

SINCE 1924

UNISSON
DISABILITY

IT STARTS

with heart



OUR — SERVICES

UNISSONDISABILITY.ORG.AU

Unisson clients, Richard and Alison



MORE THAN
780
EMPLOYEES

55+ SUPPORTED
INDEPENDENT
LIVING HOMES



99 YEAR
HISTORY



PROVIDING
SUPPORT
ACROSS
7
REGIONS

700+
CLIENTS SUPPORTED



720,000
HOURS OF SUPPORT PROVIDED
EVERY YEAR

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ABOUT US

The most important thing you need to know about us... is Unisson. It means what you think it means. No hidden or cryptic messaging. It's simple.

AT UNISSON WE

WORK WITH YOU.

ALONGSIDE YOU.

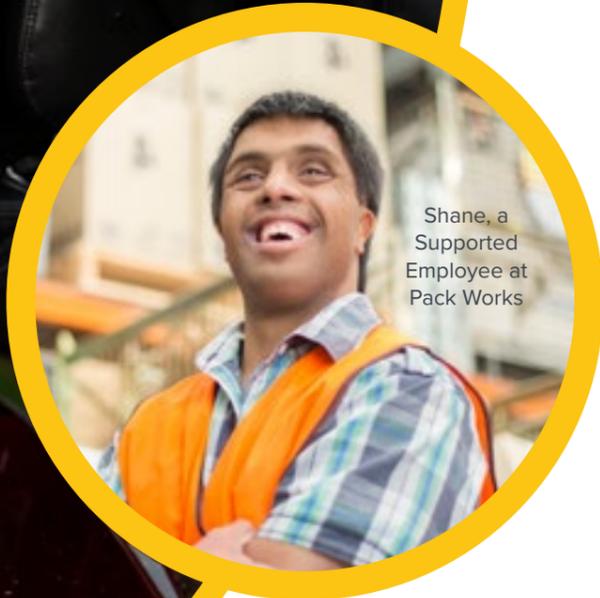
IN COLLABORATION.

IN RELATIONSHIP.

IN UNISON.



Maree, with her art



Shane, a Supported Employee at Pack Works

Kate, one of our Supported Living clients

However, there is one part that probably needs an explanation – the double SS. This is to retain a connection to our history and our previous name, Sunshine.

When we talk about collaboration and partnership, it means that your goals are our goals. Whatever you want out of life, and however you want to go about getting there, we're along for the ride with you, and the ride is what we do best!

You see, to us, the ride is the journey - the relationship we build with you. We believe relationships don't just make the world go 'round; **they make it a better place for all of us to live.**

We believe our people are different. We employ people who embody our values, who want to make a difference in the world.

We believe that small actions can create big impact. We are the man who will let you go first in the checkout when you have fewer items. We are the woman who smiles at you with comfort when your child has a tantrum in the shopping centre. We are the people that, when we ask, 'How are you?' stop, and really listen. **We are the people who believe a more inclusive world for people with disability is possible, and we know our everyday actions will help create it.**

As an organisation, we've been around forever. Well, not forever, but close to it; nearly 100 years! We are proud of our history, not because it means we are old, but because it means we have inspiring beginnings to lean on. Our beginnings continually inspire us towards our vision of a world where every person is welcomed – really welcomed, not just waved at.

IT STARTS
with heart

OUR SERVICES

Home and Living Support

- Supported Independent Living (SIL)
- Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA)
- Short Term Accommodation (STA)
- Supported Living (SL)

Social and Community Services

- Community-based
- Hub-based
- Going on a holiday

Supported Employment

- Unisson Supported Employment:
Ground Works | Packs Works

Blue Apple Art Studios

NDIS Support Coordination





HOME AND LIVING SUPPORT

At Unisson, our goal is to support you, to choose where you live – whether that’s with your family, a place of your own, or in shared accommodation with like-minded roomies!

We’ll listen carefully to gain a clear understanding of your goals, then together, we’ll come up with a way forward to help you achieve them.

We offer a range of different home and living supports.

