

Celebrating a Shared Future

Deb Friebe

July 7 - 14 saw CBS Inc. joining with local communities to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2019.

CBS Inc. was honoured to celebrate the contributions Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have made to our community through our Karrenendi Art Exhibition and local festivities.

The Bearded Dragon Gallery was delighted to showcase 'Karrenendi' in partnership with Kura Yerlo, a community-managed organisation in the western region of Adelaide. Kura Yerlo delivers services to Aboriginal youth, elders, people with disability, children and families.

The title of the exhibition 'Karrenendi' means 'to rise above and be proud'. The title is also the name of a service program delivered by Kura Yerlo. The program provides opportunities for Aboriginal people with disability to broaden their life skills through a process of self-determination.

CBS Inc. joins with all our indigenous staff, board members and clients to create an inclusive Australia for all.



Photo: CBS Inc. participant Brad presenting us with a didgeridoo as a thanks for supporting him in his employment.

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Thank you to our partner agencies



CBS Inc. NEWS



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Community Bridging Services (CBS) Inc. is a proud South Australian not-for-profit organisation

Cover Photo: Staff, Janis and Cheryl, and Board member Nadia at art opening in Hahndorf

No Sitting Back - After a Good Start

Freddie Brincat (OAM) Founder and Executive Director

We just ended the financial year. In looking back from July 2018, our Board and Executive Team had planned a transition to the New DES Contract and a greater transition to the NDIS where the last of our participants under State Govt DHS funding were to be transferred to the NDIS. So far our planning and good work has brought mostly positive results for our participants and CBS Inc. We had the risks of a potential drop in demand for our services, a potential drop in income, costs of implementing new technology like Supportability (NDIS) and increased complexity and completion in DES and the NDIS.

A year later we have completed our first full external audit that includes the NDIS, DES National Standards for Disability Services and ISO. Although we have some work to do to tighten some of our systems, it is clear we have a good balance in understanding individual participant needs and the demands of our contractual expectations with individuals and Government. This comes about by maintaining our culture and values, and by keeping our participant to staff ratios at a lower level to allow our staff time to provide more individualised listening, planning, actions and support. We are excited to be offering two SALA Exhibitions to be opened in August – one at Eastwood Community Centre and the other in our own Bearded Dragon Gallery.

The NDIS still requires attention to adjust, but our Choices, School2work Supports and other Recreation services are in good demand due to the positive feedback from participants. CBS Inc. supports participants to achieve what they want. We continue to explore new opportunities, innovation and partnerships and ensure all are assessed on their potential merits and risks.

Our Executive Team has been working hard with our Jobnet Employment Teams across the state to manage the transition to the new DSS DES Contract. After receiving our first non-public released

Star Ratings across 18 DSS DES Contracts, our strategies, style of communication, and positive interactions with participants are working. To date, active participant numbers are good, demand is steady and jobs and outcomes achieved. If we can continue the flow of new participants and keep our focus on post placement and ongoing support our participant numbers will organically rise and our Star Ratings should even further improve over the next year. CBS Inc. will continue to invest in staff training and development, infrastructure and innovation as these are keys to our continued success. Good financial management and performance will help us achieve this. The opening of our newer fully renovated Stirling and just now opened sparkling Norwood office are recent examples.

CBS Inc. continues to provide innovation with new partnerships and social enterprise expansion. These innovations are our real points of difference creating new jobs as there just aren't enough jobs for those people who want to work. This includes our: Community Concierge SA (in three major buildings now in Adelaide CBD), The Bearded Dragon Galleries, two apps developed with Flinders University Law School, Moonlight Speakers, IPS with increased active participants and the USEP partnership with Flinders University. The NDIS school2work Supports (S2W) has been an important new CBS Inc. service, having good participant numbers, positive retention and an excellent transition to open employment. The current establishment of a quasi, uni style, standalone city office for S2W is really taking the service and resourcing for young school leavers to another level of professionalism.

There are challenges ahead, but these are exciting times for CBS Inc. At CBS Inc. we invest in people with a disability and work in partnership for their future success.



I support the
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In for the Long Haul



CBS Inc. client, Lukasz celebrating 10 years with his employer.



Deb is seen here with her Employment Officer Lisa celebrating 10 years of continual employment.



Benjamin was recognised for 10 years of continual service. Pictured centre with staff Wayne and Carina.



Brooke has just celebrated 20 years with her employer. Pictured here with her Employment Assistant, Carina.

Fastest Growing Concierge in SA

Abby McKay

CBS Inc. / Community Concierge SA (CCSA) is delighted to be partnering again with Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) to deliver concierge services at the newly renovated building at 80 Flinders Street, Adelaide.

CCSA commenced services to the newly renovated building from April 2019. The recently fully occupied building provides a welcoming and friendly atmosphere inviting tenants and guests of the building a space to connect and enjoy good coffee and food from retailers Funk and Fresh Bites.

The addition of concierge services to the building promotes community spirit within the building and access to services for tenants such as dry cleaning and bicycle repairs.

The collaboration between CBS Inc. and JLL, and the expansion of CSSA services has provided 2 additional jobs to people with disability to be the face of this unique building. These opportunities would not have been available without the ongoing support of JLL who believe in the success of this social enterprise business model.



Photo: Concierge Staff Becky

SALA Art Show

Caroline Manetta

Funny Bones is the 25th exhibition of artists with a disability supported by Community Bridging Services (CBS) Inc. Funny Bones reflects the talent, long term commitment and positivity the artists have to building a better life and a better community through their art practice. This exhibition is an excellent connection of art, people and life reflecting key elements of the SALA spirit.

