

Get Involved!

- JAN FEB 24-2** PEDAL FOR A PURPOSE
Melbourne - Adelaide
- MARCH 9** DISABILITY & AGEING EXPO
Mount Gambier
- MARCH 16** BEDFORD BIG BBQ
Morphettville Racecourse
- MARCH 30** CHARITY GOLF DAY
North Adelaide Golf Course



Thank you Deloitte

A big thank you to the Deloitte staff who volunteered for the day at Bedford for their staff Impact Day in November. The Deloitte team lent a hand in our packaging and catering areas at Panorama.

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Bedford acknowledges the valued support and funding from Federal, State and Local Governments in assisting the delivery of our services and programs.

Bedford is proudly supported by:



Pedal for a purpose

Follow the ride or pledge your support at pedalforapurpose.org.au

Thank you for your support

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Celebrating Achievement!

Bedford's 44th Achievement Awards, held in December, celebrated people with disability or disadvantage overcoming diverse challenges to realise their potential and make a positive contribution to the community.

The awards celebrations proved just what can be achieved with the right opportunities and support. Throughout the year 365 members of the Bedford community were nominated by their peers, culminating in the presentation of 63 awards at four celebrations across South Australia.

There are many facets to what achievement means - for Bedford employees, achievement might be working well as a team or contributing to a successful project. For day options members and residents, achievement may be taking part in a cooking program or learning valuable life skills to lead a more independent life. For others it may be overcoming challenges to complete a training program, learn to drive or start a new job.

Bedford is grateful to key event sponsor Maxima for their generous support of these important events. Congratulations to the many deserving award recipients!



Helen Smith & Sally Powell

Bedford's Heart and Soul

Helen Smith was selected from hundreds of Bedford employees across South Australia as the recipient of the prestigious Heart and Soul Award, Bedford's highest honour.

Helen began working at Bedford in 1970 as a member of the finance and administration team. In her 41 years, she has become known for her friendly demeanor and determination. Despite mobility issues, Helen continues to live on her own and drive to work daily.

Bedford Chief Executive Sally Powell said "Bedford changes lives and Helen is the perfect example of someone contributing positively to our organisation while using the services we provide as a platform for self-empowerment," she said.

"Helen has been an asset to Bedford since before I was born! That in itself is remarkable. We hope she's as proud of herself as we are of her."

A message from our Chairman

The board of Bedford is delighted to share Sally Powell's recent appointment to the position of Chief Executive. Sally is just the seventh Chief Executive in Bedford's 66 year history.

After a rigorous nationwide search, Sally was the stand-out candidate for the position. As you would expect for such a high-profile and important role, the process to find Bedford's new Chief Executive was a competitive one and we are thrilled to have made the appointment internally.

In her nine years with Bedford, Sally has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the organisation and a passion for providing positive outcomes for people with disability and disadvantage in South Australia.

Sally's stature in the disability sector and her relationships across numerous government bodies make her ideal for her new role. My board members and I have immense confidence in her ability to lead Bedford towards a long and successful future.



Colin Dunsford

Welcome Sally Powell as Bedford Chief Executive

Members of the Bedford community chat with Sally Powell, our new Chief Executive

I've worked here for forty years! When did you join Bedford?

Russell Curtis, packaging team



"My Bedford journey started in 2003. Before my appointment as Chief Executive, I was Executive Manager of Strategy and Organisation Development."

What are your plans for your first year as Chief Executive?

Faye Packham, Bedford Ambassador



"During my first board meeting in my new role we mapped out my goals for the next nine months. I'll be working with CareerSystems, our employment services team, to support more people with disadvantage across SA and potentially beyond. Organisational culture is also a key area - developing our people and culture is absolutely critical - with the right people in the right roles, there's nothing we can't achieve."

What do you like best about working at Bedford?

Marcella Smyth, Fundraising Coordinator



"Bedford supports such a wide range of people, so no two days are the same. It's fantastic to be part of an organisation which is committed to building a better South Australia - not to mention we have the best team around!"

What do you do outside of Bedford?

Angie Hendrikse, hospitality team



"I started boxing for fitness about a year ago and absolutely love it! I train twice a week - it's hard work but very satisfying. I also have a passion for travelling, art and I love to cook. I spend weekends in Queensland as often as possible to visit my gorgeous baby niece and when I'm home I hang out with my kitten."

If you didn't work at Bedford, what would you do?

John Hambly, CareerSystems client



"That's easy - Chief Executive of DreamWorks Animation!"

How would you describe yourself in three words?

Sammie McTeare, training participant



"Driven, passionate and understanding."

