

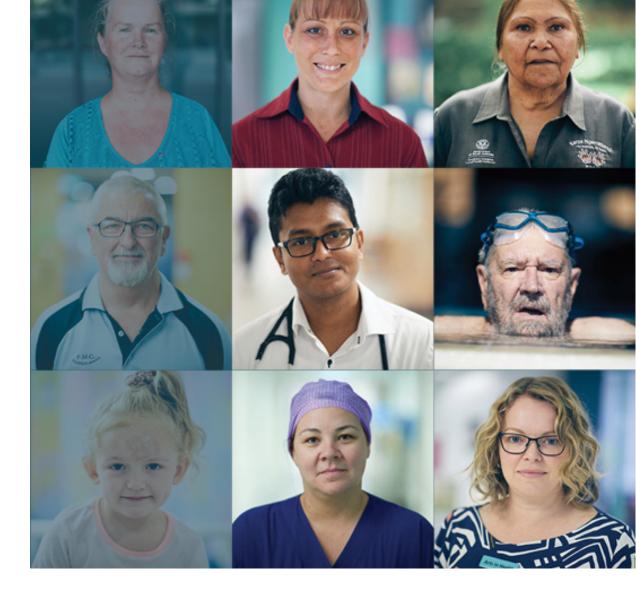
Disability Access and Inclusion Plan 2020-2023



Acknowledgement of Country

Ngadlu tampinthi, Kaurna Miyurna yaitya yartamathanya Wama Tarntanyaku. Ngadlu tampinthi purkarna pukinangku, yalaka, tarrkarritya. Parnaku yailtya, parnaku tapa purruna, parnaku tapa purruna, parnaku yarta ngadlu tampinthi. Yalaka Kaurna Miyurna itu yailtya, tapa purruna, yarta kuma puru martinthi, puru warri-apinthi, puru tangka martulayinthi. We acknowledge the Kaurna people are the traditional custodians of the Adelaide Plains and pay respects to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise and respect their cultural heritage, beliefs and relationship with the land. We acknowledge that they are of continuing importance to the Kaurna people living today.

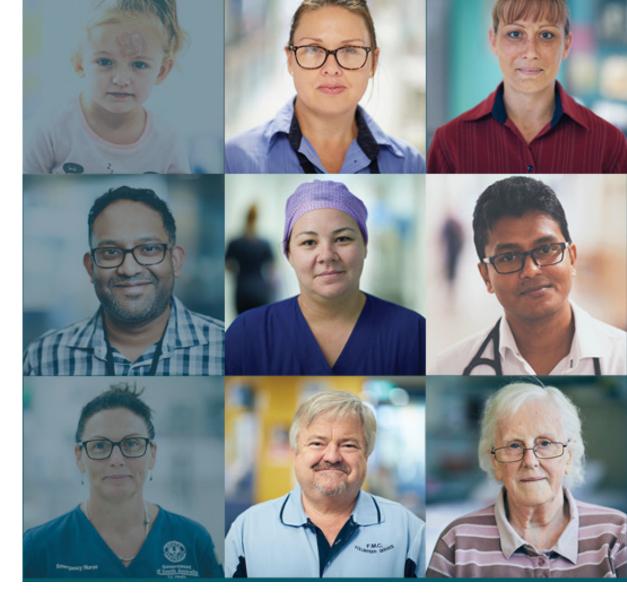


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About Southern Adelaide Local Health Network

Southern Adelaide Local Health Network (SALHN) provides care for more than 355 000 people living in the southern suburbs of Adelaide, as well as providing a number of state-wide services, and services to those in regional areas. More than 7500 skilled staff provide high quality patient care, education, research and health-promoting services.

SALHN is uniquely positioned in the South Australian health context. We provide health services across the lifespan, from complex obstetrics, maternity and neonatal services to end of life care provided through hospital and community-based palliative services. Our predicted population growth is greater for older people than the rest of metropolitan Adelaide and South Australia as a whole.

Our aim is to care for our consumers and community 'every step of the way' with a focus on:

- A healthy start to life
- Excelling at complex care treatment including major surgery
- Integrated care by partnering to deliver more services in the community and closer to home
- Restorative care and enhancing patient's wellbeing and independence
- Quality end-of-life care to support dignified end-of-life.