- ✓ Supported Independent Living (SIL)
- ✓ Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA)
- ✓ Short Term Accommodation (STA)
- ✓ Supported Living (SL)



Cook up a storm in your new house

SUPPORTED INDEPENDENT LIVING (SIL)

What is Supported Independent Living?

Supported Independent Living (SIL) is an NDIS support also known as shared living accommodation.

SIL is where a person with disability can choose to live with other people and share common household areas in a modern, accessible share house. Through Unisson's person-centred active support approach, we support your choices and ensure that assistance is available when needed for daily tasks, such as cleaning, cooking, and personal care within your home.

Our SIL accommodation is located across:

- Sydney's Upper and Lower North Shore and Northern Beaches
- Western Sydney
- Central Coast
- The Hunter
- Port Stephens

Accommodation includes adapted homes in the community and purpose-built Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA), and ranges from shared homes with 3-4 bedrooms to separate self-contained units.



Roommate's day trip to the Blue Mountains

Elias and his sculpture

Planning your successful move

Together, we'll agree on a plan that works for everyone when you move house. Some of the things we'll consider include:

- **Location/type of home** - separate or shared accommodation and proximity to your family, community facilities and public transport.
- **The supports you require** - together we will discuss Shared/Supported Independent Living (SIL) with daytime or 24/7 active support, or Supported Living (drop-in support) and the facilities you require (e.g. accessibility) - taking into consideration what your future needs might be.
- **Who you'll live with** - We take compatibility seriously! We will make sure your new roomies are on the same page as you when it comes to interests, routines and of course personality! You will have plenty of chances to meet them before any move is organised.
- **Your support staff** - the skills and shared interests you'd like and need them to have.
- Any special **equipment or furniture** you'll need.
- How you'd like to **decorate** your home.
- **Planning** - how we can best work alongside you to prepare you for the move.

Once your requirements are documented, the experience becomes more exciting and enjoyable and you can start visiting potential properties and meeting potential housemates!

Usually, it takes around 3 to 6 months to find and move into your new home. You may choose to continue with your current living arrangements, with the peace of mind that you have plans in place to meet your future accommodation goals when the timing and property is right.

After you've moved into your new home, our time is spent getting to know you even better, to understand what you need and want to be able to live your best life. We'll continue to review, discuss and check in with you and your support networks.

VIEW OUR CURRENT SHARED LIVING VACANCIES HERE:





What our new SDA house in Tarro will look like



SPECIALIST DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION (SDA)

What is Specialist Disability Accommodation?

Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) is innovative, accessible housing specifically designed for people with functional impairment or very complex support needs. SDA is designed to support people with specific housing needs to live a more independent and fulfilling life while accessing high-quality Supported Independent Living.

We understand the challenges people face when it comes to finding suitable and appropriate accommodation, especially when someone has more specific housing needs.

Based on our core values, Unisson have strategically partnered with a number of Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) providers to bring you brand new purpose-built, accessible homes designed to suit your support needs.

Our SDA partnerships make it possible for people to exercise choice and control over where they live, who they live with and how they live. This creates a sense of belonging and a place for you to truly call home.

Unisson & DPN Casa Capace

In partnership with DPN Casa Capace, we have designed an exceptional SDA home that offers flexibility to accommodate residents with different support needs in the peaceful suburb of Tarro. With the residents in mind, this purpose-built home offers functionality, accessibility, and durability – allowing residents with more specific housing needs to live how they want to, in a beautiful and modern space.

This new property features two separate dwellings, each dwelling comprising of three bedrooms, each with a connecting private ensuite. Other features include:

- Home features selected by you - We invite our residents to be involved in selecting personal design elements of their new home.
- Located in an established community: The new property in Tarro is in close proximity to local shops, parks, restaurants, transportation and hospitals.
- Contemporary living: This home brings hand-picked, curated interiors and colour palettes, fixtures and finishes to give you a calm, luxury feel.

We have more SDA partnerships in the works for this year and beyond - watch this space!

SHORT-TERM ACCOMMODATION (STA)

What is Short-Term Accommodation?

