

Conference Report Include Conference August 2018

The inaugural Include Conference was held at Wrest Point. It was a celebration of inclusion, of empowerment and of vitality. Organiser and founder of Frankly Diversity, Lauren Jauncy, invited Sex Discrimination Commissioner Kate Jenkins to talk about sexual harassment, topical with the #metoo movement. The link to the recent survey the Commissioner reported on is here: <https://www.humanrights.gov.au/news/stories/everyone-s-business-2018-sexual-harassment-survey>

Corporate groups and sponsors such as Aurora and UTAS also championed social inclusion and diversity for their organisations. Council staff were also represented on the day.

Keynote speaker Sadhana Smiles spoke of the many challenges through life, but how those can be turned around for positive effect. Her pitch as can be seen in the follow up email from organisers, reveals how much her story and work in Fiji resonated with the audience. This update also lists other events for the future. In all, this was a very useful day event in Hobart, not only for the content, but also for networking and hearing about the positive things happening in our city and region.

Update from Lauren after the conference:

“Sadhana Smiles raised \$10,000 from the Include Conference for her charity in Fiji I know... AMAZING right??? Sadhana was absolutely blown away by our generosity and asked me to pass on the following message:

I am in Fiji and just had a meeting with my team and the money raised at your event will go to funding two projects. An outreach trip to 2 Islands which are heavily populated however get no support. We will spend a week travelling by both to villages on the island and will not just do Pap smears but test for diabetes's and high blood pressure as well. We will have a Dr with us who who'll be able provide treatment and referrals.”

Well done Team Tassie!

Frankly Women Program – now kicking off in February

Please note that we have decided to reschedule the Frankly Women Program to kick off in February as the Oct/Nov timing was proving to be a bit tricky for many of the participants. I still have a couple of spots left on this program so let me know if your organisation is keen to be involved. You can find out more information at www.franklywomen.com

AccessAbility Day is coming up – how can you and your organisation get involved?

AccessAbility Day (which takes place on a day of your choosing between Monday Nov 26th – Friday Nov 30th) is an Australian Government initiative that allows employers to connect with jobseekers with disability (participants), who are current and active Disability Employment Services (DES) participants looking for work, to see their potential in the workplace.

Employers can explore the concept of employing a jobseeker with disability, while also providing an opportunity for participants to gain an insight into a particular job or type of work. This week has been chosen to coincide with the United Nations International Day of People with Disability on December 3rd.

Last year, we had over 240 employers nationwide host over 440 participants. There is marketing material designed and ready to implement, for those employers who would like to promote their participation in print and on social media. The only thing you need to provide is

an interest and willingness to work alongside Maxima to include some more diversity in your workforce.

Luke Cripps (luke.cripps@maxima.co.au) from Maxima can facilitate anything else that needs to happen to this end, and has a caseload of participants ready to jump in!

<https://www.jobaccess.gov.au/people-with-disability/accessabilityday/employers>

<https://www.jobaccess.gov.au/people-with-disability/accessabilityday/promotional-materials>

Include Conference – the planning has begun for 2019!

Thanks to all of you who provided feedback on the Include Conference. Please keep sending me your stories of diversity and inclusion. I've already begun the planning for next year's conference... more to come soon! Don't hesitate to send me your ideas for speakers."

Helen Burnet

Alderman

October 2 2018