



IN BLACK & WHITE



E. W. TIPPING FOUNDATION

Person Centred Support. Inclusive Community Development.

An exciting era begins!

The EW Tipping Foundation takes great pleasure in announcing an exciting step—the signing of an agreement to form a formal alliance with another organisation.

The organisation is i-GAIN Quality Learning, based in the Latrobe Valley for almost 40 years.

The alliance, which we intend to finalise by July, promises great benefits to both organisations and the communities we serve.

i-GAIN, a registered training organization, provides educational and training services, disability services, and auspices the renowned Gippsland Community Leadership Program.

Foundation Chief Executive Officer Richard Dent says the two organizations have a lot in common, including their core belief that all people, no matter what their ability, deserve a fair go.

“We believe the alliance will bring significant benefits for the communities we support,” said Richard. “These include opportunities for expanding,



Signing a Memorandum of Understanding are Graeme Sennett of i-GAIN Quality Learning and Frank Cullen of the EW Tipping Foundation.

developing and increasing the effectiveness of our services. It also means we can share ideas, improve practice, and raise efficiency which will allow us to invest more funding into services.”

DAY SERVICES PROJECT

As part of the alliance, the two organisations are planning a ground-breaking – perhaps world first - project looking at best practice in disability day programs. This project aims to pilot best

practice in disability services in Gippsland, providing new opportunities for people with disabilities.

All the existing activities of both organizations will continue. i-GAIN will continue to be overseen by the i-GAIN Committee of Management, and both organizations will maintain their names.

A question and answer sheet about the alliance is available by contacting us on 9564 1000.



My view

Richard Dent

I was delighted to announce our alliance with i-GAIN Quality Learning recently. i-GAIN has an excellent and longstanding reputation in disability day services, as a Registered Training Organisation, and as the auspice for the Gippsland Community Leadership Program. Our two organizations will work well together.

Over the next 10 years, demand for community services will jump by almost 50%. At the same time, Government funding per person will be increasingly trimmed: this will mean an increasing drive for efficiency and for co-operation. It will also mean people will increasingly miss out on support.

It seems to me that alliances like the i-GAIN-EW Tipping Foundation alliance will help to strengthen Victorian communities: excellent, specialist locally-based organizations partnering with the strength of a statewide organization. An alliance like this maintains local connections while giving access to strength and depth of infrastructure.

Community organizations are essential to a vibrant, healthy Victorian community. We have a responsibility to be efficient and to create the maximum possible positive impact in the community. In our search for efficiency though, we must continue to embody the values the community expects of us. And we must continue to work to ensure that Governments fulfill their responsibility to fund organizations appropriately. Our nation and our state can afford it, and the economic and social benefit is for *all* Victorians.

Golf time for Terry

Terry Meade of Ballarat looks forward to Tuesdays with a passion.

It's the day he gets out to play several hours of golf with his EW Tipping Foundation staff member, James.

Terry receives five hours of support every week from the Foundation as part of our dementia support program.

Terry, 83, was diagnosed with dementia after suffering a stroke nearly two years ago which affected his memory.

Until then, he had been very active, particularly looking after the acreage property that was home for him and his wife Jill.



Terry with James out on the golf course.

sense of normalcy in his daily life; a sense of purpose and meaning, and achievement in completing a round of golf," said Jill.

"It also keeps him physically and mentally alert and provides motivation in his daily life."

"Being able to continue playing golf gives Terry a sense of normalcy in his daily life..."

Jill cannot remember who referred them to the program but blesses the day Terry became involved.

"When Denise Loveless from the Foundation came out here, she told Terry the support hours were for whatever he wanted to do," she said. "I knew that he really wanted to try and continue to play golf."

Every Tuesday, Terry and James head out for a round on the golf course, often playing up to 18 holes at a time.

"Being able to continue playing golf gives Terry a

For Terry, it's also a chance for some male company. "James is very attuned to my way of thinking," said Terry. "We suit each other really well."

The golf sessions also gives Jill a break from caring. "I was just beginning to feel like I never had a break," she said. "The program has been great for both of us."

The dementia program is funded by the Federal Government's National Respite for Carers Program and is free of charge. For more information, contact our Ballarat office on 5331 5667.

Building our leadership team

We are very pleased to formally announce some significant changes to our leadership team.

