

Adventure Camp Esperance 2017 "Exploring Possibilities"

at the Esperance Anglican Community School (EACS) Boarding House Hosted by the Rotary Clubs of Esperance, District 9465

Thank you for your interest in *Adventure Camp Esperance 2017* (ACE). *ACE* is being hosted by the Rotary Club of Esperance Bay and the Rotary Club of Esperance from Sunday 16 April to Saturday 22 April 2017.

If you are not familiar with Rotary, the Clubs form part of the worldwide organisation of Rotary Clubs known as Rotary International. We are 1.2 million neighbours, friends, and community leaders who come together to create positive, lasting change in our communities and around the world. We achieve this through regular fundraising activities, personal contributions and by partnering with other organisations whereby the funds raised are contributed back to our local community and other projects across Australia and internationally.

What it's about:

ACE 2017 is a six day/seven night camp for young adults with disabilities (Campers) from the Esperance Region. Adventure Camp will provide fun, challenge and social interaction for camp Campers, and importantly also provide respite for the parents or primary carers of the Campers.

The aim of *ACE* is challenge our Campers to move out of their comfort zone. For some this will simply be being in a new environment for an extended period. For others it will be in participating in new activities, or making new friends in the community.

We hope to help build confidence and self esteem in our participants; provide activities that they may not have had the opportunity to try before – and hopefully to provide an opportunity for future involvement in these activities that are available for all members of our community.

The role of the Camp Friend (Carer):

Each of our Campers will be allocated a Camp Friend (or Carer) for the duration of the Camp. The Camp Friends, like the Campers, will be full time, 24/7 and stay in the same facility as the Campers.

Our camp venue, Esperance Anglican Community School has a modern boarding facility with single and twin room accommodation. Rooms will be allocated based on the support needs of the Campers at the discretion of our experienced Camp Coordinator.

Your role as a Camp Friend is to provide support and friendship to your allocated Camper. This Camper may be someone you know in the community, someone you have worked with before, or someone new. You will need to ensure that you and your Camper mix with the other Campers/Friends, and the many volunteers involved in the Camp.

We want you to encourage your Camper to participate in all the activities, push themselves a little and be proud of their achievements. At the same time, we want you to experience all that camp has to offer. For some of our Camp Friends, supporting someone with a disability may be a new experience. For others it may be a regular or familiar activity. Adventure Camp is all about extending the hand of friendship and supporting each other.

If you have any special talents, such as music, dance, theatre or art, we'd love you to get really involved in some of the activities as this will engage our Campers even more.

Activities:

There will be different activities organised for each day of the Camp. The majority of these will be 'offsite' and all participants will be transported to and from activities. We anticipate having a range of challenging activities, which may include fishing, boating, sandboarding, farming and sports activities as well as other activities such as craft, music, movies and dance. Activities will be conducted throughout the day and there will also be evening activities.

Camp management:

The Rotary Clubs have past experience in managing similar camps and we have engaged an experienced Camp Coordinator.

Rotarians will be on hand in numbers each day to manage safety, transport and logistics, catering and to assist with activities. In addition there will be numerous community volunteers supporting the activities being undertaken.

All activities will undergo a risk management process and a designated safety officer will be on hand throughout the Camp.

Camp catering:

The majority of catering will be done in house in the EACS kitchen facilities. The designated Camp Caterer will work with a team of volunteers to ensure meals are nutritious and varied. On most days, morning and afternoon tea and lunches will be transported to the site of the activity. We will do our best to cater for specific dietary requirements; however these must be advised to us on the nomination form.

Please note this is an alcohol and drug free camp (with the exception of prescribed medication).

Cost of camp:

There is no cost for Camp Friend or Carers. We look forward to welcoming you at *Adventure Camp Esperance 2017.*

If you have any questions, please contact Lee Mackin on 0427 721 006 or email landjmackin@westnet.com.au