

nexus INK



Summer 2025

 nexus inc.



CEO Welcome

Summer is a great time for us to get out in the community and get involved in activities that bring us joy!

Supporting clients to get out and about is a great example of Active Support which has been the basis of our support model for almost 20 years. This model provides tailored and ongoing support to people with disability so they can remain actively engaged in daily activities.

Throughout Summer these activities included travelling around the state, cooking up new recipes, and visiting a nail salon. It was great to see clients achieving goals and building their independence.

Even physical design can promote Active Support and we thank Homes Tasmania for partnering with us to refurbish kitchens in two of our North West properties. The new kitchens support clients to help with meal preparation and chat about their days.

This Summer I have been busy working on Board development. As a not for profit organisation, having a skilled volunteer Board is very important. We were overwhelmed by the quality of applications we received for our Board vacancies and were pleased to fill all positions and also be able to forward plan for future roles. Summer also saw us preparing for our new Strategic Plan, with several workshops and papers shared with the Board and Management which provided useful context to make informed decisions about the direction of Nexus.

As we head into a Federal Election this year I would like to echo the wish list of our peak body, NDS, who are calling on the Government to commit to:

- Registration of all workers and organisations who deliver services
- Tiered pricing to support quality and complex service provision
- An independent pricing authority (like the Health and Aged Care sectors have)
- Sufficient funding to provide staff with good wages, training and support.

We are hopeful for a positive outcome in achieving these important reforms to the NDIS for the continued benefit of Tasmanians living with disability.

Mark Jessop
CEO, Nexus Inc.



Nexus North West Houses get a Refresh

International Day of People with Disabilities (IDPWD) is one of those days on the calendar that everyone at Nexus looks forward to every summer.

It is always a great opportunity to recognise the contributions and achievements of our clients and over five million Australians with disability who shape our community every day.

As part of our celebration this year, we hosted a morning tea with clients, staff and guests to officially open our newly renovated Ulverstone house.

One of the highlights of the day was watching how delighted our clients Rodney and Kerrie were to cut the ribbon and welcome guests to their freshly modernised home in Ulverstone.

Clients were pleased to share with guests the opportunities that their updated kitchen offers.

"I have more room to move around, and I am enjoying making my Sunday roasts in the new kitchen now," Frances, one of the residents told the guests from Nexus and Homes Tasmania.

Another client was thrilled when they saw the renovated property for the first time. "Oh my goodness, it's all new, new everything, I love it!" they said.

Nexus Team Leader, Louise, said the spaces created through the renovations are "definitely a winner".

"Our fresh and new open kitchen is already helping clients to be as independent as possible and allows them to use their different capabilities," - Louise

The house now features a brand-new kitchen, new furniture and other general improvements. The property did not originally have a dedicated staff office or sleepover room - this has also been fixed in the upgrades. Other properties in the region are also getting a much needed upgrade.

After beginning service in the North West Tasmania in 2023, we implemented a WHS review at all sites. This resulted in a renovation program to update the existing Supported Living houses to better meet the unique needs of our clients and enable staff to support them to live the life they choose.

"This renovation is a great example of how our clients are engaged and actively contribute to shaping the way they live their lives," Nexus CEO Mark Jessop said.

Nexus Team



Welcoming Our New Board Members

This Summer we warmly welcomed Deb Reid, Martin Moroni and Merrilyn Williams to our Nexus Board and Ashley Townsend to our Finance and Audit Subcommittee.

Like all of our Board and Subcommittee Members, Deb, Martin, Merrilyn and Ash bring diverse skills, expertise in their respective fields and a passion for the disability sector.

The Nexus volunteer Board oversees governance and strategy and includes community members from a variety of backgrounds.

These appointments come at a time when our Board is working on a new strategic plan.

“Nexus is very lucky to have a Board with diverse experience and skills who can offer the management team great support and advice.”

- Mark Jessop, Nexus CEO

We also want to express our sincere gratitude to Marcus Pringle-Jones, who is leaving the Nexus Board after nearly a decade as a Board member and Chair.

Marcus saw Nexus through changes in the NDIS, a global pandemic, the expansion into North West Tasmania and many other milestones.

“Marcus’s contribution to Nexus as both a Board member and Chair has been significant over the last decade. He provided expert leadership during some of our most challenging times to date including the pandemic, multiple restructures and our move to the North West,” Mark said.



Exciting Changes to Our Intake Team

In 2022 our Intake Manager role was created to make it easier for people to get support from Nexus which is exactly what our outgoing Intake Manager Donna did!

Donna was first point of contact for over 200 clients and successfully supported the intake process for over 100 clients in Community Services, and over 50 clients in Supported Living and Respite.

This summer, we bid farewell to Donna as she retires after 20 years in the disability sector and 4 amazing years at Nexus.

It is with pleasure that we welcome Jodie Denman as our new Intake Manager. Jodie will be on the frontline providing a tailored, client-first approach to anyone seeking support.

Jodie previously worked at Autism Tasmania as the Professional Learning and Development Coordinator and brings a wealth of industry and personal experience to Nexus.

