



NEWSLETTER

HOSPITALITY DISABILITY NETWORK WA

TOURISM TOOLKIT

Exciting Announcement: Tourism WA Partners with HDNWA to Develop a New Toolkit for School Leavers with Disabilities

We are thrilled to share that Tourism Western Australia (Tourism WA) is partnering with the Hospitality Disability Network of Western Australia (HDNWA) to create a groundbreaking toolkit designed to help school leavers with disabilities explore exciting career opportunities in the hospitality and tourism sectors!

This innovative toolkit, set to **launch in June** on HDNWA's 6-year anniversary, will feature an engaging 8-part video series showcasing a "day in the life" of popular roles in the industry, including Chef, Bartender, and Tour Guide.

The video series will give viewers an authentic look at the day-to-day responsibilities and skills required for these dynamic and rewarding positions.

Alongside the videos, the toolkit will provide valuable resources to support school leavers with disabilities, including career quizzes, training and employment pathways, workplace adaptations, and strategies for making the transition from school to work in the hospitality and tourism sectors.

The aim is to empower young people with disabilities to pursue successful careers, ensuring they are included and given the tools they need to thrive in these industries.

The toolkit is currently in the works, and we are excited to share more details as we approach the launch date. This initiative marks a significant step toward building a more inclusive and diverse workforce in Western Australia's vibrant hospitality and tourism sectors.

Stay tuned for the official launch this June and join us in celebrating the power of inclusivity and opportunity for all.



COMING SOON



Sarah
Barista at Cafe Mojo

HDNWA Recognised for Excellence in Hospitality, Tourism & Inclusion

We're excited to share some incredible news—HDNWA has been recognised for our outstanding contributions to the Hospitality and Tourism sector, as well as our ongoing work in Disability and Inclusion!

We're proud to announce that we've been nominated for two major awards:

WA's Best Hospitality Service Provider

2025 AHA CommBank WA Hospitality Supplier Awards

Carlton & United Breweries Legends of Hospitality Awards

Voting closes April 14—we'd love your support! (Scan QR below to vote)

Excellence in Innovation

2025 Western Australia Disability Support Awards presented by National Disability Services (NDS)

This recognition is a testament to the hard work, passion, and commitment of our incredible team, board and partners who strive every day to create inclusive opportunities for people with disabilities within the Hospitality and Tourism industries.

We're honoured to stand alongside so many inspiring organisations and individuals who are making a meaningful impact in this space.

Congratulations to all the other nominees—your efforts are transforming lives, and we're proud to be part of this journey with you.



Creating an Inclusive Workforce: Four Points by Sheraton Perth's Journey

Four Points by Sheraton Perth, partnership with HDNWA (Hospitality Disability Network WA), just gets stronger and stronger.

HDNWA and the Marriot team share the same passion to have team where everyone feels welcome and included—including people living with autism.

"At Four Points by Sheraton Perth, we are always looking for ways to build a more inclusive and diverse team," Treshan shared.

"Partnering with HDNWA has helped build our disability employment confidence and rewards of a inclusive and diverse team speaks for itself."

Through this collaboration, Raul, Treshan and the team gained valuable insights into how to support people living with autism in the workplace. As a result, they have gradually welcomed three team members over time who identify as living with autism.

After Treshan, the Operations Manager, saw the positive results from employing two candidates from HDNWA, they reached out again with more vacancies for individuals living with a disability.

They soon employed another candidate living with autism and welcomed him into their inclusive and diverse team.

To ensure a smooth integration, the hotel made small but significant adjustments.

"We implemented clearer communication strategies, such as providing written instructions and structured task lists. We also provided training to increase awareness," Treshan explained.

These changes had a profound impact, not only for the new employees but for the entire team.

*"These **small adjustments** have improved communication and efficiency across the whole hotel. Beyond that, they've created a more **supportive and adaptable workplace culture**,"*

The impact of hiring people living with autism has been undeniable.

Two of our new team members work in food and beverage, where they have brought a level of precision and care that has inspired the whole team, while another team member is thriving in reception, providing excellent guest service

"If you create an inclusive environment, you'll be amazed at the talent and dedication people living with autism can bring to your business,"

"I would strongly encourage other hospitality businesses to take this step. The benefits far outweigh any challenges."

Through Four Points by Sheraton Perth's journey with HDNWA, they've proven that with a few small adjustments, businesses can unlock the full potential of employees living with autism, creating a more inclusive and successful workplace for all.





MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

silk

It's with great excitement that we welcome Silk Hospitality as the newest member of the Hospitality Disability Network Western Australia (HDNWA)!

Silk Hospitality is a leader in providing specialized services to the hospitality industry, including housekeeping, event management, and tailored services for guests with diverse needs.

They are passionate about creating inclusive environments where accessibility is prioritized, ensuring that every guest has a comfortable and welcoming experience.

With a focus on innovation and compassion, Silk Hospitality works to enhance accessibility without compromising quality or comfort. Their dedication to making hospitality spaces accessible to all makes them a perfect fit for our mission at HDNWA, and we're excited to collaborate with them on the journey toward a more inclusive industry.

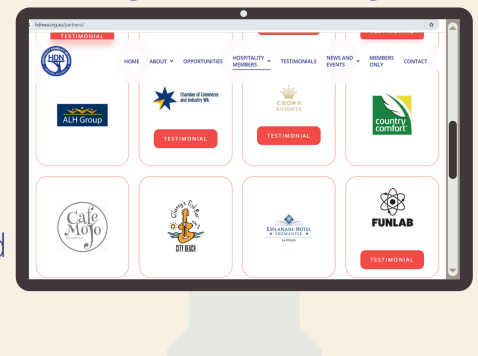


JOIN OUR MEMBERSHIP

Do you know any businesses that could benefit from joining HDNWA as a member?

We'd love to connect with them! Feel free to share our contact details or email Navigator@hdnwa.org.au with their information. Membership is FREE, and in addition to being promoted on our website and LinkedIn, members gain access to our free online training platform to help them become more disability confident.

They'll also have access to a pool of pre-screened candidates, ready to make an impact. We look forward to connecting with more businesses and helping them foster inclusive, diverse workplaces.



DJERAN SESSION

We are stepping into the Djeran season in Boorloo. As we embrace the cooler evenings and misty mornings, the Djeran season heralds a lovely transformation in nature. Throughout Perth, you'll see the striking red blooms of the Red Flowering Gum and Summer Flame, while Sheoaks display red 'rust' and seed cones.

Banksias burst into bloom, providing nectar for small mammals and birds, generating a lively atmosphere in our local ecosystems.

For the Noongar people, Djeran represented a time of abundance, as Zamia seeds, yanget root bulbs, fish, frogs, and turtles offered nourishment. It was also the period when they began to prepare their Mia Mias (homes) for the impending heavier rains.



We are incredibly proud to announce that since 2016, Optus Stadium has employed over **100 candidates** through Hospitality Disability Network WA !

This significant achievement is thanks to the efforts of our Chairperson, **Craig Menzies**, and his exceptional team, whose dedication to fostering diversity and inclusion in the workforce has set a powerful example.

A special thank you also goes to **Phoebe Howie** , whose hard work and commitment have been instrumental in making this partnership such a success. Your dedication to empowering individuals with disabilities and creating inclusive opportunities has truly made a difference.

Optus Stadium has shown what true inclusion looks like in action, ensuring that individuals living with disabilities have a chance to shine in the workplace. By creating an environment that celebrates diversity, Optus Stadium has made a lasting impact on both their business and the lives of countless individuals.

We want to extend a huge thank you to Craig Menzies, his leadership, Phoebe, and the entire team at Optus Stadium for their unwavering commitment to inclusion.

Your efforts are inspiring, and it's a privilege to watch the ongoing positive change you are driving.

This partnership serves as a reminder that when organisations prioritise inclusion, they not only transform lives, but also contribute to a stronger and more inclusive workforce for everyone.



DATES TO REMEMBER

11th May

Mothers Day

15th May

Global Accessibility Awareness Day

17th May

IDAHOBIT Day

19th to 25th May

Volunteer Week

24th May

World Schizophrenia Awareness Day

26th May

National Sorry Day

27 May to 3 June

National Reconciliation Week



The HDNWA team are constantly meeting with individuals living with disability who are wanting a career in Hospitality and Tourism field. If you are looking for staff, please reach out to us!



HDN UPDATE

53 Members
representing
over **190**
businesses

HDNWA have
placed over **350**
candidates into
sustainable
employment since
2019



STAY CONNECTED

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FOLLOW



HDNWA acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the land, paying respects to the Aboriginal communities of Western Australia and their Elders, past, present, and emerging. We honor the culture and contributions of First Nations People.

We also recognise the rights and dignity of all, including those with disabilities and in the LGBTQIA+ community. HDNWA is committed to inclusivity, respect, and empowerment, celebrating diversity and striving for equal opportunities for all.