SALHN believes in supporting all members of our community to thrive. SALHN is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our vulnerable community members throughout their lives by supporting their empowerment and protection.

Health services which form SALHN include:

- Flinders Medical Centre, Noarlunga Hospital and the Repatriation Health Precinct.
- Intermediate Care Services, including GP Plus Super Clinic Noarlunga, GP Plus Health Care Centres at Aldinga and Marion, and a primary health site at Seaford, in addition to Aboriginal health services and Aboriginal family clinics, and the health services in peoples' homes.
- Southern Mental Health inpatient services at FMC, Noarlunga Hospital and RGH, including specialised services for eating disorders, veterans' mental health and problem gambling. Community based mental health services include the Inner South Community Mental Health Centre (collocated with GP Plus Marion), and the Southern Intermediate Care Centre and Trevor Parry Centre, which are both located at Noarlunga.

Consultation

The Southern Adelaide Local Health network first developed their Disability Access and Inclusion Plan in 2015, through a broad consultation process involving a consultative working party.

Representatives were from a variety of areas within SALHN including: Clinical Divisions, Clinical Governance, Consumer Engagement, Allied Health, Aboriginal Health Services, Nursing and Midwifery, SALHN Executive Team, Media and Communications, Environmental Services, CNMER, Intermediate Care Services, Corporate Services, Human Resources, and Consumer Advisory Services.

A formal consultation process also occurred with the broader Southern Adelaide Community as well as within SALHN with a variety of stakeholders including consumer representatives, staff (clinical and administrative), volunteers, disability consumer and community groups.

Since this time the plan has been updated through consultation with SALHN consumers and staff.



Under federal legislation (Disability Discrimination Act 1992) and SA legislation (Equal Opportunity Act 1984) it is against the law to discriminate against someone based on their disability. Disability discrimination happens when people with disability are treated less fairly than people without disability and the discriminator fails to make reasonable adjustments to rectify the situation. It also occurs when people are treated less fairly because they are relatives, friends, carers, co-workers or associates of a person with disability.

The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 defines 'disability' as meaning:

- a. total or partial loss of the person's bodily or mental functions;
- b. or total or partial loss of a part of the body; or
- c. the presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness; or
- d. the presence in the body of organisms capable of causing disease or illness; or
- e. the malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person's body; or
- f. a disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction; or
- g. a disorder, illness or disease that affects a person's thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgment or that results in disturbed behaviour;

and includes a disability that:

- a. presently exists; or
- b. previously existed but no longer exists; or
- c. may exist in the future (including because of a genetic predisposition to that disability); or
- d. is imputed to a person.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) defines 'persons with disabilities' as including those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others. These barriers can be environmental and attitudinal.

This broader understanding recognises that disability may be a product of impairment of functionality but also of the environment in which the person lives. Social, attitudinal, economic and cultural barriers can limit participation as can a person's individual circumstances (eg nature and degree of impairment, capacities and skills).

The UNCPRD defines 'discrimination' on the basis of disability to mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction on the basis of disability which has the purpose or effect of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal basis with others, of all human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

Disability Inclusion Act 2018

The Disability Inclusion Act 2018 (SA) promotes the full inclusion in the community of people with disability; and requires that all State authorities have a Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.

Relationship to other policies, strategies, frameworks

The intent of this DAIP is also consistent with and shaped by a range of other legislation, policies and documents including:

Legislation

- Disability Discrimination Act 1992
- Disability Services Act 1986 (this will be repealed by Sch1 c5 Disability Inclusion Act)
- Equal Opportunity Act 1984
- Work Health Safety Act 2012
- Disability Inclusion Act 2018 (This legislation is affected by amending provisions that have not yet come into operation or taken effect. Only amendments that have commenced are incorporated.)

