



# SPECIAL NEEDS NETWORK

National Association Networking for the Special Needs of the Individual

TEL: +264 61 224562 / FAX: +264 61 228255

email: [autnam@iway.na](mailto:autnam@iway.na)

365 SAM NUJOMA DR

PO BOX 11606

WINDHOEK

NAMIBIA

## INFORMATION ON SPECIAL NEEDS NETWORK

### Aims:

- To reach out and form a network between parents and professionals in the field of disability.
- To function as a support organisation.
- To facilitate intervention programmes and assistance in mainstream and other educational settings as required, tailored to the person's needs.
- To assist in setting up relevant programmes for young children, adolescents and adults.
- To facilitate the training of parents and professionals in disability issues, alternative communication methods, behaviour issues.
- To function as a resource for specific assistance in various disabilities, sibling support, etc., eg: Autism Programme; Facilitated Communication Methods; Down's Syndrome.
- To set up outreach projects in various communities and towns as requested.
- To set up and facilitate relevant intervention-, educational-, life skills- or other centres.
- To raise awareness and lobby for the rights of children, adolescents and adults with a disability, so as to ensure an optimum quality of life for the individual.
- To build up and maintain a resource database of available organisations, schools and centres in Namibia and elsewhere.

### The above will be achieved through the following broadly defined activities:

- 1 Purchase of a property to function as Multi-purpose Resource and Training Centre;
- 2 Service & Project Development, Co-ordination and Fundraising for Projects;
- 3 Early Intervention, School- and Transition Adolescent Services;
- 4 Adult Services, including Sheltered Workshop & Job Coaching;
- 5 Structured programmes and training iro Autism Spectrum Disorders & PDD-NOS;
- 6 Alternative & Augmentative Communication training, methods and equipment;
- 7 Library & Resources, Newsletter & Networking, incl. collaboration with tertiary institutions and Government;
- 8 Training for Families, School Assistants, Teachers & Professionals;
- 9 Research regarding Disability Issues in the Namibian Context.

### Current News:

For any assistance, visit, chat or want to borrow a book, please phone for an appointment, as we do not have staff, but volunteers at this stage.

Special Needs Network support group has been functioning for over 10 years. We are in the process of finalising our constitution and applying for a WO (Welfare Organisation) number with the Ministry of Health and Social Services.

Please contact us for dates and titles of the next workshops, or for membership forms. (Amongst other privileges, members may attend selected workshops at a discount.)

## ONLY TOGETHER WILL WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Focus Areas:	<b>Purchase and Development of Property</b> as Multi-purpose Resource and Training Centre; <b>Early Intervention</b> , School- and Transition Adolescent Services; <b>Adult Services</b> , including Sheltered Workshop & Job Coaching; <b>Autism Spectrum Disorders</b> ; <b>Alternative &amp; Augmentative Communication</b> ; <b>Library &amp; Resources, Newsletter &amp; Networking</b> ; <b>Training</b> for Families, School Assistants, Teachers & Professionals; <b>Support</b> for Specific Disabilities and Organisations
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