



**Your help line**  
**(03) 9916 5821**

**Website:**

[www.acedisability.org.au](http://www.acedisability.org.au)

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**Challenge Multimedia is a Yooralla enterprise that supports people with disabilities...**



## The ACE DisAbility Network Do-It-Yourself Training Manual now available.

Research confirms that ACE providers both need and want disability specific training. Often ACE teachers and other staff have trouble accessing training because of limited staff hours, the lack of back fill and the high cost.

The ACE DisAbility Network considered this issue and to meet the need of ACE providers we developed a **Do-It Yourself Training Manual**. The beauty of the manual is that providers can use it with individual staff or as group PD Training at a time and place that best suits.

### The Manual comprises 14 modules:

1. What is disability?
2. How does the disability/mental health sector work?
3. Working with the disability/mental health sector
4. Legislative requirements
5. Dispelling myths
6. Understanding inclusion
7. Communicating with people with disability
8. Impacts of disability on learning and strategies to meet them
9. Pre course interviewing
10. Classroom management
11. Working with support workers
12. Disability action planning
13. Duty of Care
14. Managing volunteers with disability

*The manual is suitable for teaching all disability types and is available electronically or hard in copy (postage and copy fee to be added)*

**Each module is \$ 50 ACEDN members \$35 or 4 modules for \$ 100 (special). Whole manual cost \$ 350 or ACEDN members \$ 300**

### Are you a member?

ACE DisAbility Network members get a special deal on training as well, as other benefits. Membership is only \$50 a year, so contact us now to join on: 03 9916 5821 or email [olympiat@yooralla.com.au](mailto:olympiat@yooralla.com.au)

## Working with people with speech disorders- Feature

There are a variety of causes of speech disorders, but often the cause is unknown. Stroke and traumatic brain injury are common causes of communication disorders in adults. Some of the more common causes in childhood are hearing loss, autism, cerebral palsy, neurological disorders, brain injury and intellectual disability. Physical problems like cleft palate or lip (where the lip is split) or other physical deformities or injuries can also result in speech disorder.

A person with a speech disorder has trouble producing clear speech. This may mean they may have trouble making the sounds necessary for speech or they may be capable of making all of the sounds, but their speech is still not easily understood.

Being unable to produce clear speech does not mean the person cannot understand what is being said to them, so please remember this when communicating with them.

### Augmented communication

This refers to the various devices that can be used to assist people with speech impairments to communicate independently. These include:

- **Communication books:** books with illustrations of items that the person might require or that they are interested in. Communication is facilitated by pointing to the object or picture.
- **Communication boards** made or adapted to suit a person's specific communication needs using object pictures, photographs, written words, line drawings or picture symbols.

These boards can range from simple boards with few or many pictures or symbols to boards that have speech output when a picture, symbol or word is pressed.

Communication boards can be operated using a range of switch devices or be linked to a computer screen to be operated by eye blink, eye gaze or sip/puff mechanisms.

### Facilitated communication

Facilitated communication is a method whereby a key board or letter board is used by a person with communication issues with physical support from an enabler. This support may vary from an encouraging hand on the shoulder through to holding the hand to enable the index finger to be pointed.

Facilitated communication is controversial. Some professionals are strongly opposed to it and consider that the enabler ends up "leading" the person. Equally there are supporters who claim to have witnessed dramatic developments in communication skills when a person is assisted to communicate in this way.

## Communicating with people with speech disorders

### Tips for communicating with people with speech disorders

- Pay attention and allow time for them to respond
- Reduce background noise where possible, or go into a quiet space
- Let the speaker know when you are having difficulty understanding them –it’s ok to let the person know that you are interested in what they have to say, but need time
- Ask for the information to be repeated or communicated in a different way e.g. with yes/no questions or in a written form
- Repeat the part you have understood so they do not have to repeat the entire message
- Do not pretend to have understood when you haven’t
- Ask if they have a communication book or communication board or other device and ask how it is used
- Ask the speaker if it is OK to ask someone who knows them well to interpret or assist. E.g. partner, carer, family member, staff member.