Guiding documents

- National Disability Agreement
- Health and Community Services Complaints Commissioner Charter of Rights
- State Disability Inclusion Plan 2019-2023

Policy and procedure

- Non work related disability or medical incapacity policy guideline
- Improving access to SA health service policy directive
- Accreditation policy directive
- Framework for active partnerships with consumers and the community policy directive
- Animals in the hospital SALHN procedure
- Autism and development disability: management of distress and agitation SALHN W&C Procedure
- Mandatory training policy SALHN and schedule
- Vacancy management procedure SALHN

Standards

- Advisory note on streetscape, public outdoor areas, fixtures, fittings and furniture Note this contains references to the relevant Australian Standards for buildings, fixtures, fittings, furniture, etc
- Disability (Access to Premises-Buildings) Standards 2010 and Guideline on the Application of the Premises Standards V2 Feb 2013
- NSQHSS

Others

- Building Code Australia
- National Disability Insurance Scheme

Monitoring, Review and Reporting Process

Progress of Southern Adelaide Local Health Network's DAIP will be driven and reviewed by a SALHN Disability Action Plan implementation group and reported to SALHN Executive Team. Progress and achievements against the DAIP will be reported annually through the whole of government annual reporting process. The DAIP will be evaluated in 2022 forming the foundation for a further plan in 2023.

National Safety and Quality Health Service Standards

The NSQHS Standards were developed by the Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care in collaboration with the Australian Government, states and territories, private sector providers, clinical experts, patients and carers.

The primary aims of the NSQHS Standards are to protect the public from harm and to improve the quality of health service provision. The eight NSQHS Standards as follows provide a nationally consistent statement about the level of care consumers can expect from health services.

- Clinical governance standard
- Partnering with consumers in their care standard
- Preventing and controlling healthcare associated Infections standard
- Medication safety standard
- Comprehensive care standard
- Communicating for safety standard
- Blood management standard
- Recognising and responding to acute deterioration standard

Ensuring that the rights of people living with disability are upheld is the responsibility of the whole community and requires a state-wide response. Most people take the ability to go about daily life for granted. People with disability should also be able to access and participate in all aspects of our society, including using mainstream services and programs. Social inclusion is fundamental to one's quality of life and critical to achieving positive life outcomes across all domains.

SALHN is dedicated to supporting people with disabilities, by promoting SALHN as disability-friendly, improving physical access to buildings and facilities for people with a disability, and improving disability awareness and understanding among staff and volunteers. SALHN is committed to the implementation of the Disability Action and Inclusion Plan.

The Government of South Australia's State Disability Inclusion Plan (DAIP) 2019-2023 sets out specific actions for Government agencies to achieve. These will support the implementation of the National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 and the principles agreed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD). The State Disability Inclusion Plan has four key themes:

- 1. Inclusive Communities for all
- 2. Leadership and Collaboration
- 3. Accessible Communities
- 4. Learning and employment

The SALHN Disability Access and Inclusion Plan actions align to the outcomes of the National Disability Strategy and the four themes of the State Plan.

Theme 1: Inclusive Communities for all

- Involvement in the community
- Improving community understanding and awareness
- Promoting the rights of people living with disability

Outcome 1. Inclusive and Accessible Communities

People with disability live in accessible and well-designed communities with opportunity for full inclusion in social, economic sporting and cultural life.

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
SALHN policies and procedures	Policy, procedure, and guideline	Clinical	Short &	Dedicated section in policy documents	Low
consider the needs of people with	documents for staff to consider the needs	Governance Unit	Ongoing	to demonstrate consideration of	
disability.	of people with disability.			disability.	
	All documents to include a statement which				
	documents the considerations of needs of				
	people with a disability.				
Publications developed by SALHN	Assess feasibility of all SALHN publications	Media and	Short &	Process developed for alternative	Low
regarding services, facilities, consumer	to be available in alternative accessible	Communications	Ongoing	accessible formats.	
feedback and health information are in	formats for people with disability. Liaise with				
an appropriate format to meet the needs	SA Health re state wide approach.			Statement included in templates.	
of people with disability.	SALHN templates for publications to include				
	the statement "This document can be made				
	available in alternative formats on request".				
Buildings and facilities are physically	Complete audit of SALHN facilities &	Environmental	Medium	Risk assessment of facilities audit is	Medium
accessible to people with disability.	identify areas of high risk relating to poor	Services		complete and lodged on SALHN Risk	
	access to facilities for people with disability.			Register.	

