



Free
Webinar

Fostering and Developing Friendship

13 July 2021 | 10am to 12.30pm

Webinar for Residents of North Central Victoria and City of Hume Only

What is this webinar about?

Friendships are one of the most important things in our lives. Research has shown that relationships make a big difference to our well-being, safety, learning and health. Although meaningful social connection is a problem for many people in society today, people who have a disability and/or other needs are at greater risk of isolation, loneliness and disconnection. Although we recognise the need for mutual friendship, we often struggle with how to assist people with disabilities or other needs to develop and maintain relationships, particularly with a range of community members.

In this webinar, participants will learn to:

- Recognise the importance of friendship
- Understand the risks of isolation and disconnection
- Think about how relationships start, develop and grow
- Identify and overcome the challenges and barriers that can stand in the way
- Develop ways to assist people to foster, develop and nurture relationships

This webinar will also share stories of people with a disability who are in valued friendship with others.

Who is this webinar for?

This webinar is only available to people living in **North Central Victoria and the City of Hume, including Kyneton and the surrounding areas of Sunbury, Romsey and Woodend**. This also includes the municipalities of Buloke, Gannawarra, Loddon, Campaspe, Central Goldfields, Mount Alexander, Macedon Ranges and the City of Greater Bendigo.

This webinar will be of interest to people with a disability, mental illness or other vulnerabilities, families, advocates and professionals. Everyone is welcome.

Guest Speakers



Lisa Bridle lives in Brisbane with her husband Terry, and is the mother of 3 adult children. Lisa worked as a social worker and community development worker before the birth of her second child, Sean, 26 years ago. Since then, Lisa has been active in disability advocacy and support in both paid and voluntary roles. For the last 11 years, Lisa has worked at Community Resource Unit in Queensland, developing family leadership with a particular focus on inclusion. Lisa will share Sean's journey and discuss the strategies they used to craft a rich life for Sean focusing on how they assisted Sean to build a diverse web of relationships, invest time in what really makes a difference and push through the limits of imagination and fear.



Deb Rouget is the CEO of Belonging Matters. For over 30 years, she has been involved in the lives of people with a disability and their families and has gained much practical experience and wisdom about imagining and designing supports that enable people with a disability to have typical opportunities in the community. Through her work at Belonging Matters, she has led a number of initiatives including the Building Community Networks project which facilitates Circles of Support, 19 Stories of Inclusion and Talks That Matter. She also mentors and consults with people with a disabilities, families and others in regard to community and belonging.



Teresa Micallef has always chosen to work at the cutting edge of change in community and has worked alongside people with disabilities and their families for over 20 years. She was the Coordinator of a family governed group called Living Distinctive Lives for 9 years. Teresa is the Project Manager of Building Community Networks and has been impressed by the power, creativity and resilience of people who experience disability, their families and networks to foster community pathways and opportunities for genuine inclusion.

Feedback from Previous Participants

Transformational. Anything is possible. Vision. Challenge! Real life stories. Fantastic. Inspiring, refreshing and wonderful. Changed my mindset about planning for my daughter's future. It's a progressive thinking and empowering way of action. Motivating. Thought provoking. Open minded. Working towards people's vision and values. Opened my mind to an understanding that there is a lot out there. Diverse ways to reach inclusion. Enlightening.

Booking Information

Tickets are free. Registrations are only available online. Bookings close 12 July 2021.



When

Tuesday, 13 July 2021
10am—12.30pm



Where

This event is hosted on
the video platform
Zoom



Registration

Through Eventbrite
[Click Here to Register](#)



Contact

Belonging Matters
03 9739 8333 or email
info@belongingmatters.org



These workshops are financially supported by an Information, Linkages and Capacity Building grant through the Department of Social Services.



Australian Government
Department of Social Services