

44%

of Autistic students change secondary schools because their schools aren't supportive.

CURRENT STATE

60% of Autistic adults are unemployed.

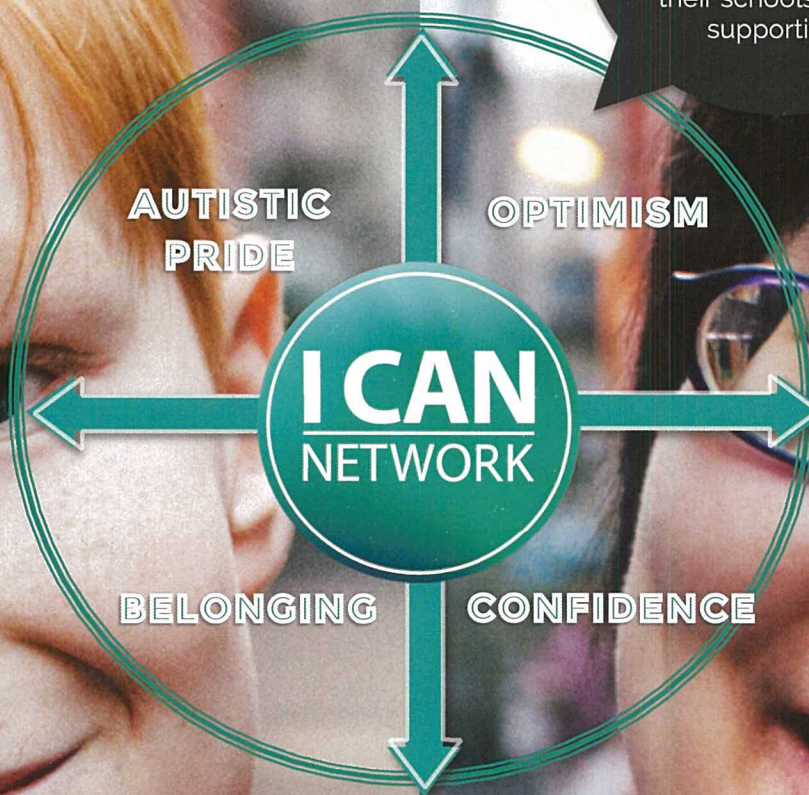
35% of Autistic students do not complete Year 10, or above.

86% of Australians have 'contact' with an Autistic person, however

46% of Australians report not having a good understanding of how to support Autistic people.

51.6% of Autistic people feel socially isolated.

Autistic students are **4** times more likely to be bullied.



ICAN'S SUCCESS

EMPLOYMENT

Employing over 30 Autistic people to deliver mentoring and training.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Delivering mentoring programs across 82 Victorian primary and secondary schools (Catholic, independent and government).

SOCIAL/COMMUNITY

3 camps to connect the mentees of our school and online programs.

PUBLIC EDUCATION

Upscaling our educational talks to student bodies

PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Upscaling our professional learning workshops - (we delivered 86 in 2018)

OUR VISION NEEDS EVERYONE



OUR IMPACT

icannetwork.com.au



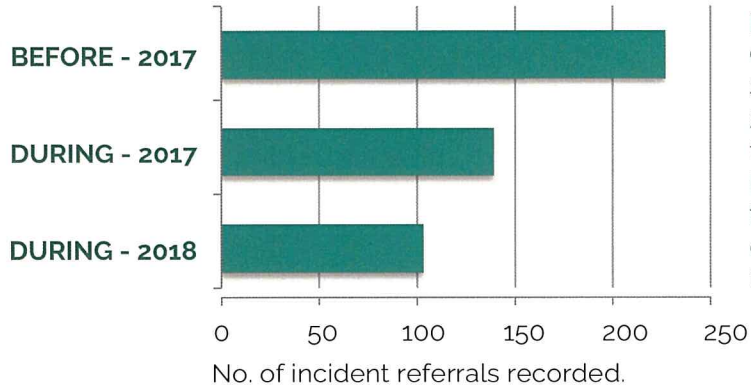
Our team operate across six regions in Victoria and Queensland. In our five years, we have delivered 75 High School programs, 44 Imagination Club programs, 14 Online Programs, Employed 34 Autistics and Mentored 1608 Autistics, 18 Camps, 4 Conferences and 5 Expos. We are looking forward to an even brighter 2020.

"We don't have this label 'Autism Spectrum' for people to say I Can't we have it so people can say I CAN" - CEO Chris Varney.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS



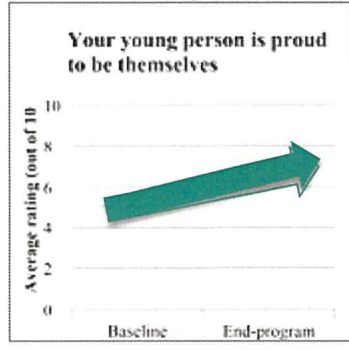
IMPACT IN ONE PRIMARY SCHOOL



DATA - Crestmead State School, Qld 2017/18. During the course of Imagination Club, there was a 41.5% decrease in incident referrals.

