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**Building Ability through Career Management**

**Parent and Carer Resource Pack**

**Supporting your child’s career development**

**Overview of resource**

This pack was designed to support parents and carers explore careers and the world of work. The information in this pack can be used to support parent information sessions or directly by parents themselves in improving their role as career development allies in the career journey of young people with disability. A range of resources have been developed to support young people in their personal career planning and management.

This resource includes:

1. **PowerPoint Presentation:** A training resource that takes participants through a 2-hour session on the role parents can play in supporting career decision-making, understanding the labor market and the range of disability supports and incentives available in Australia to job seekers and employees with disability.
2. **Fast Facts:** A series of ‘fast facts’ resources on preparing young people with disability for employment.
3. **Getting Started with NDIS:** A step-by-step guide to navigating the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

1. **Useful Websites:** A quick 2-page reference to the most useful websites for job-seekers with a disability.

**Why should parents and carers be involved in supporting career planning?**

Research indicates that parents are the single greatest influence on their child’s education and career decision making. Parents can provide opportunities to their children to explore the world of work as they grow, develop, and prepare for their career. Definitions and world of work words are also part of the resource.

The resource outlines for parents and carers how to engage in a career conservation with their children. Parents can assist children to identify their interests, identify further education opportunities to develop skills and achieve work goals, identify work opportunities or job trials and navigate a range of disability incentives to assist with job searching and employment opportunities.

**Key features of this resource**

The Parent and Carer Resource pack covers a range of topics that relate to the career development journey for young people with disability including:

* The meaning of career, work, employability and work-ready.
* Documenting each child’s skills, interests, goals and values.
* When and how to disclose a disability.
* Stories of hope.
* Labor market changes and opportunities.
* Disability employment services and incentives.

**Key messages**

Parents play a critical role in fostering an understanding of and the development in the four core elements of career decision making. These factors, addressed throughout this resource pack, are:

* Interests - what young people like or enjoy doing
* Skills - what young people can do or learn to do
* Values - what is important to them
* Goals - what they want to achieve

**Top 5 actions for parents as career development allies**

Parents play a critical role in fostering an understanding of and the development in the core elements of career decision making. The factors, addressed throughout this resource pack, are:

1. Identify your young person’s interests, skills, values and goals.
2. Explore further education or training opportunities.
3. Encourage registration with a local employment service / Disability Employment Service and make sure this service is aware of your young person’s skills, interests, values and goals along with their disability-specific requirements.
4. Identify any networks you have that may know of volunteer, job trial or paid work opportunities and let these contacts know that your young person is looking for work.
5. Identify any government incentives that your young person is eligible for that may help them gain employment.

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**Program Inquires**

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