

WORKSHOP SERIES: Working with People with Deafblindness
MOUNT GAMBIER, SOUTH AUSTRALIA
Tuesday 29 October – Thursday 31 October 2019

Join Able Australia as they deliver a series of free interactive workshops on deafblindness in Mount Gambier, South Australia from Tuesday 29th - Thursday 31st October.

The Working with People with Deafblindness' Workshop Series includes:

[Workshop 1: Walk in my shoes – deafblind awareness](#)

[Workshop 2: Show me the way – guiding a deafblind person](#)

[Workshop 3: Communication methods for acquired deafblindness](#)

[Workshop 4: Communication methods for congenital deafblindness](#)

[Workshop 5: Deafblindness and the NDIS](#)

[Workshop 6: Count me in! Technology for deafblind people](#)

(Links will direct you to Eventbrite where you can book your tickets).

Through attending the workshops, participants will develop a broad understanding of deafblindness, its causes and implications, and how to work confidently and safely in the areas of communication, mobility, access and inclusion.

The training consists of six individual half-day workshops across three consecutive days. Each workshop has its own distinct focus and have been developed for employees working in the health, ageing and disability sectors to better support people who experience deafblindness/dual sensory loss. Students studying in these fields with an interest in deafblindness are also welcome to attend.

Participants can attend the workshop/s that best meet their needs and interests. Feel free to enrol in any number and any combination of workshops. A Certificate of Deafblind Communication and Guiding will be awarded to participants who attend a minimum of four workshops*. Each workshop will be interactive allowing time for discussion and questions to assist you in your daily work.

**For more information on achieving a Certificate of Deafblind Communication and Guiding refer to the section on 'Professional Development' below.*

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Participants will be awarded a Certificates of Attendance for each workshop attended. A Certificate of Deafblind Communication and Guiding will be presented to participants who attend a minimum of four workshops, including*:

- Workshop 1: Walk in my shoes: Deafblind Awareness Workshop
- Workshop 2: Show me the way: Guiding a Deafblind Person
- One of the following two workshops:
 - Workshop 3: Communication methods for acquired deafblindness
 - Workshop 4: Communication methods for congenital deafblindness
- One other workshop of the participant's choice.

Please note that Able Australia is not an Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) registered training organisation (RTO) and this workshop series is not accredited or regulated by the ASQA.

Any questions?

For more information please contact Alisha Hill by email alisha.hill@ableaustralia.org.au.

WORKSHOP SERIES DETAILS

WORKSHOP 1: Walk in my shoes - deafblind awareness workshop

TUESDAY · 29 OCTOBER · 9.00AM – 12.00PM

This workshop aims to develop your understanding of deafblindness and provide a hands-on experience of what it is like to be deafblind.

Topics covered include:

- Causes of deafblindness
- Impact of deafblindness
- Deafblind terminology

WORKSHOP 2: Show me the way: guiding a deafblind person

TUESDAY · 29 OCTOBER · 1.00PM – 3.30PM

People who are deafblind often have difficulty with orientation and finding their way in unfamiliar environments. This workshop will demonstrate best practice methods for orientating and guiding a deafblind person.

This workshop will incorporate:

- Guiding methods to assist a deafblind person
- Using social haptic communication to enhance orientation
- Assisting a deafblind person with common mobility tasks

WORKSHOP 3: Communication methods for acquired deafblindness

WEDNESDAY · 30 OCTOBER · 9.00AM – 12.00PM

Whether it be from disease, injury or as part of the ageing process, there has been a gradual increase in the number of people acquiring deafblindness later in life. With Australia's ageing population this trend is expected to increase. This workshop will introduce common communication methods and other strategies to support the needs of people with acquired deafblindness.

Topics covered include:

- Deafblind communication strategies
- Making information accessible to deafblind people
- Social haptic communication
- Technology used to enhance communication

WORKSHOP 4: Communication methods for congenital deafblindness

WEDNESDAY · 30 OCTOBER · 1.00pm – 3.30pm

For individuals born Deafblind, awareness of the world around is often limited to touch. This workshop introduces techniques to engage deafblind people in meaningful communication.

Topics covered include:

- How to have a high quality interaction with no language
- Developing communication and language skills of a person born deafblind
- Fostering engagement and participation of people born deafblind

WORKSHOP 5: Deafblindness and the NDIS

THURSDAY · 31 OCTOBER · 9.00AM – 12.00PM

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is providing Australians with disability unprecedented choice and control, enabling them to live an independent life and achieve the goals that are important to them, and people who are deafblind are no exception.

This workshop will shed light on how deafblindness fits in the NDIS framework and what you need to know to support deafblind participants with their NDIS journey. This workshop is aimed at support coordinators, NDIS planners, local area coordinators, allied health workers and advocates.

Incorporating:

- What common supports can deafblind people access – backing it up with evidence?
- Preparing for a planning meeting
- Goal setting
- Core and capacity building supports
- Making the seemingly impossible possible
- Information on support providers and organisations with capacity to assist deafblind clients

WORKSHOP 6: Count me in! Technology for deafblind people

THURSDAY · 31 OCTOBER · 1.00pm – 3.30pm

This workshop will deliver an insight into a variety of different technologies that facilitate communication allowing deafblind individuals to bridge the communication gap.

Topics include:

- Computer based technology are no exception
- Low vision aids
- Assistive hearing technology
- Other supports
- Organisations with expertise in deafblind technology solutions