Our STA service supports people with disability to have a short stay away from their usual home, while providing planned respite for families caring for a person with disability. Our service is flexible and designed to be responsive to each family's unique circumstances.

From a few hours to a few weeks, at home, or away!

Whether you choose to tap into our STA service for a few hours a week over the whole year, or use your STA funding to plan for a holiday, our goal is to be available for you, whatever your needs. We can arrange for our trained staff to come to you, to support you at home* or you may prefer to plan a break at our holiday cottage, in the leafy yet cosmopolitan suburb of Hornsby, in Sydney's north.

Whether at home or away, we'll work with you and your family to plan activities and experiences that you'll enjoy.

Take a break at our holiday cottage

Close to public transport, shops, cafés, restaurants, and beautiful national parks, our Hornsby holiday cottage and friendly trained staff provide overnight accommodation and 24/7 support for people with an intellectual disability and/or high physical support needs**.

Our cottage provides a homely, holiday-like environment. Prior to your stay, we'll work with you and your family to plan activities and experiences that you'll enjoy and that meet your individual needs and preferences. Some guests choose to continue some of their regular activities (e.g. Community Access day programs, work or other commitments) during their stay, while others prefer to take a complete break. During your stay you'll have the opportunity to participate in fun, social incursions and excursions, make new friends and try new activities.

*Eligibility criteria applies for overnight support in the family home, please contact us to discuss your individual requirements.

**Eligibility criteria applies, please contact us to discuss your individual requirements.



Our Hornsby holiday cottage features:

- 4 bedrooms, 2 with en suite
- High-care facilities
- 1 bedroom, self-contained unit with accessible en suite bathroom
- Homely and comfortable shared lounge room, dining room and large kitchen
- Large back yard with accessible ramps, sensory gardens and BBQ area
- All meals included (all dietary requirements catered for)
- Quality care, 24/7, 365 days a year
- Over 18s only
- For under 18s, please contact us to discuss our in-home respite service.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR STA SERVICE, CONTACT US ON:

1300 266 222

hello@unisson.org.au

We'll arrange for one of our friendly and experienced staff to visit your family to discuss and plan how our service can be most beneficial.



1 bedroom, self-contained unit with accessible en suite, kitchen, dining room, and lounge room.



“

Dear Unisson,

This is just a note to let you know what a great time my two sons (and their two friends) had during their recent stay at Unisson's Hornsby cottage.

They have stayed there once a year for quite a number of years and always have a wonderful time.

It is our opportunity to have a holiday, so we like them to also have a holiday as well of course - and have a holiday they certainly do!

This time they did something holiday-like almost every day - for example they visited the Blue Mountains and rode the skyway, they visited the Central Coast, they went for yum cha, to name just a few, and they did their regular money skills practice sheets so they would not lose those skills over the time away from their regular life. Thanks very much to the wonderful support people they had, who obviously enjoy what they do and who give that extra something to their job, for which we are so grateful. The guys love them.

Once again, thank you Unisson for giving the guys such a fulfilling respite experience.

BERYL DYER

”

SUPPORTED LIVING (SL) DROP-IN SUPPORT

What Is Supported Living?

Supported Living (otherwise known as drop-in support), gives you flexibility and control over the type and level of support you receive, ensuring you get the support you need, when you need it. This may be during the day, evening, weekdays or on the weekend.

Whether you live on your own, with family or friends, our drop-in support can assist you to live independently, plus our training can help you to become more independent or prepare to transition your living arrangement in the future.

We'll work with you, your family and support network to plan the right type and amount of support for you to meet your goals.

We can assist you with:

-  Making connections in your community
-  Support with making friends
-  Support with trying new activities
-  Assistance with daily tasks
-  Cooking
-  Personal Care
-  Shopping
-  Budgeting
-  Health and wellbeing
-  Going on holiday
-  Travelling on public transport
-  Getting to work and appointments

We can offer you daily living skills training, one-to-one in your home, local community or at a group activity in one of our Community Access hubs.

