

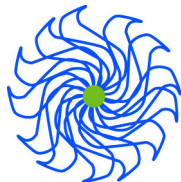
**Why do we need the
Connecting Siblings
project?**

The sibling relationship is the longest of all relationships in our lifetime.

For people living with disability, their brothers and sisters can be particularly important. In fact, siblings will often be involved for much longer than parents, who become less able with age.

Some adults may have a very positive experience of being the sibling of a person living with disability while others may have faced, or be facing considerable personal challenges in relation to their sibling role.

Siblings can play a key role in the life of the person living with disability but sometimes these relationships are strained or severed due to childhood experiences.



Siblings Australia is the only organisation in Australia committed to addressing the unique concerns of brothers and sisters of people with special needs. The focus is on strengthening families, through provision of services and resources for families and providers.

Siblings: acknowledged, connected, resilient.

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“Connecting Siblings” is supported by a grant from the Julia Farr MS McLeod Benevolent Fund



www.juliafarr.org.au

Julia Farr McLeod considers grant applications from organisations, groups and individuals with a good idea to support a good life for people living with physical disability or brain injury, and consistent with the goals of personal authority and social inclusion.

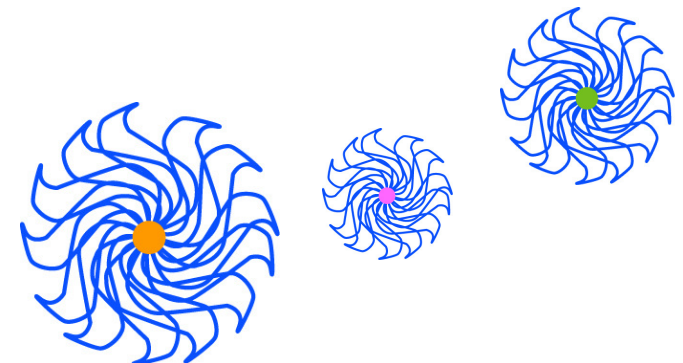


Connecting Siblings

The Siblings Australia Adult Siblings Project

**Do you have a
brother or sister
living with
disability?**

Siblings: acknowledged, connected, resilient.
www.siblingsaustralia.org.au



Siblings : acknowledged, connected, resilient

What does *Connecting Siblings* hope to achieve?

Aim

To improve connections between;

- adult siblings of people living with disability and other adult siblings,
- adult siblings and their brothers and sisters living with disability.

Objectives

- Increase awareness of the needs of adult siblings
- Improve networking for adult sibling mutual support
- Increase availability of resources & information for adult siblings.
- Improve connections between adult siblings and their brother or sister living with disability

How will *Connecting Siblings* achieve these aims?

The project will involve

1. community consultation with;
 - adult siblings of people living with disability
 - other family members
 - people with disability
 - service providers
2. a review of relevant literature regarding the needs of adult siblings
3. development of written and on-line services and resources that address both practical and emotional issues
4. information sessions on various topics relevant to siblings such as; financial planning, accommodation services, medical issues etc.

We need your support to ensure the Project develops the best outcomes

How can you contribute to the *Connecting Siblings* Project?

If you have an interest in the Project:

- Join the email distribution group for regular updates
- Using the contact details overleaf, send in your ideas
- Provide feedback on the resources/services developed
- Spread the word about the Project to others, especially adult siblings

If you are an Adult Sibling:

- All of the above
- Attend focus sessions/forums to share ideas and help develop the services and resources you need -
Sessions to be held at **HOVE, CLAPHAM, WYNNVALE, MURRAY BRIDGE & ADELAIDE**

Details available on website www.siblingsaustralia.org.au
Or contact Project staff as overleaf