“As I step into my role as Intake Manager, my hopes and aspirations are that I can provide a welcoming and efficient experience for all individuals seeking support with Nexus and that everyone engaging with our organisation through the intake stream feels heard, respected, and valued,” Jodie said.

Nexus in the Community



End of Year Fun for Capacity Building Team

What better way to wrap up a great year of Capacity Building than with a bit of outdoor laser skirmish and a BBQ for clients and staff.

Team Leader Jed said it was wonderful to see everyone relaxed and enjoying themselves.

“It was a fantastic day of teamwork and fun! It was great to see a lot of clients and staff meeting each other, and by the talk and comradery of coming together to win the missions you wouldn’t have known it was their first time meeting,” he said.

After a fun day out at Laser Skirmish, the group headed back to the office for a well-deserved BBQ and talked about plans for future events.



Client Christmas Festivities

After a few years of having Christmas celebrations affected by COVID, it was great to be back with clients and staff sharing a classic Christmas Dinner!

Our clients had an amazing time at the Nexus Client Christmas Party, fully embracing the festive spirit with food, music, and Christmas themed games.

A special highlight of the evening was a surprise visit from Santa, who brought joy and laughter to guests!

Thank you to everyone who attended the event, it was wonderful to see clients, families and staff enjoying themselves and celebrating together.



Clients Welcome Board Members into Their Home

This summer, Supported Independent Living and Respite clients were excited to welcome Board and Subcommittee members to their homes for a cup of tea and a chat.

These visits are an important part of ensuring that the Board and Subcommittee members get to meet clients and staff and see firsthand the support that Nexus provides.

Some houses baked treats, others bought in special food to share for the occasion.

Everyone involved had great feedback on the visits and are looking forward to the next one!

Client Stories

Tiffney

Tiffney was thrilled to be supported for a weekend getaway to the beautiful town of Strahan. One of Tiffney's goals was to go on short stays around Tasmania, and this trip was a perfect start!

This was her first holiday in over five years, and she loved her time exploring the area.

Knowing Tiffney's love for boats, Nexus staff supporting her arranged for her to go on the Gordon River Cruise which she thoroughly enjoyed.

Throughout her two-night stay, she enjoyed being part of the community and at times even waved to the locals!



David

One sunny Saturday, David whipped up a quiche loaded with veggies that were going to waste in the fridge. He loves meal prepping because it means he always has tasty, healthy food ready to go.

Support Worker Lydia said David's support team aims to introduce one new recipe every fortnight while also making sure to include some of his favorite dishes.



Vicky

Vicky headed out and about in the summer sunshine to visit Pancakes by The Pond in New Norfolk and then Pulpit Rock Lookout.

Excited by the warm days, Vicky was also supported to visit a museum, where she loved taking lots of photos.



Client Stories

Amity

Amity loves to engage in the community, especially when it means a trip to the salon to get her nails done!

This summer, Amity went for a salon appointment, where she enjoyed choosing her favourite colours and sparkles for her nails, and left with a big smile on her face.

Support Worker Nadine said Amity proudly showed off her new nails and said, "Look how cute my nails look!"



Jesse

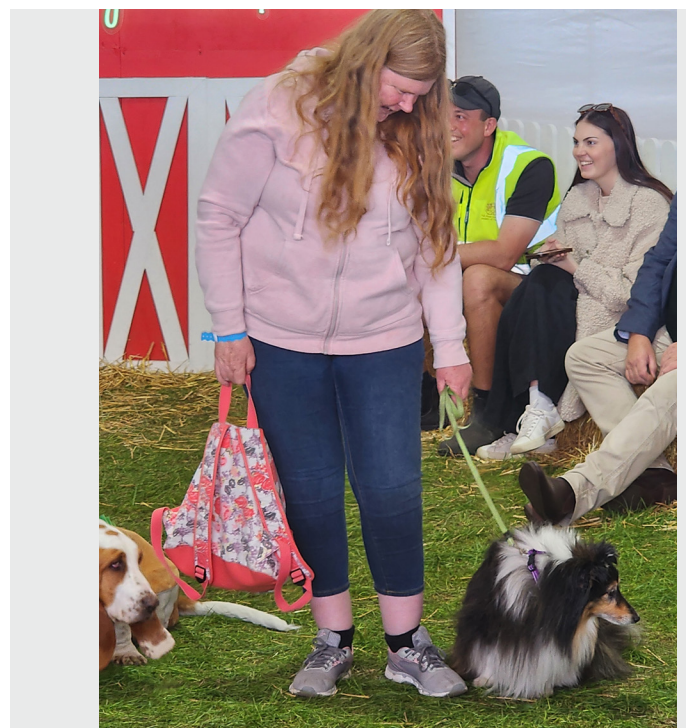
Summer saw Jesse achieve a huge milestone when he passed his P's test and was very proud of his achievement after putting in many hours of practice.

Jesse's licence will provide him with much more freedom and help him with future work opportunities.

Congratulations, Jesse!

Rosie

Rosie had an amazing time entering her dog Gemma in a pet parade at the Royal Hobart Show. Rosie's Support Worker said she did a great job walking around in front of the crowd.





2023/2024 Annual Report



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