

Aids and Equipment

The '2010 Connections Project' community consultations were informal and conversational. Similarly, the responses received from the State-wide and phone surveys included a lot of feedback, suggestions and comments. Much of this feedback revolved around aids and equipment, highlighting it as one of the matters of particular interest to people.

We received questions, requests for more information and comments regarding people's satisfaction levels about their specific aid and equipment items. At one of the community consultations for example, the Food for Health large print cookbook received a lot of praise, but people expressed disappointment that the Microwave Cookbook had not been completed as hoped. You may be pleased to know therefore that development of the new large print Microwave Cookbook is now underway.

This is just one example of how each comment, no matter how specific, has at the very least been heard and that we are endeavouring to keep people better informed.

Other comments included requests for online and printed equipment catalogues, and for peer recommendation of new and/or useful aids, equipment and technology. There are many equipment-savvy clients who are very up-to-date with what is available and can provide insight from their personal perspectives. This valuable peer support may be something that is of interest to you.

“You need to promote the website and develop an online catalogue - have it include the aids and equipment that are available.”

- Participant quote

“We want better and more regular information about aids and equipment otherwise it is easy to get left behind.”

- Parent quote

Did you know?

Did you know that we have a team of Occupational Therapists and technicians with a wealth of expertise regarding useful aids and equipment?

Do you or someone you know who is blind or vision impaired have a practical issue that you need help with? It may be possible to help you regain a greater level of independence with a simple aid, technique or piece of equipment. If you would like to talk with someone and find out more or arrange a time to meet, please call and ask for the Duty Officer.

Ph: (08) 9311 8202

Toll free for country callers: 1800 847 466

What we will do next

- We are working to develop a 'Product Trial Forum', which will invite clients and members to trial and provide feedback on new equipment, aids & technology prior to endorsement and sales by the Association.
- We will explore the development of aids and equipment (printed and online) catalogues.
- We will occasionally profile new and interesting aid and equipment items in our publications.
- We will explore a way to engage clients in sharing their knowledge and experiences of aids and equipment with other people who are blind or have vision impairment.