Our Supported Living Service also supports under 18s and their families, in the family home and community. Contact us to discuss your individual needs and requirements.



“

I love getting support from Harry to travel on my own. I feel more confident. We go out to all types of places and he's a really kind and helpful person.

”

COREY ATKINSON

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

What are Social and Community Services?

Feeling part of your local community and spending time with others who share your interests and hobbies is important for your happiness and sense of belonging - as well as a great way to progress your independence goals. We'll work with you to create opportunities to follow your passions, try new things, be social and enjoy life how you want to.

The support we provide is flexible and tailored to meet your individual needs and goals, whether you'd like one-to-one or small group support in the community or prefer to attend one of our community access day programs - or both!

COMMUNITY-BASED SUPPORT

We can assist you to take part in activities that you enjoy, giving you the opportunity to meet and spend time with people who share your interests. As our approach is also to match a Direct Support Professional with you based on your shared interests, we're sure you'll enjoy your time together and have plenty to talk about!

For example, things we can organise together include outings to the cinema, park or museum, special events, watching and playing sport, shopping, joining a hobby group or club, volunteering and activities focused around health and wellbeing.

“

I really love going to the Men's Shed. I like making pens and I enjoy being creative and using my hands to make things.

”

PROGRAMS OF SUPPORT

We regularly run Programs of Support - where you can learn everything from cooking to music and art, as well as exploring and experiencing the big city around us on day trips every week!

Check in with our friendly team to find out more about our programs!

HUB-BASED SUPPORT

Do you enjoy spending time with others, going on outings, staying active and having fun?

Our Community Access hubs are an ideal base where you can catch up and relax with friends, go on planned excursions! You'll have the opportunity to learn new skills and participate in fun, social incursions and excursions, make new friends and try new activities.

Each day is different. We'll work with you to choose and plan your participation in activities and experiences that meet your individual needs and preferences.

Our hubs provide comfortable, welcoming environments and multipurpose spaces to suit a range of activities, including quiet spaces where you can unwind after a busy day. Some of our hubs have dedicated multisensory rooms and have been custom designed for accessibility and to meet the needs of clients with complex physical support needs.

Our community access centres are located in:

- Terrey Hills
- Lane Cove
- St Ives
- Beaumont Hills
- Central Coast
- Hamilton

PROGRAMS OF SUPPORT

We regularly run Programs of Support where you can learn everything from cooking, playing music to creating art and adventuring around Sydney! Check in with our friendly team to find out more about our programs!

Some of our regular incursions include:

- Disco and line dancing
- Karaoke
- African drumming
- Mindfulness and relaxation
- Cooking
- Gardening
- Therapy dog visits
- Art & craft
- Puzzles & board games

Some of our regular excursions include:

- Horse riding
- Sailing
- Ice skating*
- Golf/Putt-putt golf
- Bowling
- Going to the movies
- Day trips to the beach
- Indoor skydiving
- Swimming
- Shopping
- Movies
- Men's sheds
- Bushwalking/BBQs in National Parks
- Art galleries
- Fruit picking
- Festivals & events

Is your favourite activity missing? No worries! Our team can't wait to hear about your interests and organise excursions to suit you!

*We visit ice rinks where wheelchair users can access the ice

GOING ON HOLIDAY

We all look forward to a break, where we can relax, engage our interests, socialise and explore new places – holidays are, after-all, a part of ‘ordinary life’. But did you know that your NDIS plan can fund the support you’ll need to travel or go on holiday?

The NDIS can provide funding for the ‘reasonable and necessary’ supports you require during your trip, such as a Direct Support Professional, hire of a disability vehicle and disability equipment, a surcharge for accommodation fitted with disability supports and Auslan interpretation services. NDIS funding does not cover the cost of any flights, hotels, food, entertainment and spending money.

If going on holiday is one of your goals, you can request for it to be added to your NDIS plan at your next plan review meeting. If you have Support Coordination in your plan, your Support Coordinator will assist you to arrange supports and/or source a holiday that aligns with your goals and offers good value.

