



The Centre for Disability Employment Research and Practice

The Best Head for the Hills: Evidence Based Disability Employment Leadership Retreat 2018.

► Purpose: Transitions: Choose your Pathway, Heaven or Hell.

When: 29th October - 1st November, 2018

Where: Oscars on the Yarra, Warburton. VIC

Time: 5pm Monday, 29th October to 2.00pm Thursday 1st November.

We're unabashed fans of the think tank run by our friends at The Centre for Social Capital in the USA, who have for fourteen years have hosted an invitation only enclave of thought leaders in the world of customised employment practice to gather and explore solutions to disability employment issues.

In 2018, we continue our journey. Limited to a small gathering and open to all with an interest in Disability Employment, our third retreat will give preference to previous participants before opening to new participants.

Over three days we'll build on the successes from our 2016 & 2017 retreats and explore some of the outcomes and then explore new ideas, new research and evidence pointing to the future of disability employment in Australia.

Transition to Employment and Organisational Transformation are significant challenges facing both individuals and organisations that grapple with the new paradigm that is evolving out of the NDIS and proposed future for the DES environment. In the USA, sheltered workshops have evolved into true open employment settings, something that ADE's in Australia will have to address in our evolving employment system. Building on last year's research agenda, we'll look at the lessons learn't in the USA and our current policy drivers to vision a pathway forward for organisations and individuals that will meet both organisational change imperatives and support the person aspirations of individuals. Meaty stuff for sure! The balance of our time will be spent discussing emerging aspects of customised employment practice to thrive in the new paradigms.

Registration is via our website store page: <http://www.cderp.com.au/store.html> or find out the full details visit our website: www.cderp.com.au/events **See instructions on last page.**

Preference will be given to past attendees.

Public registrations will open on 1st June, 2018. Previous attendees will be given one month to book prior to opening up.

Theme: Transitions: Choose your Pathway, Heaven or Hell.

We believe that by creating an atmosphere of sharing and open speech, the right people will turn up and they do! Part of that process includes holding the retreat in a clean mountain environment beside a flowing river. We'll start the process by listening to participants sharing their success's and highlighting what works for them. We admit to some bias in that we believe evidence based practices such as those employed by customised employment specialists are the gold standard when it comes to person centred approaches to employment.

As part of the process of exploring what is working, we'll break into small groups to explore an individual group area and then in presenting the results to the larger group see if we can find synergies and common approaches that work. From here we hope to sow the seeds of creating a practice base that is universal across the different employment settings.

To spur on the discussion, we have a special guest in 2018 - Warren Forster!

Warren is a barrister and leading expert on the UNCRPD and operationalising it at an individual and provider level. His knowledge and expertise will illuminate our discussions at a time when providers and government are trying to work out the way forward under the NDIS framework. This will be interesting and enhance our discussion reading the issues that we want answers to.

We want answers to the following questions.

- What can we learn form overseas organisational transformation?
- What does the evidence tell us?
- How do we support personal employment endeavours within the current practice and policy frameworks?
- What role do families play in transformation?
- What's worked so far in Australia and what can we learn from it?
- What changes are needed to make the NDIS employment supports foster real choice and control?
- What is the role of DES in the future post NDIS roll out?

The answers to these questions will be compiled into a discussion paper for release. By the end of the retreat we hope to have advanced the course of disability employment and furthered our advocacy of employment opportunities for those that wish to pursue them.

But we don't want to work you into the ground, so there will be opportunities to relax and explore the local area. Warburton is an area rich in beauty and offers a range of attractions to explore.

Evenings will be spent enjoying each others company and sharing experiences, making new friends and building new networks. But it's not all hard work, like 2017 we'll be heading out on Wednesday night to enjoy some of the local delights before dining at a wine cellar in Healesville. Last years night out worked brilliantly so we'll do it again!

As an additional feature we are exploring an after dinner conversation featuring a guest speaker, delivering in a one on one conversation style with questions from the audience. Yes complete with camera's and sound recording!

Accommodation.

We've arranged the accommodation on site at Oscars on the Yarra, our retreat venue. Accommodation is single or twin share to ensure that everyone gets the opportunity to network and meet new faces. If you want to have a room to yourself, that's ok, but will be at the single room occupancy tariff. **Rooms can be booked directly with Oscars by following the link to the retreat on the last page of this document.**

Oscars have set up a booking page for Retreat attendees and includes all accommodation and meals. On the last day when we'll be hosting a lunch event at our cost, as a way of thanking you for being a part of the event. Oscars is fully licensed, however if you have a favourite drink, then you might want to think laterally about that. Our suggestion is that you might want to BYO your favourite drinks (and snacks), so that you don't have to make the gruelling 10 minute walk into town!.

The accommodation is a disability friendly environment.

If we run out of rooms, there is some great B&B accommodation that we can arrange at the single room rate. Remember it's first come first served after we preference last years participants.

Meals.

We'll be taking regular food breaks, so If you have any dietary needs, let Oscars know when you book your accommodation. To make things easier, we've organised a BBQ for Monday night so we can all sit down, relax over a few drinks and get to know each other. Price of the BBQ is included in your room and meals package. Let Oscar's know if you have any protein preferences within reason). Warburton and surrounds also have a selection of eateries if you choose to dine out. Remember, we've also organised Wednesday night, so really you just need to relax and enjoy.

Transport.

For people who are flying in to Melbourne and hiring a car, we'd like to make it easier by connecting you with participants undertaking the same journey. By car pooling you can share the costs and ensure that everyone gets there in time for Monday nights dinner. It's important that you let us know in advance so that we can share details and make tentative arrangements for you. If you're local, maybe you can help out or do the same thing. Warburton is approximately 70 kilometres east of Melbourne via Lilydale and is the gateway to the Mount Donna Buang Snow play area and home to mountain bikers, hikers and other bush activities at other times of the year.

Remember it is a mountain environment and can get cold quickly, but is a great place in spring. Flowering plants and trees, wildlife and crisp clean air.

Mind you it's a great place to burn a marshmallow over an open fire!

Activities.

We have been challenged to participate in a special event - can't say more other than bring your shorts and soccer boots!

Inquiries: info@cderp.com.au or email Lauren Pavlidis direct at: lauren.pavlidis@cderp.com.au

Registration Instructions.

Retreat 2018.

Go to the CDERP Store page.

<http://www.cderp.com.au/store.html>

You can register and pay for any number of guests at once by choosing the number of items when you go to the checkout section.

Once you've completed this, use the following link to go to Oscars and book your rooms. You may choose to share or go solo. When you select the number of occupants the checkout will automatically add the meals pack to the check out price. Complete the checkout as per the page instructions.

Accommodation and Meals.

Go to Oscars using the following links. Link one is the early bird booking link and is available until 30th June. After that date the second link will apply to all bookings.

CDERP Early Bird (book by 30th June).

https://app-apac.thebookingbutton.com/properties/oscarsonyarradirect?check_in_date=29-10-2018&check_out_date=01-11-2018&number_nights=3&number_adults=1&promotion_code=CDERPEarly

CDERP Post June 30th Room Link.

https://app-apac.thebookingbutton.com/properties/oscarsonyarradirect?check_in_date=29-10-2018&check_out_date=01-11-2018&number_nights=3&number_adults=1&promotion_code=CDERP2018