CBS Inc. is proud to present its contribution to the 2019 SALA Festival, Funny Bones, which features work from 22 artists. The exhibition will be officially opened by Emma Fey, Chief Executive Officer, Guildhouse. Emma said "Art is a vital expression of how we live, and how we want to be in the world. Artists living with a disability are significantly underrepresented in our arts and cultural landscape, and yet we know the impact it has for uniting communities, sharing stories and improving our wellbeing. I congratulate CBS Inc. and each and every artist involved in this extraordinary celebration of artistic talent and participation".

CBS Inc. is an independent not-for-profit South Australian community organisation,

providing strengths based services to individuals with a disability to realise their full potential and achieve their goals. Services are state-wide, focussing on recreation and the arts, and further education and open employment.

Freddie Brincat OAM, Executive Director of CBS Inc. said "A number of artists in Funny Bones have been exhibiting for years with our support that includes professional development, experimentation and enjoyment. That's a long time and a great time. It's good to see that the NDIS has found a way to include and embrace art practice to the benefit of all."

CBS Inc. has been committed to the arts since 1988 and currently runs four weekly art programs based at Eastwood Community Centre, Broughton Art Society (facilitated by professional artist Hans Kreiner) and Salisbury East Neighbourhood House (facilitated by Cheryl Feeney).

Note that a second CBS Inc. SALA exhibition, Transcendence, will be held at The Bearded Dragon Gallery, an initiative of CBS Inc., located in Gays Arcade. Transcendence will run from 1/8/19 – 27/9/19.



Finalist in City Awards

Karen Haskard

Bearded Dragon Gallery celebrated its first birthday in July 2019 and what a wonderful year it has been. The Gallery has grown and we have enjoyed partnering with other likeminded disability organisations and bringing amazing artworks to the heart of the city.

The hard work and dedication of the Gallery and CBS Inc. team was rewarded when Bearded Dragon Gallery was shortlisted as a finalist in the 2019 City Awards in the Excellence categories. To be picked out of 450 businesses and nominated as a Best Business that Makes the City More Liveable was exciting and we are very proud.

This month we are holding our first ever SALA event in the Bearded Dragon Gallery. The Transcendence exhibition is displaying beautiful, colourful art showing the joy of overcoming adversity with strength, hope and determination. A definite must see so come and check it out.

Visit us online at:
beardeddragongallery.com.au



Legal Eagles Flying High

Abby McKay

In March 2019, CBS Inc. partnered with the Flinders Law department at Flinders University on a new topic, Law in a Digital Age. Working alongside law student groups and Artificial Intelligence automation platform, Neota Logic, CBS Inc. collaborated to create two apps that address a need and facilitate improved access to justice for our clients in what is a fast changing world.

CBS Inc. were invited to share issues or problems our clients face when trying to access the legal system that could be improved through developing the apps. The two apps developed were based on the following common issues:

1. DSP navigator- a tool to improve access to the Disability Support Pension (DSP) qualifying criteria, application process and appeals steps, to increase DSP eligibility success rates, informing potential DSP recipients of their rights and improving transparency for them and the medical profession.

2. DSP Calculator- designed to assist clients to log their earnings from their employment while measuring the impact that this has on their Centrelink benefits. The result is more informed decisions and control of personal income.

Over the next 3 months, law students worked hard to understand and learn more about CBS Inc. and our clients, use and apply their legal knowledge and build their IT skills through developing these apps. CBS Inc. was honoured to attend a presentation ceremony in June 2019 where the apps were pitched to a panel of judges and groups competed for the prize of best app.

We hope in the not too distant future the apps will be ready for use by our participants, and CBS Inc. are already underway partnering again with Flinders Law for next semester to develop yet another app in this new, exciting and now core topic for law students.

Photo: Staff and Flinders law students at the presentation of the Apps



Opportunity for Youth

Gabby Jones

CBS Inc. is investing further in our effective and growing school2work Supports (S2W) through the purchase of a new fully dedicated office. The location is in the Aurora on Pire Building, 147 Pirie Street which is located on Hindmarsh Square where the CBS Inc. central main offices are.

S2W delivers practical training and education to help prepare participants for life after school and into work. CBS Inc. was an early provider of SLES (School Leaver Employment Supports) NDIS funded services in South Australia and our S2W adult model is gaining traction and results. The expansion of S2W and NDIS pre-employment support has occurred in the northern Adelaide suburb of Salisbury and in Port Augusta and Murray Bridge. Services are also being provided from Warradale and Noarlunga. The launch of the new venue will be on:

Friday, 22nd November 2019, 7:00pm.

The event will be on the 13th floor Skydeck and the new office can be inspected on the 2nd floor.

To mark the opening of our new dedicated fulltime venue at 208, 147 Pirie Street, CBS Inc. is launching:

STATEWIDE ART COMPETITION

with the theme of

"LIFE AFTER SCHOOL FOR A PERSON WITH A DISABILITY."

This competition will provide young people with disability the opportunity to participate in a creative art project. It aims to develop understanding and empathy of the barriers students with a disability face on a daily basis. There are 6 prizes available ranging from \$50 - \$200 each. Following the opening, all art will be displayed at our Bearded Dragon Gallery located at Gays Arcade in the Adelaide Arcade. The winners will be awarded at the school2work Supports launch.

To find out more information or to enter go to: <https://communitybridgingservices.org.au/2019-art-competition/>

