

The Big Event™

“Celebrating all things about Disability”

A National Disability Expo brought to you by the good folks at the Auckland Disability Providers Network Inc

This is a history making bulletin. It is to keep you informed about The Big Event™ that is coming your way in December 2011.

“The Big Event™” Disability Expo “a celebration of everything about disability, will be held at the ASB Showgrounds on December 2nd and 3rd, 2011. Planning has started and although you may say this is a long way out to be starting talking about this event we wanted to give you as much notice as possible.

The opportunity to display your service or your products will be limited. We are planning 61 stands only so space will be short. In addition to the product and service stands we will be hosting events by various disabled groups as well as competitions for the kids and live entertainment.

Our plan is to have TVNZ host it's breakfast show from the venue to coincide with the International Day of the Disabled which is on the 3rd of December 2011.

The Big Event™ will be launched by the Minister for Disability Issues whoever he or she will be at that time next year. The official launch will take place at a magnificent Breakfast held at the Showgrounds on the Friday morning. This event will be limited to the first 150 registrations and registering for this event will also get you a place at the closing event when various winners will be announced.

We are going to seek sponsorship for some stands to allow us the option of inviting some groups to attend who may not be in a position to afford to attend. We are looking for a cross section of service provider displays as well as a cross section of product suppliers.

Once we have our quota for a particular stream of disability we will close registrations for that stream.

The various stands have been priced on size as well as location. All those who have attended trade shows etc in the past will be well aware that some stand locations attract more visitors than others.

We do intend running trade show workshops during the year in 2011 to ensure that all parties taking a stand know how to maximise the opportunity that is before them. There are many tricks into running successful Event Stands. Just turning up with your tablecloth and brochures will not do it.

We want providers and suppliers who attend to be hugely successful *because* they attended. This is an opportunity in Auckland that has been a long time coming. If we are to host events like this in the future, it is essential that the people who book stands must be successful in achieving the goals they set themselves.

We are in the process of building our management team for The Big Event and would welcome help from anyone who thinks they may have skills that we could use.

In addition to people helping we are keen to hear from anyone who knows of a group of people i.e. a sports team or a team of musicians that you think people attending The Big Event™ may want to see or hear.

We intend to have competitions running in conjunction with schools for the disabled and will announce winners at the final event.

If any organisation is planning a Conference for 2011 you might consider hosting it around the dates for The Big Event™ This will ensure you can maximise the time of your conference attendees by having them attend the Expo as well.

I realise this first news bulletin may be a little light on specifics but the most important specific we need to get to you is the date: **December 2nd and 3rd, 2011.**

“The Big Event™”

Disability Expo

“Celebrating all things about Disability”

**ASB Events Centre
Greenlane**

December 2nd & 3rd, 2011

The date is firm everything else is negotiable.

Chris M Ross

Chairman