For most people we support, the new structure means very little change. It does, however, position us for the new challenges ahead.

By the end of 2008, EW Tipping Foundation and its partner organizations will support more than 1000 people across the state, with more than 1000 staff.

We therefore need to have a leadership that focuses on the outcomes for people we support. We believe our new structure and team will provide enhanced services, more support for our frontline staff, better connections with communities, and more opportunities.

We particularly welcome Lyndie Spurr, Penny Butler and Chris Davern to our senior team (see right).

Residential Services

Accommodation and respite services will now be managed by **Penny Butler**.

Penny will be ably assisted by Area Managers in each region. These positions are still being finalised.

Senior Co-ordinator, Team Leader and House Team positions largely remain the same.

One-on-One Support Services (contracted through VPCS)

Former Gippsland Regional

Manager **Faye Warren** has taken on the position of managing statewide one-on-one support services.

Faye is assisted by Senior Operations Co-ordinators in each region, including Andrew Redston in Gippsland, Charles Warren & Lolita Wheatley in Metropolitan, and Janet Wraith in Western Victoria.

Team Leaders and staff team positions remain the same.

The new structure includes a number of support positions that will enable us to deliver

even better services.

These include our new Manager of People and Culture, **Chris Davern**, who will concentrate on strategic HR and cultural issues.

We also welcome **Lyndie Spurr**, Senior Consultant in Service Development. Lyndie brings the skills we need to increase our capacity to provide complex and specialized health care.

If you have any queries about the new structure, please phone Richard Dent on 9564 5911.

New team members.....



Penny Butler

Statewide Manager Residential and Respite

Penny has been involved in disability services at many levels, from direct support worker in residential, education and day services, through to statewide co-ordination.

Penny has worked with a wide range of community and local government organizations. She brings broad knowledge and skills to the Foundation!



Lyndie Spurr

Senior Consultant—Service Development

Lyndie, a qualified nurse, has an extensive background in health and general management, drawing on both areas of expertise for her new role.

Before joining the Foundation, she worked in senior executive roles in a number of organizations including ParaQuad Victoria and the Royal District Nursing Service.



Chris Davern

Manager People and Culture

Chris has over 25 years of Human Relations experience across industries including telecommunications, manufacturing, utilities and high-tech.

He has been involved in community organizations as a volunteer for the past eight years, which has driven his interest to now be involved in the community sector at a professional level.

Nearly ready!

Bacchus Marsh's new disability respite house is at lock-up stage thanks to generous donations from EW Tipping Foundation supporters and construction businesses.

We expect to open the home in the next few months to provide families caring for someone with a disability with a much-needed break.

Building manager Shane Cook, of Shane Cook Homes, says that in addition to many generous monetary donations a large number of businesses have donated goods and services.

They include Selkirk (bricks), Lafarge (plasterboard), Pier Industries (batons), A & K Flower Plastering (labour and donation co-ordination), Stratco, Plumbkor (plumbing), Marshall Engineering (steel fabrication), Allpress Printing



Luke Flower works on the plastering at the new facility.

(signage), Darley Concreting (concrete slab), Wilson's Hardware & Building Supplies, Covertite, WallsPlus, Stegbar Windows and Total Truss Systems.

"We have been extremely pleased with the generosity of our suppliers," he said. "They have helped make this project a reality".

The facility is desperately needed. Respite is crucial for families to be able to take a break from long-term care, and gives people with disabilities a chance to enjoy new activities and meet new people.

The facility will include 6 bedrooms (two with hoist facilities), two separate living areas and two bathrooms with disability access. It will be available for overnight, weekend and longer term stays, with separate weekends for adults and for children.

The project will cost close to \$750,000 and the Foundation is planning to borrow to meet the funding shortfall. "Whilst borrowing does mean extra expense, we feel it's important to have the facility open as soon as possible," said Chief Executive Officer Richard Dent.

Anyone wanting to support the project can make a donation by phoning us on 9564 1000.

More information about accessing respite is available from the Moorabool Team Leader, Andrea Jacka, on 0439 560 261.

Stop press!

The Moorabool Respite Facility will be officially opened by our Patron in Chief, Governor, Professor David de Kretser on 23 April 2008.

All welcome!

We thank the many generous community members who have donated to the Moorabool, and in particular the following trusts:



Our contact details:

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