

WELCOME TO OUR MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

What's Happening at YAY Today This May

Welcome to our May newsletter! This month, we're sharing exciting updates, program highlights, and important information to keep you informed and supported. From the return of our Employment Program to Easter holiday highlights and new opportunities across our services, there's plenty happening at YAY Today. We're glad to have you with us! 💜

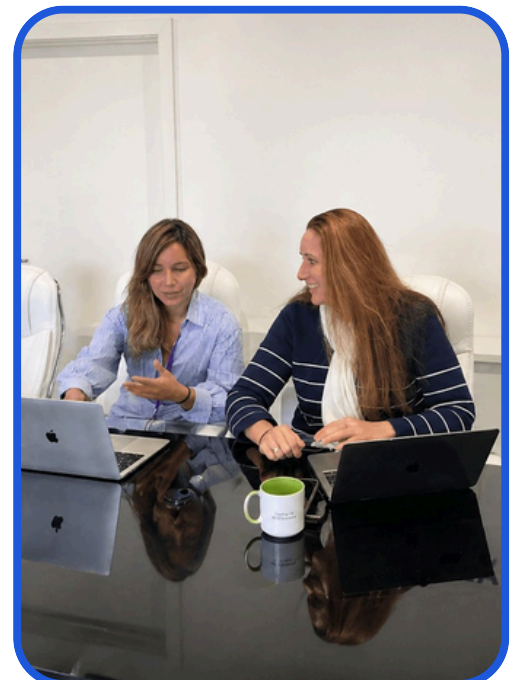


NDIS April 2026 changes announced: what we know so far

The Australian Government has announced upcoming changes to the NDIS, which will roll out gradually over the next few years. These updates will focus more on how disability impacts daily life, clearer rules around funding, and stronger requirements for providers and documentation.

While essential supports will remain, it's important to stay informed and make the most of your current plan.

👉 **Read our blog article for more info, and contact us if you have questions or need support.**



Employee of the Month – Ben

Ben is our Employee of the Month for a reason! As an Employment Coach at YAY Today, he brings calm, care and great listening skills to everything he does.

Whether he's supporting clients or drawing on his experience helping many students with their wellbeing, Ben creates a space where people feel safe, heard and valued. His positive attitude and passion for helping others truly make him stand out.

Congrats Ben!



Steps to Employment Program is back!

We are bringing the Employment program back, starting this month.

Our Steps to Employment Program supports you to build confidence, develop workplace skills, and get ready for a job that suits you. From communication and teamwork to resumes and interview preparation, we'll guide you every step of the way.

Whether you're starting your first job, returning to work, or exploring your next step, this program is here to support you.

The program is available in our Ormond space, and also online or at a location that works for you.

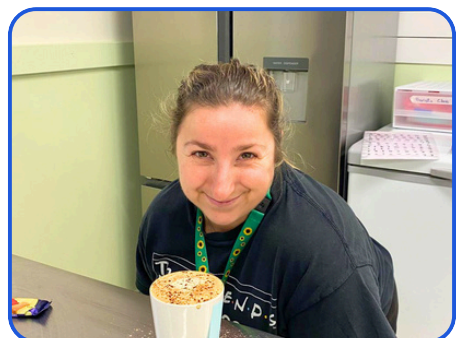
Stay tuned for the schedule details in the next few weeks.



Highlights from April and Easter Holidays

April was full of energy, connection, and great moments across our programs! Over the Easter holidays, participants enjoyed a mix of fun and hands-on activities, from Easter-themed celebrations and cooking sessions to learning new skills in our barista classes. There was plenty of movement too, with sports and active games bringing everyone together.

It's always amazing to see participants trying new things, building confidence, and enjoying time with friends in a supportive environment. A big thank you to our team for creating such positive and engaging experiences! 💜



**Interested in joining our classes and activities?
Get in touch to book your spot.**

Free public transport extended to May!

Great news for everyone! You can now continue enjoying free public transport until the end of May, with half-price fares available from June through to December.

This is a great opportunity to build your confidence using public transport, practise getting to places independently, and feel more comfortable planning your own travel. It's a simple step that can make a big difference in building everyday independence.



SIL & Respite Support That Feels Like Home

Our SIL and Respite services provide safe, comfortable support when you need it most, whether it's a short break or longer-term care.

We focus on your wellbeing, with personalised support, delicious meals, and opportunities to connect and enjoy meaningful activities, all in a welcoming environment.

With vacancies available in Clayton, Frankston and Oakleigh, you can feel confident knowing there's a place where you can relax, be yourself, and feel supported every step of the way.



 **Contact us to learn more about our available homes**



10 May

Mother's Day

Celebrating the strong, caring, and inspiring women in our community this Mother's Day.

Wishing you a day full of happiness, connection, and well-deserved appreciation!



11 May

Are You Safe at Home? Day

By just asking, listening and believing, you can make an enormous impact in someone's life.

Ask "Are you safe at home?"

Listen to what they say without judgement.

Believe what they tell you and offer support.

More at: areyousafeathome.org.au



24 May

World Schizophrenia Awareness Day

The goal is to raise understanding and reduce stigma around schizophrenia. It's an opportunity to learn more, show support, and recognise the importance of compassion, inclusion, and access to the right supports for those affected.



26 May

National Sorry Day

It's a time to acknowledge the history and ongoing impact experienced by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and to reflect, listen, and recognise the importance of healing, understanding, and respect.

Congrats to Elena for completing her placement!

EI's journey is a great example of what's possible with the right support.

After a challenging year trying to secure a placement, she joined YAY Today and spent two months building real skills, confidence, and experience.

Through her dedication and passion for helping others, EI successfully passed her placement—an incredible achievement and an important step towards her goals in mental health.

👉 **Read the full story on our blog to learn more about EI's journey.**



Big News: YAY Today Featured on a Podcast!

Nicole recently joined the Mr Purple Podcast to share her personal journey and the story behind YAY Today. In the episode, she speaks about the passion and purpose driving our work, and how we support participants to build confidence, independence, and meaningful connections. It's an inspiring conversation that highlights what YAY Today is all about.

Click below to watch the full episode on YouTube.