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
	Determine appropriate action plans for non- compliant facilities following audit review and risk rating.	Environmental Services & SALHN Executive	Medium	Management plans developed for non- compliant facilities.	Medium
	Ensure all newly acquired/developed facilities are compliant with Disability legislation. Ensure adequate consideration is given to the planning and development of facilities at the new SALHN and Transforming Health builds that cater for the needs of people with disability, and in consultation with consumers.	Environmental Services SALHN Executive	Ongoing	Assessment of compliance is embedded part of Facilities Planning & Management process of building assessment and upgrades. Involvement of consumers.	Low
	Investigate potential for disabled toilet/ suitable change space in the main entrance & outpatient areas at FMC & NH.	Environmental Services		People with disability have access to appropriate facilities	High
	Ensure disabled car parking is located at the nearest accessible point of entry to facilities and where practical accessible to undercover walkways in order to provide protection from inclement weather.	Environmental Services		People with disability have access to appropriate facilities.	Medium
	Way-finding strategy be investigated and developed to ensure clearly signed, safe and accessible paths of travel throughout all SALHN facilities and grounds.	Environmental Services Consumer Engagement Coordinator		People with Disability have access to appropriate facilities.	Low
Aids and equipment are available to appropriately deliver services to people with disability.	Aids and equipment are available to appropriately deliver services to people with disability.	Environmental Services		People with disability have access to appropriate facilities.	High

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
	Review pre-admission assessment and admission assessment to ensure patients are provided with the opportunity to indicate special requirements including equipment and aids	Clinical Divisions		People with disability have access to appropriate facilities.	Medium
	Identify gaps where additional equipment and facilities are required to meet needs of people with disability (e.g. appropriate beds, weigh areas, lifters in outpatients, toilet/changing facilities, bariatric) and develop corresponding action plan to procure equipment as required.	Clinical Divisions	Long Term	Appropriate equipment is available to deliver services to people with disability.	Low
Improve access to services through the use of assistive technologies, equipment and facilities	 Investigate the provision of dedicated recharge points for wheelchairs/scooters at SALHN facilities. Investigate hearing augmentation systems in key areas throughout SALHN facilities. SALHN supports access by registered Service Dogs Staff are aware of the protocols associated with service dogs Appropriate signage is displayed in area where service dogs may be present 	Environmental Services Consult with Audiology	Long Term	People with disability have access to appropriate facilities.	Low

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
Information is published/ available	Develop information on the internet and	Media and		Information available across SALHN	Medium
regarding accessibility of SALHN	intranet about access to facilities (i.e. maps	Communication,		and on local internet and intranet sites.	
buildings, services and facilities for	regarding entrances, parking, toilets,	Consumer			
people with disability.	appropriate rest spots).	Engagement			
	Investigate the feasibility of an electronic	Coordinator			
	information portal with voice output at main	Manager, Volunte			
	entrances of hospital sites which would	ers			
	include services and facilities for people				
	with a disability.				
	Volunteer Guide service to continue to be				
	supported at FMC. Investigate options for a				
	guide service at RGH and NH.				

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
Consumers with complex needs and	Develop a checklist/procedure that guides	Corporate	Short	Consumers appointment needs are	High
frequent, multiple	outpatient departments when booking	Services and		more effectively managed.	
appointments are supported with	appointments for people with disability (ie	Clinical Divisions			
scheduling.	regarding transport needs, use of access				
	cabs outside of peak times, scheduling				
	multiple appointments on the same day to				
	minimize visits to SALHN).				
	Update the outpatient letter template to				
	ensure patients are provided with an				
	opportunity to indicate special				
	requirements including equipment and				
	aids.				
Evacuation Procedures and emergency	Review evacuation procedures, emergency	Emergency	Short	Clear evaluation and emergency plans	High
plans include provision for people with a	plans and associated training material to	Management		are in place for people with disability.	
wide range of disabilities.	ensure the requirements of people with a	Coordinator			
	range of disabilities are adequately				
	addressed.				
Appropriate waste disposal facilities are	Implement waste centres in disabled	Environmental Se	Long Term	People with disability have access to	Low
available for people with disabilities	bathrooms (sharps etc)	rvices & WHS		appropriate facilities.	
(colostomy, needle disposal, dressing					
waste etc.)					

Theme 2: Leadership and Collaboration

- Participation in decision-making
- Leadership and raising profile
- Engagement and consultation

Outcome 3. Rights Protection, Justice and Legislation

People with disability live in accessible and well-designed communities with opportunity for full inclusion in social, economic sporting and cultural life.