Some examples of supported travel and holidays include:

- Going on holiday with your family or attending a family event, e.g. a wedding
- Travelling to and attending a work conference, concert or sporting event
- Going on a personalised or package holiday
- Going on a group holiday

“
My cruise holiday
was beautiful.

”

JAMES SPICER

WANT TO KNOW MORE
ABOUT SUPPORT TO
GO ON HOLIDAY?
CONTACT US ON:

1300 266 222

hello@unisson.org.au

We’ll arrange for one of our friendly and experienced staff to speak to you (either on the phone or face-to-face, at a time and location to suit you) to discuss your needs and how we can best support you.

Melinda and Caroline have bonded over a love of fashion

MELINDA'S GIVING BACK IN STYLE

Melinda Connolly loves making connections in her local community, being social and spending time with her Direct Support Professional (DSP), Caroline. Of a similar age and enjoying a lot of the same hobbies, the duo have formed a great connection and always look forward to their time together.

"One of Melinda's goals was to volunteer some of her free time to a worthy charity," says Caroline, "and volunteering at an op shop seemed like a perfect fit because it combines Melinda's love of fashion, books and meeting new people."

“

**It's great being part
of my community.**

”

"I like to say hello to all the people I know when I see them," says Melinda. "I love helping the other volunteers, sorting the items and working on visual displays."

Caroline has seen Melinda flourish during their time together, and credits this to making connections in her local community and volunteering at the op shop. "Volunteering has really given Melinda a confidence boost and a great sense of purpose," she says.



Blue Apple Art Studios

Blue Apple Art Studios is a collaborative art space in Terrey Hills, nestled in a tranquil, leafy, private setting.

This light-filled, modern and accessible art space is a place for people of all abilities, ages, and experience to explore their creativity.

Specialising in a range of mediums, our Art Facilitators teach techniques to develop your skills in ceramics, paper making, painting and drawing in a supportive and social environment, designed to ignite your creative passions. You'll also have opportunities to participate in community art exhibitions.



ART

Immerse yourself in the experience of painting, drawing, collage and printmaking. Explore your creativity using a wide range of materials and techniques including acrylic and watercolour painting, relief printing and drawing with pencils, charcoal and oil pastels. Artists are encouraged to awaken an alternate way of perceiving using observation and emotion to uncover their creative expression. Classes are individualised, so you can create whatever your heart desires!



PAPERMAKING

Enter the world of hand-made papers, where you'll learn the ancient art of paper making from start to finish! You will learn basic pulp paper making and a variety of techniques to create beautiful finished handmade paper paintings, cards and three-dimensional artworks.



CERAMICS

Prepare to get hands-on with the tactile medium of clay. Let your creativity run free as you enter the world of pottery, for clay is as deep and as broad as the earth that it comes from, so the opportunities are endless!

Whatever your skill level, you can create beautiful and functional items from clay. Our experienced Art Facilitators will guide you through creating a simple pinch pot to more adventurous projects such as a planter pot, bowl set or creative sculpture. The options are endless!



“

I like painting flowers, animals and trees – I like the colours. I like coming here.

”

SUZANNE SORRELL

Friday Creative Social Group

These small group sessions are for people who identify as artists or who want to work on specific art projects in a creative and social environment. Paper, art and ceramics mediums are supported during this session and you will have the opportunity to try new art mediums and explore your creativity and self-expression.

There will be Art Facilitators to guide you during your artmaking and opportunities, throughout the year, to work on specific projects with practicing artists. Projects may include artworks for an exhibition, for sale or for your personal collection.

Follow us on socials!

  @blueappleartstudios

Venessa with her artwork 'I'm more than they've quacked me up to be' at Unisson's Blue Apple Art Studio. More of Venessa's artworks can be viewed on her Instagram account @venessa.crane

“

I absolutely love it! It's nice to have collaboration from everybody. I really look forward to coming.

”

QUACK-ERS ABOUT ART

For talented, award-winning artist and disability spokesperson Venessa Crane, art is an integral part of her daily life. For the past three years she's been attending Unisson's art classes where she's been supported to hone her techniques and style.

