Respite Day Programs
Information Pack

BENETOOK CHOKS

Helping lay the foundation in our community

1022 Benetook Ave, Mildura. Vic 3500
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Benetook Chooks
1022 Benetook Avenue,
Mildura,

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WHAT IS BENETOOKS CHOOKS?
SRS Benetook Chooks and Cottage Industries is an exciting training and respite project that offers a variety of educational and fun day programs for local people with registered disabilities. Benetook Chooks incorporates ten acres for the purpose of farming poultry, fruit and vegetables plus operating an array of art, craft and woodwork programs, that are run from the farms cottage and sheds. All programs are run by qualified, enthusiastic staff that possess a passion to share their skills and knowledge. The farm is located at 1022 Benetook Ave, Mildura.

Clients can choose to be involved in many different aspects of running the farm like; animal care, egg collection, sorting and packing eggs, growing and harvesting fresh produce, sales and delivery, and direct sales in the farms shop. The Cottage Industries programs focus on each clients interests and needs while empowering each individual to achieve their best and learn new skills.

OBJECTIVES
The emphasis of Benetook Chooks and Cottage Industries day programs is to provide training towards employment and meaningful activities for people with disabilities in the Mallee region.

The social enterprise aspects of this project involve linking people with disabilities with the wider community through the marketing, production and sale of healthy and sustainably produced food and their creative cottage articles. Collectively these outcomes provide benefits to the wider community in the support of healthy eating, localism in food supply, ethical production, and social inclusion.

BENEFITS
We focus on each client being able to making new friends, learning new skills, developing self-confidence and having fun. Clients are taught a variety of skills, techniques and given the chance to experiment in a safe environment. We offer the prospect for clients to undertake a formal traineeships or qualifications, if desired.

At SRS we believe that our Benetook Chooks Farm and Cottage Industries programs offer exciting opportunities for people with disabilities to benefit in meaningful activities. It has been demonstrated that for people with disabilities there are real social, physical and mental health benefits in meaningful activities with training towards employment.

Email srs@srsinc.com.au
PROGRAMS PROVIDED

Arts
The Arts program we provide gives clients the chance to express themselves, develop new skills and exploring their artistic potential through painting, drawing, sculpture, mosaic, collage, printing and multimedia. They are encouraged to create and celebrate art.
Each term there is an occasion we provide for clients to attend an excursion to local galleries and view other art works up close and speak to other artists about their work. This inspiring experience encourages clients to talk about what they see, what they like and express what they would like to learn more about.
All clients are given the opportunity to display their art pieces for the wider community to see through exhibitions, Mildura Show and at our studios in Benetook Avenue.

Crafts
The Crafts programs have been set up for clients to produce wares that are then sold to the wider community. Some of the programs that are being offered for clients to work in are to make soaps, cards, jewelry, textiles/sewing and flower arrangement. The future focus is to expand our programs and be able to offer a wide array of handcrafts to be produced.

Gardening
Working in our garden offers many benefits to clients of all ages including socialization, connecting with nature, physical activity and learning new skills. At our farm we offer the opportunity for clients to actively be involved in a huge range of gardening activities like: Propagating plants, raise seedlings, composting, watering, weeding, pruning, transplanting, crop rotation, companion planting and topiary. People of all skill levels can learn to grow and care for plants, our garden beds and work areas are designed to cater for a variety of disabilities.

Jack of all Trades
Dabbling in a little bit of this and that – mixed with a bit of fun! SRS has an exciting new range of training and mentoring initiatives across a wide range of activities.
Day trips – out and about in Sunraysia – transport included
Training in handy jobs – restoring, revamping & refurbishing
Hands on learning – all aspects of home gardening and maintenance
Landscaping & greenhouses
Learn about caring for animals and running a hobby farm
Painting like a pro – interiors, exteriors and everything else
Relocation and set up of furniture
Opportunity to undertake a formal traineeship or qualification if desired.

Woodwork
The woodwork program SRS offers gives clients the opportunity to gain skills in restoring old furniture and producing small wooden projects like; bird houses, chopping boards, and trays. Clients are guided step by step through each project to help them learn new skills. These items they produced will be sold on site to tourists and the wider community.

www.srsinc.com.au
TRANSPORT
SRS provides pick up from and drop of for clients within a designated Mildura area. Refer to map.

TRAINING
At SRS we endeavor to offer a broad range of training opportunities through a variety of certificates and traineeship programs that can be tailor made for individual requirements. Following are a few of the programs on offer:

- Certificate II - Horticulture
- Certificate II - Agriculture
- Certificate II - Retail
- Certificate II - Poultry Production Operations
- Certificate III - Poultry Production Operations
- Certificate II - Irrigation
- Certificate II - Business
- Certificate in Food safety
WHAT TO BRING TO BENETOOK CHOOKS DAY PROGRAMS.

What to bring:
- Own lunch and snacks for the day.
- Drink
- Appropriate clothing
- Sunscreen
- Enclosed shoes
- Hat for outdoor activities.

ENROLMENT

There are three simple steps to being enrolled:

1. All NEW referrals for SRS Benetook Chooks and Cottage Industries Programs need to contact SRS Consulting Suite at 877 Fifteenth Street, phone: [03] 50 22 1741 or email srs@srsinc.com.au
2. Visit Benetook Chooks Farm and Cottage Industries facilities to see what you can be involved in.
3. Make an appointment with the Cottage Industries Coordinator who can discuss with your or your family in detail the variety of options that would best suit your individual requirements.

FEES AND CHARGES

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<tr>
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<th>1. With a DHS FFYA, ISP or SNA funding allocation range Level 1 to Level TTE 5+</th>
<th>2. Without a DHS FFYA, ISP or SNA funding allocation supported in group activities</th>
<th>3. Transport</th>
<th>5. Program costs</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hourly Fees</td>
<td>$8.00</td>
<td>$0</td>
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<td>Daily Fees [5 hours]</td>
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<td>Weekly Fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual allocation</td>
<td>Refer to your DHS allocation</td>
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DHS FFYA, ISP or SNA funding allocations – Futures for Young Adults (FFYA), Individual Support Package (ISP) or Service Needs Assessment (SNA) level is set and assessed by the Department of Human Services depending on your needs. SRS accepts the level as assessed to cover your support needs while attending our program.

If you do not have DHS FFYA, ISP or SNA funding; If you are not registered with DHS; or not sure of your package, SRS will assist you to get this sorted. For people who are ineligible to receive DHS support the fees as presented will be charged providing your support needs do not require intense support and supervision.

Transport fee is set for the designated pick up and drop off locations as outlined on page 3.

Program Cost will not be charged unless there is a special excursion or activity. When this occurs a flyer will be provided outlining the costs.

VOLUNTEERS.

Volunteers are welcome and encouraged to join SRS. Tell us your interests and what you would like to share and we will match your skills with our clients needs.

Support and training will be provided and all Volunteers are required to undertake a Police Check and a Working with Children Check. Days and times are negotiable - any amount given is valuable to SRS.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or would like more information, please contact SRS Consulting Suite at 877 Fifteenth Street, phone: [03] 50 22 1741 or email srs@srsinc.com.au

SRS thank DHS for their financial contribution towards the exciting new programs offered.

Phone 03 5022 1741