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
The rights and needs of people with	SALHN DAIP developed and approved by	SALHN	Medium	Dedicated section to demonstrate	Low
disability are considered when	the SALHN Executive.	Executive Team,		consideration of disability in policies,	
developing SALHN services, policies,	SALHN establishes DAIP Governance Group	SALHN		plans and strategy documents.	
plans and strategies.	SALHN policies and procedures, Divisional	Executive Team,			
	Safety and Quality and operational plans	SALHN PPGP			
	are inclusive of requirements to meet the	Divisional			
	rights and needs of people with disability.	Directors			
	The actions of the DAIP are embedded in				
	Divisional Safety and Quality and				
	Operational plans.				
SALHN will provide the opportunity for	Ensure that feedback mechanisms are	Consumer	Short	Provide flexible mechanisms to receive	Medium
people with disability to make	flexible so that there are no barriers for	Advisory		feedback.	
complaints and compliments.	people with disability wishing to make	Services			
	complaints and provide feedback.				
	Consumers are provided information	Consumer	Short	Consumers are provided with	Medium
	regarding complaint and feedback systems	Advisory Services		information at Admissions.	
	on admission.	Admissions			
Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk

	Review complaints and compliments received related to disability access and inclusion, identify any trends or recurring issues and develop appropriate strategies to address.	Consumer Advisory Services, Consumer Engagement Coordinator, Partnering with Consumers Advisory Group	Ongoing	Record and report data on annually to Partnering with Consumers Advisory Group. Regular reports provided to Clinical Divisions	Medium
Enhance opportunities for people with a disability to play an active role in decision making through best practice community engagement and participation processes.	Strengthen SALHN consultation processes to increase participation of people with disability in decision making.	Consumer Engagement Coordinator	Ongoing	People with disability or their carers are involved in consumer engagement activities.	Low

Theme 3: Accessible Communities

- Universal design across South Australia
- Accessible and available information
- Access to services

Outcome 4. Personal and Community Support

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People with disability, their families and carers have access to a range of supports to assist them to live independently and actively engage in their communities.

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
Ensure Carers are recognized and	Procedures put in place to support SA	Consumer	Medium	Procedure put in place to support	Medium
support provided	Partnering with Carers Policy Directive	Engagement		Carers	
	developed. (align with SA Health policy	Coordinator			
	directive and Carers Recognition Act)				
Ensure that any events organized	Review events plan and checklist for staff to use	Media and	Short and	Checklist developed and used by staff.	Medium
ensure access for people with disability,	when planning events to include information	Communications	Ongoing	Planned events are accessible for	
including employees of SALHN.	regarding access for people with disability.			people with disability.	
	Update RSVP statement to allow invitees to				
	indicate if they have special requirements.				
Develop and maintain positive	Staff are made aware of the operational	Executive	Ongoing	Regular communication with staff,	Low
relationships with the Southern Adelaide	working arrangements with the services	Director, Allied		regular meetings.	
disability service providers to facilitate	and supported by documentation.	Health			
access to services.					

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
Implementation of the National Disability	SALHN to work with SA Health and	Executive	Short	SALHN services, staff and consumers	Medium
Insurance Scheme (NDIS)	wellbeing_in development of NDIS/SA	Director, Allied		are engaged and prepared for full	
	operational plan.	Health		scheme roll out January 2018.	
	SALHN NDIS working group to be				
	developed to scope and implement				
	scheme roll out in southern Adelaide.				
SALHN partners with carers to support	Care delivery and discharge planning is	Clinical Divisions	Short	Partnering with Carers documentation	Low
people with disabilities	inclusive of Carer consideration and			and guideline developed.	
	involvement.				
	Carer expertise and knowledge about				
	patients is valued and actively sought to				
	assist when patients with disabilities				
	present or are admitted within SALHN.				
	Recognition of the relationship and				
	knowledge, as well as involvement of				
	carers accompanying patients				
	Open communication with carers				
	Encourage carer feedback about services				
	that they have received and any				
	additional assistance SALHN can				
	provide.				
	Investigate the option of discounted or free				
	parking for unpaid carers (family) who are				
	supporting inpatients and are present for 6-				
	8hrs per day.				

