

## QUARTERLY UPDATE – JUNE 2018

With activities ranging from basketball to [bowling](#), and [diving](#) to [dance](#), 2018 has been a busy year for All Abilities. The first half of 2018 has showcased over 60 events, with more than half taking place in April-June.



Thank you to all of our amazing supporters, coaches and volunteers!

### EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

- Representatives of the Jewish Disability Network (JDN) recently facilitated a session at [Limmud Oz Melbourne](#). With a range of panellists, all with different lived experience of disability, they shared their personal stories around employment, volunteering and community involvement. We also showed the video that was created for our 2017 International Day of People with a Disability. If you haven't seen it or would like to see it again, you can view it [here](#).

A huge thank you to our panellists and facilitators:

Belle Polgar	Josh Ferenbach
Rabbi Ronnie Figdor	Rebecca Better
Shari Cohen	Tamara Henschel
Tony Fell	Uri Rosenberg



You Could Ask Us Anything at the JDN's Limmud Oz panel

- Inclusion coordinator Shari was recently asked to speak at [Glen Eira's Volunteer Recognition evening](#). We recognise that volunteers are an integral part of not only Maccabi, but of any community organisation. To all volunteers we say: "...as organisations, we owe you

*more than just thanks. We owe you respect, and support and acknowledgement of the fact that every time you volunteer you're making a statement about the kind of community you want to be a part of, and the kind of world you want to live in."*

### PROGRAMS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- Our **regular programs** of basketball, swimming and Shmooze and Groove have continued this quarter, along with some special activities and events.
- Maccabi All Abilities, Access Inc and Jewish Care partnered to run a 5 week [dance program](#) this quarter. Our members loved having a chance to show off their hip hop skills, Zumba moves and musicality.



Getting into the dancing spirit

- 17 members from All Abilities, Jewish Care and Access Inc. recently went [bowling](#). Everyone had a great afternoon working towards strikes, spares or just trying to stay away from the gutter!



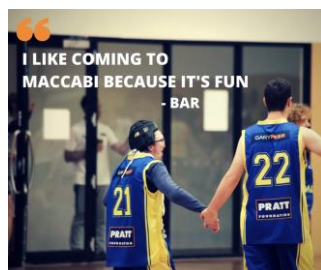
Testing our bowling skills

- Whilst our members often have many activities to choose from on Sundays, we are aware that there are a lack of options on Saturday nights. We therefore trialled running an [inaugural games night](#) to give our members a chance to socialise, exercise their minds and have some fun. Thank you to Sigal from Glaze It Studios for donating the space.

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### ADMINISTRATION, FUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT

- We have been successful in securing **some extra funding and support** from the Department of Sport and Recreation to support the participation of people with autism in our programs. They have been especially keen to support greater participation and upskilling of coaches for our swimming program.
- Abbie recently finished her [placement](#) with us for her health promotion degree. We would like to say a huge thank you to Abbie for all her assistance with social media and communication ideas.



A sample of the images created by Abbie during her placement

- Maccabi Victoria recently undertook another highly successful [Charidy](#) campaign. We are very grateful to the whole community who came together to support Maccabi, and especially those who directed their donations towards All Abilities – we couldn't do what we do without you!
- We have been in our **new office** for almost 3 months and it's great to have a ground floor (accessible!) space with lots of natural light. It's also been great to have so many people drop in to say hi.

### COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

- We play an active role in the **Victorian Disability Sport and Recreation Organisations Committee**. In the lead up to the election, the committee has been focussed on creating a collaborative approach to the government based on what we feel is required to improve supports for disability sport.

- The **Jewish Disability Network** is working to develop further opportunities for community advocacy and education with a focus on community integration for people with a disability. The range of organisations involved means we have a broader reach and a more in-depth knowledge base to tap into.
- We have started exploring additional opportunities under the NDIS, and are looking into the possibility of applying for **ILC funding** when it rolls out in Victoria. ILC funding aims to assist mainstream organisations with activities and programs which support information, linkages and capacity building.

### WHAT'S NEXT?

- Planning for **term 3** is underway. Our calendar will include a mix of both our regular favourite programs and some new activities.
- We are working on developing a **collaborative project** between Access Inc., Maccabi All Abilities and one or more of the Maccabi Victoria mainstream clubs.
- The Jewish Disability Network is planning for **International Day of People with a Disability** by exploring opportunities for community involvement and education.



Fun at some of our regular programs

#### For further information or to get involved please contact:

Shari Cohen (All Abilities Inclusion Coordinator)

P: 03 9563 5885 | M: 0405 619 219

E: [allabilities@macvic.com.au](mailto:allabilities@macvic.com.au)

#### Stay up to date with Maccabi Victoria All Abilities:

- **Website:** <http://www.maccabi.com.au/VIC/All-Abilities>
- **Facebook:** maccabivictoriaallabilities
- **Sign up to our newsletter:** via our Facebook page