

COVID-19 and the work of the Trust

As you are aware, this year New Zealand and the World has been rocked by the Covid-19 virus. For many people, including our members, the virus has meant a time of isolation and uncertainty. Thankfully New Zealand has now moved past the crisis of the pandemic to focus on our recovery together as a nation.

How did PASAT respond?

On Wednesday 18th March we wrote to you advising that our Advocates and SAFA Coordinators would temporarily stop visiting with their members for a period of at least six weeks. Ultimately this period of restricted visiting lasted eight weeks. This announcement was made one full week prior to the country entering Alert Level Four lockdown. We did this in recognition of the heightened vulnerability to illness and disease our membership experience, and the risk of Advocates and SAFA Coordinators spreading the virus in visiting multiple homes.

Though not able to visit in person, during this time Advocates and SAFA Coordinators regularly contacted their members and their members' family, friends, and other supporters. They did this by phone, email and mail to stay connected and provide support. We have had positive feedback about this outreach during the pandemic.

What is PASAT doing now?

On Thursday 14th May after New Zealand had moved to Alert Level Two, PASAT resumed visiting in person with its members. This was subject to any policies or requirements of residential homes or support providers. To keep our members and our staff safe, our Advocates and SAFA Coordinators have:

- maintained contact tracing registers
- practice strict personal hygiene and hand washing
- observe physical distancing, and
- have worn masks when visiting members if physical distancing is not able to be achieved.

Now that New Zealand has moved to Alert Level One, some of these measures will be relaxed, though our focus on safety, health, and improving our advocacy support will continue.

We would like you to be part of the conversation – if you have any comments or suggestions regarding Covid-19 and PASAT Advocacy or Safeguarding Adult Support, please get in touch at advocacy@PASAT.org.nz or call 0800 728 7878.

You are Invited! AGM 1 July 2020

The Personal Advocacy and Safeguarding Adults Trust will be holding its 2020 Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 1st July 2020.

When: 2.00pm – 2.30pm,
Wednesday 1 July 2020
Where: Miramar Links, 1 Stuart
Duff Drive Miramar
Wellington OR online
via Zoom
videoconferencing

Please RSVP by Friday 26th June 2020 to 0800 728 7878 or advocacy@PASAT.org.nz



ODI Disability Community Survey

Throughout the lockdown the Office for Disability Issues conducted a weekly survey to understand how disabled people experienced the pandemic, and identify risks and issues that they may face as a result. This information has been summarized and is available at www.odi.govt.nz

New Enrolment Fee Payment Options

The Personal Advocacy and Safeguarding Adults Trust aims to be able to advocate for and support every New Zealander who needs it.

To do this, we accept a variety of ways to pay the enrolment fee. This includes payment in lump sum or by installment over a period of up to ten years. We also accept deferred payment through a Testamentary Will.

Enrolling families will now also have the option of choosing to pay the Enrolment Fee through the establishment of a Discretionary Trust for their family member.

How will this work?

1. PASAT would be appointed as the administrators and Trustees of a Discretionary Trust in the name of the prospective member of the Trust. This could be established at any time, including through a Testamentary Will after the death of parents.
2. PASAT will administer the Discretionary Trust to provide for the health, wellbeing, and comfort of the enrolled member, as dictated by the Trust's Deed or Letter of Wishes.
3. PASAT will withdraw advocacy support fees on an annual basis from the member's Discretionary Trust. This will be according to the support level agreed to by the family at the time the Discretionary Trust is created.
4. Through their Discretionary Trusts, families will therefore only pay PASAT for advocacy support actually delivered annually, and not a lifetime fee.

A lifetime enrolment fee will also continue to be a payment option.



What is Safeguarding Adults From Abuse?

In late 2018 The Personal Advocacy Trust partnered with The Safeguarding Adults From Abuse (SAFA) Collective to further our shared vision. In April 2019 we changed the name of the organisation to The Personal Advocacy and Safeguarding Adults Trust and started providing SAFA services.

Safeguarding Adults From Abuse or SAFA, is a service that is funded and delivered independent of our Advocacy service. SAFA provides person directed and whanau centred support and coordination for adults that have care and support needs and have experienced harm, abuse or neglect. This means that the SAFA Coordinator works with the person, their whanau, supporters and other agencies to make and carry out a plan to ensure the person's ongoing safety and wellbeing.

PASAT has received funding from Foundation North, IHC Foundation, and the Lotteries Commission for this work in Auckland and Taranaki.

We don't yet have funding to employ a SAFA Coordinator in every part of the Country yet, but we aim to expand this service in the near future.



Do we have the right contact information for you? Do you prefer email? To update your or your family members' details or mail preferences please get in touch:

- administrator@PASAT.org.nz
- 0800 728 7878
- PO Box 25118, Wellington 6146