If you have any questions or just want to get to know Sally better, you can email her at spowell@bedfordgroup.com.au or follow her on twitter - @SallyJPowell



Bedford Chief Executive Sally Powell

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INCREDIBLE SUPPORT

Bedford is a not for profit organisation and we rely on the generous support of people like you to help people like Anthony, Ekayla and Kerryn do something life changing.

Thanks to caring and generous supporters like you, Bedford can provide life changing opportunities to people with disability or disadvantage. It is an impossible task without your ongoing help. If you would like to find out more about Bedford or maybe take a tour to see first-hand the difference your donation has made, please contact us on (08) 8275 0211 or visit bedfordgroup.com.au



Mary's Story

Our son Anthony is one of the people your donation has helped. He has been employed at Bedford for over 10 years and has thrived.

We're really proud of his achievements. We are very grateful for the support of people like you which has enabled Anthony to believe in himself. As you may understand, life hasn't always been easy for Anthony. Looking at him today it is hard to remember the confused and timid little boy who was always struggling at school, always unwell, countless specialist appointments and enduring such a tough time. He has always fought hard but we needed to find a place where he was accepted for who he was and where he would be safe and happy.

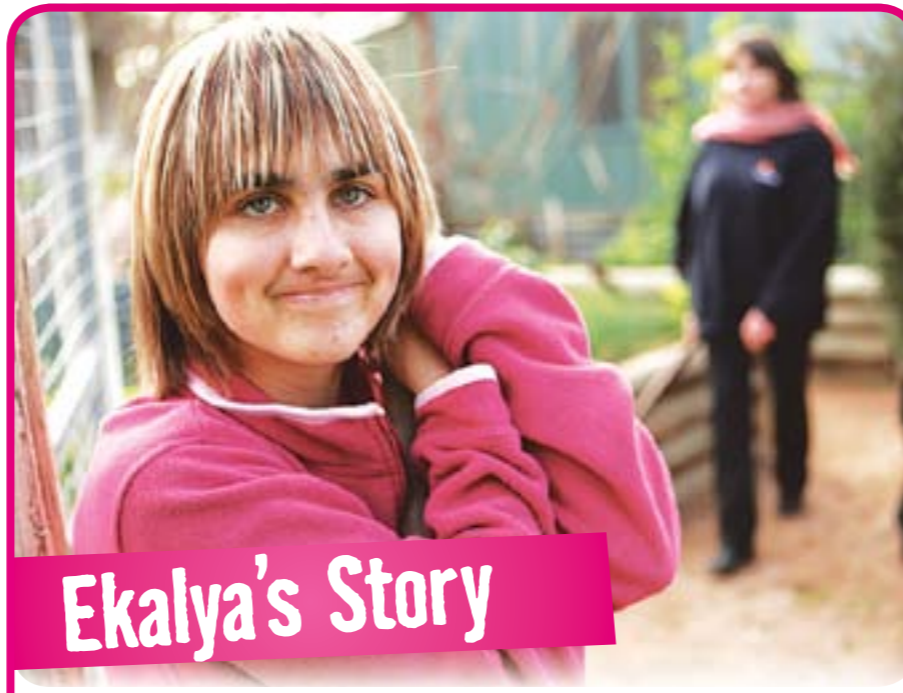
That's where Bedford and supporters like you came in and made the world of difference to his life - Anthony has become an independent, brave and confident young man with a whole range of skills, great friends and has hope for a positive and happy future.

Anthony is now living independently in a house provided by Bedford. He is so fortunate to have the support of many amazing staff at Bedford; they have helped him achieve so much. We know they are only able to do this because you in turn are supporting Bedford and we sincerely thank you.

Thank you so much for being there for us when we needed help and I ask that you please act now and be there for other families who so desperately need the support we have received from Bedford.

Mary Dunton

Watch Mary and Anthony on Bedford's YouTube channel - youtube.com/ThisIsBedfordGroup



Ekayla's Story

Ekayla turns 25 this year. Like most young people, Ekayla wants to be independent and to make a better future for herself.

However, Ekayla has an intellectual disability, which makes achieving these goals potentially much more difficult. Ekayla also lives in regional South Australia where services to help her develop the necessary skills are not always available.

Fortunately Ekayla was able to join Bedford's day options program after finishing school. The program offers a variety of recreational and developmental activities across South Australia for people with moderate to high support needs who are not ready or are unable to enter the work force.

Since joining the program Ekayla has gone from strength to strength. She is focusing on building social skills, working as part of a team, making choices, understanding money management, learning how to shop and other life skill development activities.

Attending the Wallaroo program means Ekayla has maintained existing friendships from school and the local community. For Ekayla this aspect of the program is of great importance. To be surrounded by people Ekayla knows and who understand her well, means every achievement is acknowledged and celebrated with friends and family every day!

