Newcastle NSW with wife Roslyn and their three children. Their youngest son was born in 2005 and has a moderate sensorineural bilateral hearing loss and additional needs. There was no history of deafness in either family. Mark has had experiences with many different government and non-government service providers through seeking

assistance for their son's disabilities and advocating on his behalf. They have been participants in the NDIS since July 2014.

Mark is currently a committee member and regional representative of Parents of Deaf Children (PODC), and has represented both PODC and Aussie Deaf Kids at different government forums in relation to hearing services.

Mindfulness and Parenting a Deaf Child

Being a parent has many ups and downs. The ups are times to celebrate but the lows can be harder to manage. Kate is currently doing a PhD in Clinical Psychology. Her PhD focusses on mindfulness and parenting a deaf child. She will discuss the theory behind her research and provide some tips for parents about using mindfulness in their lives to benefit both them and their children.



Kate Greenhalgh
Researcher

Kate completed a Bachelor of Business (Human Resource Management) and a Bachelor of Psychological Science with first class honors, at Griffith University. Following this she worked as a research assistant on projects at the university and has volunteered as a mental health support worker and as a mentor with young children who are disengaged with learning at school. It was during this time that Kate developed an interest in parent-child relationships and resilience.

She is currently doing a PhD in Clinical Psychology at Griffith University's Gold Coast campus. For her PhD research project, Kate is investigating the social and emotional development of children who are Deaf or hard of hearing, aged 0-5 years, as well as the well-being of their parents. She is developing and implementing a program that aims to boost the resilience of these children and to reduce parental stress during these early years.

Education for deaf and hard of hearing children in the 21st Century

Dr Duncan will discuss emerging evidence and trends in deaf education.



Jill Duncan
PhD, MEd, Management (University of Western Australia),
MEd, BSci (University of Cincinnati)

Jill is currently the Director of the Victorian Deaf Education Institute (VDEI) for the Department of Education and Training. VDEI provides sector-wide professional learning opportunities, commissions deaf education related research, and investigates opportunities for improving inclusive education for children and young people who are deaf or hard of hearing in Victoria. Jill has held educational leadership and academic positions in the United

States and Australia. Her qualifications include deaf education, speech pathology and audiology. She is a certified Listening and Spoken Language Specialist.

Informed Decision Making

Parents are faced with all kinds of decisions throughout the life of their child. As the parent of a child with a hearing loss, these decisions may be about choices that are new to them. Decision-making can often be clouded by stress or by the differing views of professionals, family and friends. Ann will discuss some of the theory about good decision-making and provide some guidance on how parents can make decisions that are right for their child and family.



Ann Porter AM

Founder and CEO of Aussie Deaf Kids

Ann's youngest daughter was diagnosed with a unilateral hearing loss when she was 4 and lost the hearing in her other ear when she was 7. She collaborates extensively with parents, consumer organisations, service providers and government both in Australia and overseas to ensure families receive the services and support they need to

competently and happily raise their child with hearing loss.

Ann has a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy and a Master of eHealthcare and has recently commenced a PhD researching informed decision-making. One of her interests is the potential of the Internet to make a difference in the lives of families with deaf and hard of hearing children. In 2013, Ann was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for her significant service to people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Building Strong Families

“My goal for every Deaf child I see is that they leave school feeling positive about themselves as a deaf person, that they are comfortable talking about their deafness and that they can advocate for themselves.” Paula will share her experiences and discuss how parents can help their child to achieve this goal.

Paula Zalcborg

Counsellor and family therapist

Paula is a counsellor and family therapist who works specifically with Deaf and Hard of Hearing children, adolescents, adults and their families. She is fluent in AUSLAN and currently employed at St. Mary's (4 campuses) two days a week and has her own private practice where she sees

children, adolescents and adults for individual counselling, couple counselling and/or family therapy.

She began her professional career as a kindergarten teacher then qualified as a Teacher of the Deaf. She worked in deaf education for over 30 years with both Oral and

Signing children of all different ages and additional disabilities. Her last employment as a TOD was at Aurora Early Intervention. She soon realised that parents receive support when their children are very young, then there seems to be little emotional support for children and their families once they enter school. Hence, she completed qualifications in both counselling and Family Therapy. She has been working in this field for nearly 10 years.

Her work is family based but she also works intensely with school, Government and allied professional systems. Paula has had extensive experience with many different mental health issues – some of which directly relate to deafness, self-esteem, identity and acceptance.

Learning from adults living with deafness

Dr Jacobs will talk about his autobiography and his newest book 'Adversity, Resilience, and Transformation.' This includes a framework of positive attributes and everyday strategies for identifying, circumventing, or mastering deaf-specific challenges.



Dr Paul Jacobs
Author and researcher

Dr Paul Jacobs is the author of 'Neither-nor' A young Australian's experience of deafness.' Profoundly deaf since he was five years old, his father raised him after his mother's death as a three-month old infant. Paul's research has covered mental health, proactive thinking, social skills, and advocacy by parents of children who are deaf and teachers of the deaf. He has worked in academia, service provision, and Government.

My world – young adults tell their stories

We have a diverse panel of young adults who will share some of their stories and answer your questions.

- Sophie Li
- Jarrad Nicholas
- Naomi Frost
- Sophie Hallam

A special thanks to Sophie Li, who kindly organised this panel for us.

Thank you

Aussie Deaf Kids would like to thank everyone at the Victorian Deaf Education Institute for their assistance and support in the organisation of this first Aussie Deaf Kids Parent Conference. We could not have done it without you.

Thank you also to all the presenters who have provided us with their time and expertise to share their knowledge and experience with parents.



Online information and support for families
raising a child with hearing loss
www.aussiedeafkids.org.au

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