

NATIONAL PANEL OF ASSESSORS

Success Stories



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Below are two examples which demonstrate the success of NPA services in providing assistance to increase employment participation by people with disability.

The following example is of an **Ongoing Assessment** recently with a provider and just really illustrates how providers, employers and all other personnel involved can work together to ensure a positive outcome for all parties.

A young lady who has ADHD was employed by a local hospital on a casual basis and when I met with her initially she was doing rather well and did not need a great deal of support from her provider. A short time after this meeting her doctor decided to take her off her ADHD medication and this impacted greatly within her workplace. To compound matters she had just been made permanent part time.

Her employer noticed that she was struggling and decided to contact the local DES provider for help and coincidentally happened to be the same provider looking after this young lady. The young lady to her credit decided to let the employer know that she suffered from ADHD and that she was also getting help from a mental health clinician.

To cut a long story short, all of these people that is the Employment consultant, Employer (immediate supervisor and manager), Mental health clinician, the young lady and myself all came together to discuss the best way forward for them all to proceed to ensure that the young lady was able to continue to work at the hospital.

In this meeting I suggested that the employer provide Disability Awareness training to the staff to which they agreed with the young lady's permission and organised for the mental health clinician to address the staff.

The young lady was completely overwhelmed about the extent of the help that was being provided for her.

Work Place Modifications

There are many interesting and surprising tools for want of a better word available to clients who have a disability or who may be struggling to do their job well because of an ongoing condition/situation.

I recently did an assessment for a gentleman who through an accident had a permanent injury to his right arm which prevented him from lifting his arm past chest height. He had recently purchased a Home Maintenance franchise. This work required him to do all sorts of jobs which required him to lift heavy objects, stretch above his head etc.

He requested assistance with a work platform that would lift him above the job, a sheet lifting item and a one handed hammer/nail gun. In my meeting with him and his provider I asked him how he managed to lift all the equipment that he needed to which he replied with a great deal of difficulty or would have to rely on family or friends.

I then suggested that perhaps it would be beneficial to look at attaching an elevated platform to his car that way he would not have to lift any of the equipment but transfer it over to his work trolley. Without the equipment it would limit the amount and type of work he would be able to take on in order to make his investment worthwhile.

All of the above suggestions were submitted to Job Access and approved.

If you have any questions regarding the services of NPA please do not hesitate to contact Lorena Millo at lorenam@interwork.com.au