When she began classes with Unisson, Venessa was already an accomplished artist, but she was intrigued by the diverse range of mediums offered and the opportunity to work with art professionals and fellow artists.

"I'm very much into variety and exploring different mediums and I'm hoping to get a feel for what I like," says Venessa.

Venessa's work includes multiple stylistic genres from the playful to the more traditional, including a solo exhibition of her portraits, but she's best known for her prolific duck artworks inspired by Donald Duck. Venessa has great affection for Donald that goes beyond his cute and humorous side.

"As a child I liked his quirky personality," she says. "He's very determined and he does get a bit hot under the collar with frustration sometimes and I can see that in myself as well."

Venessa's recent works include a new character, QuackStar. Although still under development, Venessa shared that he's a duck with beautiful, fluorescent, rainbow wings and, as QuackStar is her own creation, she will be able to sell her artworks.

"I'm extending myself at the moment. I'm doing a few designs of another duck... and I've started a sculpture of a duck with rainbow wings," she says.

Venessa was thrilled when, in early 2020, Unisson's three art studios merged to become the Blue Apple studio and moved to new custom-designed premises in Terrey Hills. As well as having floor to ceiling windows with excellent natural light and a bush outlook (and the occasional passing duck), all the art facilitators are within the same space at the same time and it's easy to move between art mediums and to connect with other artists.

"She sees the same people each time, so they build up a rapport, and she comes with a really lovely support worker who feels like another member of the team," says Unisson Art Coordinator Heidi Fergusson.

"I absolutely love it!" says Venessa. "It's nice to have collaboration from everybody. I really look forward to coming."

SUPPORTED EMPLOYMENT

What is Unisson Works?

Unisson Works is a supported employment business run by Unisson. We pride ourselves on giving clients the opportunity to reach their goals, be more independent and contribute to their community through employment opportunities.

We strongly believe that no one should be defined by their disability and that through fostering the development of new skills, our clients can be confidence members of society, all while making new friends and earning a living.

Unisson Works can help you



Build your confidence



Earn a wage



Develop new skills



Make new friends



Develop a sense of purpose



Contribute to the community



Reach your career goals



Become more independent

Unisson Works offers flexible employment options – you can choose to work full-time or part-time hours around other commitments, such as TAFE. The training and experience available at Unisson Works can assist you to pursue your career goals outside of supported employment (open employment) if you wish, or you can continue to work for Unisson Works – or do both. You may also choose to work for more than one Unisson Works business.

Our Services

At Unisson Works, we care about our clients reaching their potential in a supportive, safe and encouraging environment. Our two divisions, Pack Works and Ground Works provide services in a supportive setting across assembly tasks and lawn and garden maintenance.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

There are many benefits outsourcing to Unisson Works. Not only will it deliver real

commercial benefits to your business but our clients offer customers:

- Cost effective services with competitive pricing
- Reliable service with a focus on customer experience
- Ability to manage a high volume of day-to-day tasks

Our support businesses operate in and around Sydney and deliver real, commercial outcomes for businesses.

For more information, visit our website.

www.unissonworks.org.au

SCHOOL LEAVERS

At Unisson Works, we understand how important it is to have a seamless transition from school to the workplace which is why we are committed to helping our clients develop their work and life skills through our employment opportunities. To learn more about how you, your client or loved one can start the process to become a Support Employee at Unisson Works, contact us via email hello@unisson.org.au, call us on **1300 266 222** or visit our website.





PACK WORKS

Process Worker Roles

Do you like lots of variety and want to learn new skills? As a Process Worker at Pack Works you'll be working on mailing, packaging, light assembly and tag and test jobs for businesses.

Our employment business unit Pack Works offers our clients the opportunity to learn new skills and be involved in a wide variety of different jobs and projects in mail and packaging. We have an accessible warehouse based in Thornleigh and, occasionally, visit some customers on site. Support Facilitators will teach you how to do the work and you'll have the opportunity to listen to music as you work.

