

Innovative Practise

Speaker: Stanley Bawden

Organisation: The Living Link

Country: South Africa







Mission Statement

At The Living Link we promise to continuously develop and enhance the potential of intellectually disabled adults.

Our aim is to allow them the opportunity for full integration and equal participation in the mainstream of our society so as to improve the quality of their lives.

We strive to facilitate growth and change by empowering our members, their support network and the community and by creating an environment of understanding, acceptance and possibility.

Vision

To make the biggest positive impact possible in the lives of intellectually disabled young adults in a sustainable manner



The Living Link Values

Courage

Courage does not always roar. Sometimes courage is the quiet voice at the end of the day saying “I will try again tomorrow”.

Passion

At The Living Link we are passionate about enhancing the lives of intellectually disabled young adults through life skill development and the potential opportunity of working in mainstream society.

Family

Together acting as a family we will achieve more than many give us credit for.

Empowering

Knowledge is power as Sir Francis Bacon once said. The knowledge gained through the adult life skill training programme empowers the intellectually disabled adults to realise opportunities and achieve their hopes and dreams.

Honesty and Integrity

At The Living Link we will engage with each other, the parents and young adults honestly and with integrity to ensure an environment of trust and respect is always maintained.



1 Year Adult Integration Programme Outline

- Screening assessment with an OT to determine course suitability
- Life skills and work readiness training at The Living Link Training Center (6 months)
 - Personal Empowerment
 - Lifestyle Management
 - Community Survival
 - Employment Orientation
- Job Sampling at EY and Dis-Chem (5 months)





1 Year Adult Integration Programme Outline



- Work Assessment during job sampling
- Real KPI feedback whilst on the job
- Regular parent feedback – written and meetings
- Independent living tour takes place at Forever Resorts Loskop dam
- Graduation and Gala Dinner





8 Month Work Readiness Programme Outline

- Screening assessment with an OT to determine course suitability
- Life skills and work readiness training at The Living Link Training Center (3 months)

- Personal Empowerment
- Lifestyle Management
- Employment Readiness
- Financial Management



- Job Sampling – Dis-Chem(5 months)



8 Month Work Readiness Programme Outline



- Work Assessment during job sampling
- Real KPI feedback whilst on the job
- Regular parent feedback – written and meetings
- Graduation & Gala Dinner





The Living Link 2nd phase membership - Employment

- Supported Employment Model – Job Coaching and Job Training
- Employer education
- The Gap
- Permanent employment
- Other contract employment
- Voluntary employment





Employers

International

- Barclays Absa Capital
- Netcare Hospitals
- Compass Group
- McDonalds
- Alexander Forbes



National

- The Garden Shop
- UPD
- Hollard
- H2O
- Orico
- Dis-Chem
- Self Employment





Other External Training

- Employment of People With Disabilities Training Product - Organisations
- Work Place Refresher Course – Graduated Living Link Students and Other External Organisations Requiring Training





Continuous Sustainability

- Skills Development
- Employment
- Poverty Alleviation
- Socio Economic Development
- Reduction in draw and reliance on government social grants
- Independent Living
- Peace of mind for parents, guardians and caregivers



Every child is gifted. They just unwrap their packages at different times – unknown author





Contact Details:

Telephone: +27 11 788 8249

Cel: +27 83 992 9923

Email: stanley@thelivinglink.co.za

Web: www.thelivinglink.co.za