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Issue #12



Welcome!

In this edition of Care and Connect, join the Short Breaks for Carers conference, sign up for our new newsletter, and read an update about Mecoco, a social enterprise based in North Ayrshire. Send your feedback to communications@sensescotland.org.uk.

In this issue...

- Join the Short Breaks for Carers National Conference
- Sign up to Touching Base
- Learn about our Learning Hub
- Read an update from Mecoco
- Find out about our upcoming events

Short Breaks for Carers

Alongside Quarriers and Shared Care Scotland, we will be co-hosting the Short Breaks for Carers: Capacity & Sustainability conference on Tuesday, 18 April 2023, in Govan. This conference will explore how we can ensure that there is sufficient high-quality short break capacity in Scotland to meet carers' needs.

We are looking for participation from carers to identify a route map supporting the development of high-quality services. Find out more about the conference and book your ticket via Eventbrite at bit.ly/3ZStnY0.

Touching Base

We are excited to announce *Touching Base*, our online newsletter for professionals in health and social care. Launching in early April, the newsletter will include a regular feature from our Operational Support Team, as well as useful resources and information on relevant upcoming events in the sector. Sign up to our mailing list now via our website or at bit.ly/3FmQUIg. Please encourage the professionals you are in contact with to sign up!

Learning Hub

If you are the parent of a young person who is aged 18-21 with complex additional support, and you are based in the Glasgow City Council area, your young person may be suitable for our Learning Hub, a three-year individualised programme aimed at school leavers.

We are holding a virtual Parent Information Session on Wednesday, 29 March, at 2:30pm and 7pm, for parents of those who may be suitable. Book your free ticket via Eventbrite at bit.ly/3mTG71O. If you have any questions, please get in touch with us at learninghub@sensescotland.org.uk.

Mecoco

As of Saturday, 1 April 2023, Mecoco - an innovative social enterprise based in North Ayrshire which makes candles, reed diffusers and other fragrance products - will become part of the extended Sense Scotland family, offering employment, work experience and social opportunities for the people we support and the wider community. We look forward to sharing more news with you soon, but in the meantime, check out Mecoco's website and online shop at mecoco.org.

Upcoming Events

Twinkle Tots

Our weekly Toddler group for children under 5yrs who have complex communication needs continues every Thursday from 10am - 11:30am throughout April. It provides a fun safe environment for children to express themselves through singing, dancing and exploring sensory-based activities at their own pace. To join, contact our Early Years team at earlyyears@sensescotland.org.uk.

Connect and Play - TouchBase Ayrshire

Our next Connect and Play session will take place at TouchBase Ayrshire on Sunday, 16 April from 10am - 1pm. These sessions offer the opportunity to catch up with Sense Scotland Advisors and meet other families, and are suitable for children aged 0 – 12 with communication and sensory support needs, their siblings and family. To join, contact our Early Years team at earlyyears@sensescotland.org.uk.

Glasgow Kiltwalk

Don your tartan bunnet, scarf or kilt and get ready for the first Kiltwalk of the year – Glasgow! Taking place on Sunday, 30 April 2023, walkers can pick from three different distances and raise funds for Sense Scotland as we handle your entry fee. Sign up now at sensescotland.org.uk/kiltwalk.