Duties include:



Letter collation



Packaging and Assembly



Mail House Fulfillment Services



Barcode printing



Warehouse and storage



Quality Assurance Testing





BUILDING THE SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Fulfilling and meaningful employment can provide you with an immense sense of optimism, as well as strengthen your ties to your community. Shane Doowage is a Process Worker at Unisson's supported employment business Pack Works, and is building the skills for success every day.

"Pack Works is much more than just a job to Shane," says Shane's father, Daya "he looks forward to going there every day. There have even been instances on public holidays where we have had to take Shane to work just to show him it was closed. That's how much he enjoys his time at work and wants to be there."

Daya adds, "We've seen Shane develop into a reliable adult, with the responsibility of doing his job, and, as his parents, we love seeing his social skills and communication progress too."

And Shane's independence and community connections have also grown, with Shane now using public transport to get to work and independently going to the local café for his coffee break.

Shane's passion for his job is clear to anyone who meets him, with Shane often telling others proudly about his job and what he loves about it.

“

I love finishing my daily tasks and going to the coffee shop with my friends. I like being independent.

”

SHANE DOOWAGE
PROCESS WORKER, PACK WORKS

GROUND WORKS

Garden Maintenance Worker Roles

Are you great in the outdoors? This role is perfect for people who like physical outdoor work and gardening. As a Home & Garden Maintenance Worker for Ground Works, you'll be providing home and garden maintenance services to councils, government, retirement villages, hospitals, residential properties and more.

Working out of our Thornleigh base, you'll travel in a team of 4-6, plus your Support Facilitator to worksites. Your Support Facilitator will provide you with on-the-job support and training and help you to develop new skills.

Duties include:



Lawn care including restoration and repair



Mulching



Water irrigation



Trimming, hedging and pruning



General garden tidy up



Weed maintenance



“ Ground Works ‘works’ for me because I get to do lots of different things and work alongside my friends. I love working outside and people seeing me work.

”
RAEFFE FARMER
 HOME & GARDEN MAINTENANCE WORKER, GROUND WORKS

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT WORKING FOR PACK WORKS AND/OR GROUND WORKS? CONTACT US ON:

1300 266 222

hello@packworks.org.au

hello@groundworks.org.au



Unisson’s Supported Employment Opportunities align with the following Support Category in your NDIS plan:

- **Capacity Building** - Finding & Keeping a Job



GROWING SKILLS IN A JOB HE LOVES

Paid work that draws on our individual skills and passions is what most workers aspire to, and what Mathew Grillo achieved when he began working as a Home & Garden Maintenance Worker with Ground Works.

Mathew comes from a long line of farmers and gardeners, so it was no surprise to his mother Nina that he loved working outdoors and had an aptitude for gardening.

“Mathew’s a hands-on person, his dad was a gardener and from a young age Mathew would sit on his lap on the ride-on mower and my parents had a farm in Galston, so he grew up around experiences like that,” says Nina. “Contacting Ground Works was the best thing we did.”

Mathew travels in a crew of 4-6 supported employees and his support facilitators to work sites around Sydney and the Central Coast providing gardening services to councils, government, retirement villages, hospitals, residential properties and customers who have garden maintenance in their NDIS plan.

“Working for Ground Works gives Mathew purpose and he’s proud to tell people about what he does,” says Ground Works Coordinator Troy Prescott. “He’s made friends and he can buy what he wants with the money he earns and do more social events. He’s genuinely happy being outdoors working.”

“

I like the people. I like the work. The job’s good and I like being outdoors.

”

**MATHEW GRILLO
HOME & GARDEN MAINTENANCE WORKER
GROUND WORKS**

SUPPORT COORDINATION

What is Support Coordination?

Unisson has helped many people to prepare, manage and review their NDIS Plans – maximising their hours of support and enabling them to live the life they choose. And we've developed a great reputation and relationship with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), based on our extensive resources and efficient service.

