# nexus INK



Autumn 2025





# **CEO Welcome**

Welcome to the Autumn edition of Nexus Ink after yet another busy quarter.

Ahead of the Federal Election it was great to meet with Labor Candidate for Lyons, Rebecca White, and National Disability Services CEO, Michael Perusco. With ongoing funding challenges, it was important to highlight that quality providers need tiered pricing, universal registration and urgent implementation of foundational supports.

The impact of pricing pressures is particularly hard for new and smaller providers who may lack experience, systems and resources.

In April we were asked by the NDIS to support staff and clients from Thrive Disability Support Services based in Launceston after it went into Voluntary Administration. We were pleased to be able to welcome them to Nexus and ensure staff could continue providing ongoing support to their clients with the additional support from Nexus.

In the South of the state we celebrated Bryce's success in getting a new job. I've seen Bryce most days as part of the cleaning team in our office and I've seen him develop his confidence and skills. This is what the NDIS should be about – supporting clients to celebrate milestones, enjoy their community and develop their independence through innovative and sustainable supports. Congratulations on the new job Bryce!

A strong service system is not just for the benefit of clients but also for staff. With tiered pricing and universal registration, we can continue to attend local employment expos, seek out the next generation of quality Support Workers, and ensure they are suitably trained and engaged in our positive workplace culture. The more we do this the more we will see people like Lynne celebrating over two decades of service at Nexus. Thank you, Lynne and congratulations on your retirement.

We know that there are already politicians who are also advocates of our sector and to them I say thank you and we hope to collaborate with you soon on making a fairer NDIS for everyone.

### Mark Jessop

CEO, Nexus Inc.



# **Celebrating Client Success**

Congratulations to one of our SEED team members, Bryce, who has secured a new job working at Hale's Yard Care as part of the gardening team!

This is a huge milestone for Bryce who has been a smiling face around our office for the last few years since he joined the SEED cleaning team through our Customised Employment program.

Bryce's enthusiasm and willingness to give new things a go saw him work in the SEED cleaning team, gardening team and down at the Orchard. After building up his gardening skills our Employment Facilitator, James, recommended him to Hale's Yard Care and they were delighted to give him an opportunity to work with them.

"It feels really good," Bryce said. "It was time to move on [from SEED] and this is a whole new chapter of my life to go out and do things on my own."

Bryce will be doing a range of duties with his new team including weeding, brush cutting and lawnmowing.

"It's all pretty good. I don't like the weeding part much – but who actually likes weeding?" he joked.

Bryce has big plans for the additional money that the new job will bring – he's saving to go on holiday to America!

"I'm going to see as many NBA games as I can – especially the Lakers, hopefully they will still be playing ok then!" Bryce said.

We love stories like this where clients have joined our Customised Employment program, built the skills and confidence they need to do some work experience, and then move out on their own to open employment.

All the best for the new job and adventures Bryce – you'll be missed at Nexus!

# **Nexus Team**



### Nexus is Now Statewide!

As we continue to expand our services to more Tasmanians, we warmly welcomed new clients and staff from around Launceston this Autumn.

In April Thrive Disability services entered voluntary administration after providing support to Northern Tasmanians since 2019.

We were pleased to be able to support Thrive staff to continue to provide their valued supports during this time. In May we negotiated with the Administrator to ensure continued support to clients and continued employment of staff.

"I appreciate the trust put in us by the staff and clients of Thrive and I am pleased to welcome them to the broader Nexus team," Nexus CEO Mark Jessop said.

This transition marks a significant milestone for Nexus. After more than 25 years of supporting Tasmanians in the South, and over two years in the North West, our expansion into Launceston means we can now proudly deliver support to more Tasmanians - making us the largest Tasmanian-based provider with a statewide presence!



# **Celebrating Lynne's Retirement**

After more than 25 years working with Nexus, Supported Living Team Leader Lynne was farewelled by the team as she began her well earned retirement.

Lynne has been with Nexus since the very beginning. Over the years she has witnessed and embraced many changes, including evolving technologies, processes, and funding models, all while continuing to support clients and staff with unwavering kindness.

Reflecting on her career at Nexus, Lynne said she has had a great time working with some of the "most amazing clients and staff who always strived to do their best".

"Nexus has enabled me to grow as a person and I have had the most amazing time in my work," she said.

"I am coming to the end of my career but can see the growth and potential in Nexus."

Thank you, Lynne, for your contributions to Nexus, and we wish you a happy retirement.



## **International Women's Day 2025**

We celebrated International Women's Day (IWD) 2025 in our Hobart office and reflected on the UN theme, "For ALL Women and Girls: Rights. Equality. Empowerment."

During our IWD lunch, our Manager Complex Support, Beck, spoke about how Nexus makes sure women are represented at all levels of the organisation, and supported to play an active role in the development and direction of Nexus.