Sometimes it can take a while to “get your ear in” and attune yourself to the speaker’s speech but once you have done this, it generally works for the long term.

### Communication Resources and Disability.

#### **Communication Rights Australia (CRA)**

CRA provides information, support & advocacy to people with communication impairment and interested others. This is a free service.

269 Centre Rd. Bentleigh Vic 3204

Phone: (03) 9557 5551

TTY or SSR: 133 677 or 1300 555 727 Website: [www.caus.com.au](http://www.caus.com.au)

#### **ComTEC - A service of Yooralla**

ComTEC provides advice, support & simple communication and technology solutions for people with disabilities of all ages. Appointments and advisory sessions are provided.

705 Geelong Rd, Brooklyn 3025

Phone: (03) 9362 6111

Website: [www.yooralla.com.au/comtec.php](http://www.yooralla.com.au/comtec.php) Email: [comtec@yooralla.com.au](mailto:comtec@yooralla.com.au)

#### **Scope**

Speech therapy and communication support for people with communication difficulties.

Scope’s Communication Resource Centre can assist people with complex communication needs to access Regional Communication Services and the Non-Electronic Communication Aid Scheme (NECAS). **Disability cohort – multiple**

830 Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill 3128

Phone: 9843 3000 Website: [www.scopevic.org.au](http://www.scopevic.org.au) Email: [contact@scopevic.org.au](mailto:contact@scopevic.org.au)

#### **DEAL (Dignity, Education and Language)**

Advice, advocacy, support and information on communication systems.

538 Dandenong Rd, Caulfield 3162

Phone: (03) 9509 6324. Website: [www.deal.org.au](http://www.deal.org.au) Email: [dealcc@deal.org.au](mailto:dealcc@deal.org.au)

#### **Speech Therapy**

The following link provides a list of the public speech pathology services around Victoria.

[http://www.rch.org.au/speech/pubs/index.cfm?doc\\_id=10458](http://www.rch.org.au/speech/pubs/index.cfm?doc_id=10458)

## ACE DisAbility Network- Seeking partners or joint projects:

If your organisation is looking to put in for submission funding or for a tender with any type of focus of education/training and disability, then consider us. We have unique specialised knowledge and a long term commitment to supporting both students and staff working with learners with any type of disability. Please contact us to discuss your idea or proposal on: (03) 9916 5821 or [olympiat@ooralla.com.au](mailto:olympiat@ooralla.com.au)

## THE TERRIFICS- A showcase of the very best of disability talent

Organised by the very talented filmmaker Sarah Barton from Grit Media –founder and producer of the No Limits show.

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012, 8pm

Caravan Music Club: Oakleigh RSL, 95-97 Drummond St, Oakleigh

The night will showcase and celebrate performers living with a disability. Line up includes: Headline act: Rudely Interrupted, Heidi Everett and her band, circus theatrics by Emma Jane Hawkins, dancers- Emotion 21 and more. The night will be MC'd by ABC's Stella Young-Journalist, teacher, comedienne and writer for online news service *Ramp Up*.

Tickets are: \$30.00 reserved or \$23.00 general admin from [www.caravanmusic.com.au](http://www.caravanmusic.com.au) or to learn more about the night visit [www.gritmedia.org.au](http://www.gritmedia.org.au)

## *Yooralla- Adult Education*

*Pre-vocational training for adults with any form of disability or learning difficulty.  
Accredited courses are run in a flexible, personalized environment.*



## **OPEN DAY!**

*Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2012*

*11.00 am - 3.00 pm*

*Just opposite Flinders Street Station!*

*Level 2, 244 Flinders Street, Melbourne*

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Certificates in Work and Transition Education  
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Discovering Melbourne | Gardening  
ucan Café



**Talk to students, parents and trainers! Ph: Tim Kelso for details on 9916 5813**