Unisson's Support Coordinators have an in-depth knowledge of the NDIS and can support you to achieve a high quality NDIS plan. They will work with you to:

- Determine your individual wants, needs and goals and also consider what your future needs and goals might be, so you can proactively plan ahead.
- Navigate the NDIS marketplace to find and present to you a range of supports that you can access in your current plan that are best suited to meeting your needs and goals and provide value for money for your plan budget.
- Contact and communicate with service providers of your choice to source quotes and complete service agreements and bookings. They will monitor your plan usage, thereafter, to ensure that your NDIS funds continue to be used effectively.
- Monitor and record your progress towards achieving your goals to demonstrate the need for ongoing or future supports.
- Produce an NDIS Plan Review Report and help you to prepare for your Plan Review meeting, provide support during the meeting and respond to any requests for additional information after the meeting.
- Provide support with plan changes and appeals, e.g. to request additional funding if funding is insufficient or request changes to your plan or a Plan Review to access additional supports in the event of a change of circumstances.
- Assist you to build capacity and exercise choice and control, e.g. by mentoring and teaching you how to use the NDIS portal, monitor budgets and find providers.



Support Coordination is provided in addition to other supports in your NDIS plan in the following category:

- **Capacity Building – Support Coordination**

WHETHER YOU NEED SUPPORT WITH YOUR FIRST NDIS PLAN, YOUR CURRENT PLAN OR YOU'RE CONSIDERING REQUESTING SUPPORT COORDINATION AT YOUR NEXT NDIS PLAN REVIEW, UNISSON CAN HELP. CONTACT US ON:

1300 266 222

hello@unisson.org.au

Unisson's Support Coordinators cover Sydney's Upper and Lower North Shore and Northern Beaches, Western Sydney, the Central Coast and Newcastle and can meet at a location convenient to you, or online. Languages spoken include English, Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese and German.



A complimentary translating and interpreting service is available for NDIS participants from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds. Just let us know your requirements and we'll organise this on your behalf.



Darrin (left) and Chefs that Care founder Jake Gudgad

SPECIALIST SUPPORTS SEE DARRIN FLOURISH

Getting the most out of your NDIS plan can be a complicated and confusing task to tackle on your own. However, for Darrin, connecting with his Support Coordinator Ros has meant a whole array of support services have become available and he is seeing positive outcomes.

For Darrin, a key goal was increasing his independent living skills, particularly developing his skillset and confidence in the kitchen. Ros connected Darrin with Chefs That Care, a specialist NDIS service provider running adapted in-home cooking classes for people with disability. Chefs That Care founder, Jake, is a former professional chef and has been visiting Darrin in his home for their one-to-one cooking classes each week.

“Darrin is such a friendly and capable man,” says Jake. “We’ve been working on the importance of healthy foods, learning achievable recipes and how to safely use sharp knives, graters and other cooking tools and utensils. We’ve also focussed on how to safely operate a hot stove and oven, as well as increasing Darrin’s knowledge of food safety.”

And within only a few weeks Darrin’s confidence and cooking skills have flourished. “I love cooking with Jake,” says Darrin. “I like being able to make my favourite foods and learn new recipes.”

“
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learn new recipes.

”

CONTACT US

CHOOSING UNISSON AS YOUR NDIS PROVIDER

Once you receive your NDIS plan, you can choose to select Unisson Disability as your NDIS service provider. This means that the support covered in your plan will be provided by Unisson Disability and funded by the NDIS. As a registered NDIS provider, Unisson Disability will support you to achieve the goals in your plan and live your best life.

Let's start a conversation...

To find out more about how we can meet your individual needs and to select Unisson Disability as your provider, contact us on:

We'll arrange for one of our friendly and experienced staff to speak to you (either on the phone or face-to-face, at a time and location to suit you) to discuss your needs and how we can best support you.

 **1300 266 222**

 **hello@unisson.org.au**

 **unissondisability.org.au**

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CONNECT WITH US

1300 266 222
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CORPORATE SUPPORT OFFICE

Level 1, 108-114 George Street
Hornsby, NSW 2077

REGISTERED NDIS PROVIDER

ABN: 28 613 272 772
ACN: 613 272 772
NDIS Provider Number:
14707640

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