

Introduction to Supporting Children & Adults Diagnosed With Asperger's Syndrome & Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

Program Outline

- Overview of Asperger's Syndrome/ASD and meanings within a direct support environment
- Reviewing and understanding the spectrum domains
- Information processing, visual thinking and behaviour
- Development of social skills
- Understanding & supporting sensory needs
- Supporting routines, change and adaptation
- Targeting and defining behaviour
- Positive behaviour support programs
- ASD in school, home and support setting contexts

Costs: \$ 62 per person

When & Where: 9am – 4pm **SHARP**

Launceston Thursday 10th November 2011; Anglicare Tasmania, Large Training Room, 116 Elizabeth Street

Hobart Wednesday 26th October 2011; Anglicare Tasmania Board Room, 18 Watchorn Street Hobart

Who can attend?

This workshop is targeted toward Department of Child Protection, Disability and Education staff, funded Non-Government Organisations, Parents and Carers. The content of this workshop is focused on direct support/care staff and carers and looks at Asperger's Syndrome and ASD in concrete and transferable terms and contexts. Staff working in accommodation services will find this of particular interest as will carers and those supporting young people and adults with ASD at case and planning levels.

Who is your presenter?



Mr Night has over 10 years experience working in direct support settings with children and adults experiencing Autistic Spectrum Disorders and extreme complex needs. This has included teaching at the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre, supporting clients with extreme behaviour in secure settings at Basil Stafford and Walston Park mental health services through Disability Services Queensland, as well as, within a wide range of community based and secure care contexts.

Working originally within Special Education settings and then developing and managing services with ASD specific organizations throughout Queensland, he brings both a professional, academic and real life approach to developing support planning for children and adults with Asperger's Syndrome and ASD. River currently works with services and families developing support planning for young people and adults with complex needs directly, through consultation, group training and development. He has also recently moved to Tasmania and has a number of projects he is working on in raising community awareness of ASD, writing and developing text and programs for families.

River has managed and developed accommodation, crisis, respite and in-home support programs funded by Child Safety, Disability Services, Commonwealth Carer, and NGO brokered programs throughout Queensland. He has studied special education, psychology and mental health through Griffith and the University of Queensland and is continuing his study in Psychology in 2011. His particular interest is young people with extreme and complex support needs through disability, mental illness or other complex needs at a direct support and case level within a range of contexts. River has also done extensive work in quality systems, developing policy and procedure for organisations towards licensing, quality audits and organisational development. Through his extensive work in this sector he has identified a need for concrete support strategies and understanding for carers and those involved with people with complex needs at a grass roots level to complement the growing clinical and service level research and development.

“we need to get back to the basics of how carers and professionals support people with complex needs in real, everyday environments”

Mr Night is also an adult with Asperger's Syndrome. He was recently part of a talk back program with Prof. Tony Attwood and Counsellor Rachael Harris on 96.5 FM with Peter Janetzki in Queensland. You can download the Pod Cast here <http://www.96five.com/pages/content.aspx?pid=67>