Beck also highlighted the flexible working options offered to all staff, emphasising the great benefit this has in keeping women engaged and able to participate in the workforce, regardless of commitments outside of work.

# **Nexus in the Community**



### **Jobs Fairs**

We love getting out in the community to meet job seekers! This Autumn we attended two fantastic employment events where we shared information about our services, training, and available roles.

At the Hobart and Southern Tasmania Employment and Careers Expo, we were delighted to be able to engage with attendees at our stand and also at our workshop about breaking down barriers to becoming a Support Worker.

Our Manager People and Culture, Angela, also took part in a panel discussion called "The Next Step" where panelists talked about navigating career changes, returning to work, and addressing resume gaps.

Our team also attended the Southeast Jobs and Training Expo where they connected with students from Clarence High School, Sorell High School, and Rosny College. We were impressed by the number of students who were passionate about support work and eager to kickstart their careers in the disability sector.



### **SEED's New Journey**

Our social enterprise SEED embarked on an exciting new journey this Autumn, becoming the proud operator of Southern Tasmania's first Recycle Rewards Depot.

SEED's drive-thru, undercover depot at the end of Hornby Road in Goodwood will be capable of processing over 100 containers per minute!

Alongside SEED's cleaning, gardening, orchard, and tagging and testing services, the Recycle Rewards Depot - Goodwood will also provide training and employment opportunities at award wages for people with disability.

Officially opening in July, the depot has already presented other new opportunities with team member, Arthur, catching his first flight and leaving Tasmania for the first time to participate in training!

With the depot's official launch coming soon, the SEED team have been busy building their skills to process thousands of containers from community members throughout the day. They are aiming to process over 12 million containers in their first year!



## **Federal Election Disability Sector Priorities**

Thank you to our Respite team who warmly welcomed Labor Candidate for Lyons, Rebecca White, National Disability Services (NDS) CEO Michael Perusco, and NDS State Manager Lizzie Castles to discuss key disability sector priorities ahead of the 2025 federal election.

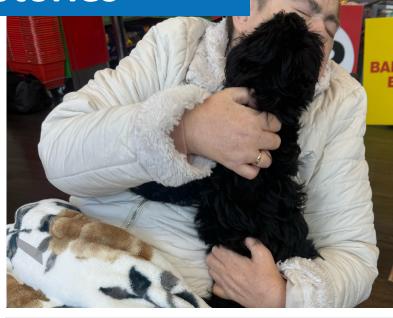
Our CEO Mark Jessop, highlighted the effective delivery of foundational supports as a critical priority for the sector.

Ms White and Mr Perusco also toured the respite property and engaged with Nexus staff and clients.

# **Client Stories**

# **Yvette**

Yvette's day out at Claremont Village for a coffee was made extra special when she got to cuddle a puppy. The sweet moment brightened Yvette's day so much that she now looks forward to her weekly café visits even more knowing her furry friend will be there on Tuesdays and Thursdays!



# Zoran

Zoran was thrilled to celebrate his birthday with his housemates and enjoyed blowing out the candles on his amazing birthday cake which was made by his fellow housemate Frances!

Zoran and his housemates also went out for lunch at a local hotel, to continue the birthday celebrations. Support Worker Judy said that it was 'a truly fulfilling and fun day' for everyone.

# Wendy

In the North West of the state, Wendy thrived this autumn, embracing new experiences and enjoying the sunshine.

One of the simple pleasures she cherished this season was sitting outside and soaking in the lovely views of the ocean on her verandah in Penguin.



# **Client Stories**

# **Tameira**

This Autumn was a big season for Nexus client birthdays, with Tameira (R) celebrating her 18th birthday at the Kingston Hotel. She had a fantastic night filled with laughter, delicious food, and plenty of photos, surrounded by her family and friends. Tameira also recently achieved another major goal she has been working towards - getting her driver's license!

"It's been a pleasure watching Tameira achieve so many goals over the years and getting to support her through all her milestones in life and watching her grow into the young, beautiful, and smart woman she is today," Nexus Team Leader Shannen said.



# TARK WAY & GENERAL STPORE

# **Brett**

A trip to Banjo's in Margate was the perfect way for Brett to enjoy a chilly afternoon after a nice drive. Support Worker Michael said that it is always wonderful to see Brett respond so positively to these outings - smiling, engaging, and enjoying his time.

# **Tania**

Tania had a wonderful time playing boards games with her Nexus team at the Glenorchy Library. Tania especially enjoyed Boggle Jr, and did a great job sounding out syllables and putting letters together to make four-letter words that matched the pictures.

Tania also enjoyed playing Tic Tac Toe on the library computers with her Support Worker. Tania enjoyed her visit so much that she is already looking forward to going back again very soon!





# Nexus is now Statewide!



You can now get support from our teams in the South, North and North West