

## Tanya Fox — CEO

The COVID-19 pandemic has seen changes to the way we network and collaborate with other disability organisations. More than ever we need to work together and share resources and knowledge to help navigate our way through the crisis. The groups I have regular virtual meetings with include:

NDIS leaders meeting – forum for CEO's to share resources and raise issues and concerns.

Ministry of Health & NDIS - SDA/SIL/Support Coordinator Updates - webinars to discuss and advise disability providers during COVID-19.

National Disability Services – forums and communications supporting disability providers.

NDIS Quality & Safeguards commission – discussion and advice regarding disability supports during COVID-19.

The networking and communication within Brighter Access is also vital with regular virtual meetings and support happening across the organisation and our various locations.

*Tanya*

## Lisa Fulton—General Manager Operations

It's very exciting to see the Australian government begin to transition us out of the COVID-19 lockdown, and we will see further restrictions lifted on 1<sup>st</sup> June.

With the lifting of restrictions it is important that all BA staff remain vigilant and maintain good social distancing and hygiene practices.

Brighter Access is working towards re-engaging our Community Access programs, where the risks remain low, to allow our participants to continue smashing their NDIS goals.

Pictured- Jasmine feeding the pigeons during her recent Community Access support.



## Joe Holahan—General Manager Quality & Projects

The Quality area is commencing an extensive project around making MYP more user-friendly for Staff. Josh Strickland and myself are currently categorising some system improvements that have already been identified. We are pretty excited to now have access to a “practice version” of MYP, which will allow controlled and extensive testing, whilst avoiding breaking things! A big part of our plan is to get the Genius module of MYP speaking directly to the NDIS, and Carly McMahon's expertise in Genius means she is also an integral part of the project.

## Brad Hilton—General Manager Corporate Services

Brighter Access like many other businesses requires manual tasks to be performed to deliver our supports. It is important that all staff, regardless of your role, take care when performing manual tasks to avoid injury. As the weather gets colder it is important that you **warm up cold muscles with gentle stretches before engaging in any manual work**. Please take time to follow these safety suggestions relating to Manual Handling to help protect your back:

- Lift and carry heavy loads correctly by keeping the load close to the body and lifting with the thigh muscles.
- Never attempt to lift or carry loads if you think they are too heavy.
- Pushing a load (using your body weight to assist) will be less stressful on your body than pulling a load.
- Use mechanical aids or get help to lift or carry a heavy load whenever possible.
- Organise the work area to reduce the amount of bending, twisting and stretching required.
- Take frequent breaks.
- Cool down after heavy work with gentle, sustained stretches.
- Improve your fitness – exercise regularly to strengthen muscles and ligaments and maintain a healthy body weight.
- Ask for Help!! Refresh your knowledge by completing/reviewing training courses.