

# Voices @ Work



**A pilot project supporting  
voice hearers to get work.**

*A project of Richmond Fellowship Western Australia*



Presented by:

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**Project Manager: Voices @ Work  
&  
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# What is 'Voices @ Work' ?

- 18 month pilot project, funded by Lotterywest
- 25 people
- Intended to support voice hearers to get work
- Being worked in partnership with employment service providers
- Primarily an education and training project, with an additional support group component.



# Eligibility

- Unemployed and/or on a Disability Support Pension
- Hearing voices
- Seeking employment
- Registered with an employment agency or willing to join one
- Living in the Perth metropolitan area or in the Bunbury region.



# Three objectives:

## Objective 1.

To provide Hearing Voices education to Voices@Work clients, their families/carers, employment service providers and selected employers.



## Objective 2.

To support voice hearers seeking to engage with the employment process in order to obtain and sustain employment.



## Objective 3.

Engage with key people from employment services and support agencies as mutual allies to support voice hearers in the process of engaging with employment.



# Voices@Work provides:

- Access to Hearing Voices training and education at no charge for voice hearers, their key support people (family members or key worker/case manager), employment agencies and selected employers.
- A unique opportunity for voice hearers to gain new understanding and skills that may thus enable them to engage with employment through reducing the barrier their voices have been presenting.





## Focus of Hearing Voices education:

- ✧ Accepting that voices and visions are real
- ✧ Normalising these experiences
- ✧ Respects expertise of 'experts by experience'
- ✧ Ordinary non-professionalised language
- ✧ Encourages an ethos of self-determination



# 3 phases of voice hearing

1. Startling phase
2. Organisational phase
3. Stabilisation phase



## Working with Voices

The aim is to assist people to make sense of their voices and thus find their own way to the *Organisational Phase* and, ultimately, to the *Stabilisation Phase*.



# Voices @ Work in partnership

- with atWork Australia
- however are also accepting Expressions of Interest from people registered with other employment service providers.



# Want more information?

1. Workshop tomorrow:
  - ✧ Process of making a concept real
  - ✧ Idea, planning, process & tool development,
  - ✧ Going 'live' – current status of project.



# More information...

## 2. RFWA website

- ✧ [www.rfwa.org.au](http://www.rfwa.org.au)
- ✧ Select 'Programs' tab, then 'Voices @ Work'
- ✧ Brochure and Expression of Interest form downloadable (at the end of the project information).



# More information:

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Questions??