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
Care delivery and discharge plan	On Admission ensure identification of key	Clinical Divisions	Short Ongoing	Regular communication with Carers.	Low
inclusive of carers	person/ contact for patient				
	Provide clear two way communication to				
	carers and allow them to clarify needs and				
	patient care considerations (this may need				
	to be in a variety of formats).				
	Develop a resource package for Carers				
	that is provided to them on admission				
	(organisation wide) this should contain				
	details of ward, telephone numbers, ward				
	routine as well as information regarding				
	hospital facilities etc.				

Outcome 6. Health and Wellbeing

People with disability are supported to attain the highest possible health throughout their lives.

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
People who have difficulty speaking,	SALHN clinical staff document in patient	Clinical Divisions	Ongoing	Client communication requirements are	High
hearing, understanding, seeing and/or	care records any specific communication			documented in case records.	
reading are not compromised or	requirements of the client/parent/carer.				
disadvantaged throughout the	People with disability have access to their				
continuum of care, including:	own devices and technology to assist				
involvement in care planning	with communication whilst at SALHN.				
discharge planning	Discussion regarding ongoing care				
obtaining information on rights	plan/discharge planning is discussed with				
and responsibilities	the client.				
· consent.	Discharge information is made available to				
	patients with disability in an accessible				
	format.				
Patients with communication	Determine suitable mechanisms for	Clinical Divisions	Medium	Establish and communicate	High
difficulties are able to express needs	patients with severe communication	Consult with		mechanisms to staff.	
including pain, thirst, hunger and	difficulties to express pain/	Speech			
emotions to clinical staff	discomfort/needs	Pathology as			
		necessary and			
		other Allied			
		Health as			
		appropriate.			

Theme 4: Learning and Employment

- Better supports within educational and training settings
- Skill development through volunteering and support in navigating the pathway between learning and earning
- Improved access to employment opportunities and better support within workplaces

Outcome 5. Learning and Skills

People with disability achieve their full potential through their participation in an inclusive, high quality, education system that is responsive to their needs. People with disability have opportunities to continue learning throughout their lives.

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
SALHN staff and volunteers are aware	SALHN_will ensure all staff have access to	SALHN CEO	Medium	90% staff compliance with Disability	Medium
of the rights and needs of people with	contemporary disability awareness and			Awareness Training	
disability and the	disability discrimination awareness				
relevant policies and requirements of	training.				
the Disability Services Act.	SALHN will ensure that all staff undertake				
	this training at induction and orientation.				
	Include a regular update or feature on				
	disability access and inclusion in Health in				
	the South (the SALHN Newsletter).				

Theme 4: Learning and Employment

- Better supports within educational and training settings
- Skill development through volunteering and support in navigating the pathway between learning and earning
- Improved access to employment opportunities and better support within workplaces

Outcome 2. Economic Security and Employment

People with disability, their families and carers have economic security, enabling them to plan for the future and exercise choice and control over their lives.

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
The rights and needs of people with	Ensure HR Policies and procedures	Chief Workforce	Medium	Updated policies.	
disability are considered for our	support access and inclusion in the SALHN	Officer			
workforce.	workforce.			Training completed.	
	Identify barriers to inclusion of people with				
	a disability.			An accurate reflection of workforce	
	Ensure information is provided on Disability			numbers living with a disability.	
	Awareness Training.				
	Implement a process that encourages				
	employees to self-identify if they live with a				
	disability.				
Employees who live with a disability or	Ensure staff and managers are aware of	Chief Workforce	Medium		
who are carers for people who live with	flexible employment options available.	Officer			
a disability are supported within SALHN.	Promote reasonable supports and				
	adjustment to the workplace to				
	accommodate disability.				

Issue	Action / Strategy	Lead	Timeframe	Measurable Target	Risk
SALHN employment of people living	Explore pathways to employment through	Chief Workforce	Medium		
with disability does not reflect the	collaboration with Disability Employment	Officer			
community we serve.	Service (DES) providers, the not-for-profit				
	sector and community stakeholders.				
	Recruitment advertising promotes support				
	for people living with disability.				
Meaningful volunteering opportunities	Explore volunteering opportunities for	Chief Workforce	Medium		
are provided with people living with	people living with disability to obtain work	Officer			
disability.	experience.				

For more information

Office of the CEO Southern Adelaide Local Health Network Telephone: 8204 4066 Email: Health.SALHNCEOOffice@sa.gov.au www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/SALHN



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