Your support means Ekayla and her friends have the opportunity to achieve their potential - today, tomorrow and for the rest of their lives.

Read more heartwarming stories on our website, bedfordgroup.com.au



Kerryn's Story

Did you know Bedford runs training programs from community centres across SA? Accredited training courses include certificates in Business, Community Services, Language, Literature & Numeracy, Training & Assessment to name a few. Kerryn Tansell recently completed two Bedford training courses at her local community centre as part of her plan to pursue a career in youth work. Kerryn shares her journey...

"About a year ago I decided I needed a career change. I was interested in youth work and luckily I heard about a course that was being run at Taperoo Community Centre by Bedford - Certificate II in Community Services.

I was a little bit apprehensive but I came down and met the trainer Trish - she was very inspiring and helped me feel comfortable to begin the course.

I completed the course and was eager to keep learning. Trish suggested I go on to take part in a Training & Assessment course - and at the same time I picked up four voluntary positions!

It's amazing to think that in just over a year, I've completed two accredited training positions and now secured a full-time job as a youth support worker with Baptist Care SA. I really love my role - it's exactly where I want to be. If I can inspire anyone else to fulfil their ambitions, I suggest finding something you're passionate about, upskill yourself, do your homework and take part in voluntary work. If I can do it, you can too!"

Watch Kerryn talk about her inspirational journey on our YouTube channel - youtube.com/ThisIsBedfordGroup

New Pathways for Early School Leavers



Teenagers who leave school early are no longer prevented from finding employment. The community employment services division of Bedford, CareerSystems, develops personalised plans for young job seekers with disadvantage or disability to assist them to gain access to sustainable employment.

Bedford is encouraging more South Australians in a similar position to seek help to enter the workforce. There are many teenagers with physical, socio-economic or psychological difficulties for who find school was not the right path, but are highly capable and need support to recognise their strengths and have their goals taken seriously.

Eighteen-year old Cameron Clark is one of many young South Australians to have found sustainable employment thanks to CareerSystems. After leaving school at Year 11, significant health problems and lack of funding to obtain his driver's licence prevented Cameron from finding a job – but through counseling and support with CareerSystems, Cameron is now on his way to achieving his dream job in the mining industry.

In May 2011, CareerSystems sourced funding and training assistance that enabled Cameron to obtain his P plates. He was also provided with new work clothes and entered a training program in conjunction with McMahons that included work experience at a construction site in the CBD, education to obtain a forklift licence, traffic management ticket and bobcat ticket.

Cameron has now started paid employment with McMahons and is now discussing the prospect of a position in the mining industry interstate once his current contract is complete.

“I am very happy with the opportunity I've been given with McMahons,” Cameron said. “I love my job! I feel really good about myself.”

All it took was for someone to listen to Cameron's needs and goals. It is great to see him building confidence and excited about his future!



Cameron Clark

Luke Hemer - Messenger Community News.

For more information visit careersystems.com.au or call 1300 300 023

or visit [facebook.com/CareerSystems](https://www.facebook.com/CareerSystems)



Team Smallacombe prepare for ride of a lifetime for people with disability

Thanks to the determination of real estate professionals Smallacombe, 15 cycling enthusiasts are preparing for the bike ride of a lifetime this month – Pedal for a Purpose.

On 24 January, the team organised by the Smallacombe group will cycle 1,079 kilometres over nine days along the Great Ocean Road from Melbourne to Adelaide. Every dollar raised through Pedal for a Purpose will help to fund Bedford's supported accommodation and housing options projects.

Living independently is one of

the biggest goals for people with disability, but it can be very difficult to find a home and develop the life skills required to cope with the responsibilities that accompany it. Pedal for a Purpose is going to be a grueling task for this group

“The more money the team is able to raise, the bigger the projects for Bedford will be”

of amateur riders, but one that has the potential to change the lives of people with disability.

David Smallacombe, Managing Director and Founder of Smallacombe Real Estate said “The more money the team is able to raise, the bigger the projects for Bedford will be. We hope the South Australian community gets behind them in their efforts over the coming months.”

You can follow the Pedal for a Purpose journey or pledge your support at

pedalforapurpose.org.au



Bedford breathing new life into Scholars Cafe

Bedford is extending its reputation as a leader in catering services thanks to a new partnership with another iconic Adelaide charity. Bedford has teamed up with the Can:Do Group at Townsend House in Hove to operate Scholars Cafe at Can:Do's Townsend Park Lifestyle Estate; using its experience in hospitality to breathe new life into the business.

Following an official opening ceremony in November, Bedford has been providing daily food and beverage services to 170 residents and staff at the retirement community and within the Can:Do4Kids - Townsend House headquarters.