"This program allows the student to shine in their passion of choice without anyone putting them down"
- Coburg High School Teacher

HIGH SCHOOLS



Results collected from 52 parents at 'Baseline' and 68 parents at 'End-program' - 2017.



CONTACT US

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WE PROVE WHAT AUTISTICS CAN DO

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INTRODUCTION

It is extremely humbling to have founded I CAN Network. Growing up, I benefited from a network of parents, teachers and friends who embraced my Autistic strengths and anxieties and encouraged me to say 'I CAN'. Founding an organisation in their name was the best way I could express my gratitude.

I built I CAN Network to be a demonstration of what Autistic people can achieve. Fifty per cent of my team are Autistic. We deliver group mentoring programs in schools and in online settings. We also share our insights in professional development workshops and consultancy projects. Employing so many Autistic people is truly the most rewarding thing I have ever done professionally.

We are driven by a vision to create a world that benefits from embracing Autism.

Together our purpose is to prove what Autistics CAN do.

Thank you to the team I am so lucky to serve. We are rethinking Autism and look forward to working with you.

Chris Varney
Founder and Chief Enabler, I CAN Network

Pictured as the keynote speaker at the ASIAm Conference, Ireland.



**AUSTRALIA'S
LARGEST
AUTISTIC-LED
ORGANISATION**

I CAN IMAGINATION CLUB®

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Our primary school mentoring program 'I CAN Imagination Club®' is a program for students who are Autistic, or who have learning differences or experience social anxiety. Whilst the majority of Imagination Club participants are Autistic, the program can be used by a school to engage a broader range of primary students. Our primary school mentoring programs are called 'I CAN Imagination Clubs – for students with big imaginations'.

**“I CAN, MAKES
ME FEEL HAPPY”
- JAKE, MENTEE**

**“I’VE BECOME MORE
SOCIAL SINCE I STARTED”
- JACKSON, MENTEE**

**“IT JUST LETS YOU BE
YOURSELF”
- AYESHA, MENTEE NOW
MENTOR**

**“BE NICE, STAY AWESOME
AND BE WHOEVER YOU
WANT TO BE”
- ALEXANDRA,
MENTEE**



I CAN ONLINE

We are proud to be a trailblazer in providing Autistic-led online group mentoring to young people across Australia, while regularly offering free Autistic-led webinars to the public on a range of important topics. We appreciate that many Autistic young people and their families can benefit from the support and Autistic insights that come from our programs even if they are not in a geographical location where we offer face-to-face services.

GROUP MENTORING

Our online group mentoring program, which helps participants build confidence and social connections, draws upon our very successful and highly acclaimed school-based and community-based mentoring programs and adapts them to the comfort of a home setting.

We have found that the online mentoring delivery model can be a very effective way to bring the positive messages and powerful mentorship model of the I CAN Network to participants who are navigating school life and post-school paths.

Our engaging group mentoring sessions, which take place for one hour each week (six sessions total) via live video conference, allow participants to connect with others who will understand and accept them while developing strategies for managing changes, challenges and opportunities that can arise as an Autistic young person or young adult.

Each group includes 8 or 9 "mentees" led by two experienced I CAN mentors in a safe, engaging, supportive environment. All of our groups are offered on a mixed gender basis and are open to any Autistic young person in Australia who meets the age requirement of a particularly group. We can also tailor our online mentoring program to regional, rural and interstate schools who would like to benefit from a mentoring program but are unable due to their geographical locations.

To view our current schedules and for further detailed information on eligibility, visit our website - icannetwork.com.au

"IT'S A PLACE WHERE I AM SAFE TO BE MYSELF EACH WEEK"
- MELANIE, ONLINE MENTEE

"WE DO FUN ACTIVITIES AND CHECK UP ON HOW WE ARE GOING AT SCHOOL. IT'S LIKE ANOTHER FAMILY"
- NICK, ONLINE MENTEE

WEBINARS

Our webinars combine the lived experience of our Autistic panellists with the robust track record we have as an organisation in working across different school systems, communities and age groups.

We actively showcase the voices of Autistic young people so that adults can learn from their experiences and insights and so that their Autistic peers can appreciate that they are not alone. Our webinars are free to the public and available online at icannetwork.com.au

CURRENT/FUTURE TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Supporting Autistic Learners
- Transitioning to High School
- Building Resilience in Autistics
- Strategies For Primary School Success
- Helping Your Child Build Their I CAN Network
- Pre-Teens, Teens & Young Adults
- Helping Autistic Teens Develop
- Self-Advocacy Skills
- Navigating Young Adult Life
- Managing Sibling Relationships
- Autistic, LBGTTQA+ And Proud
- Embracing Neurodiversity

I CAN
NETWORK

ONLINE

I CAN CAMPS

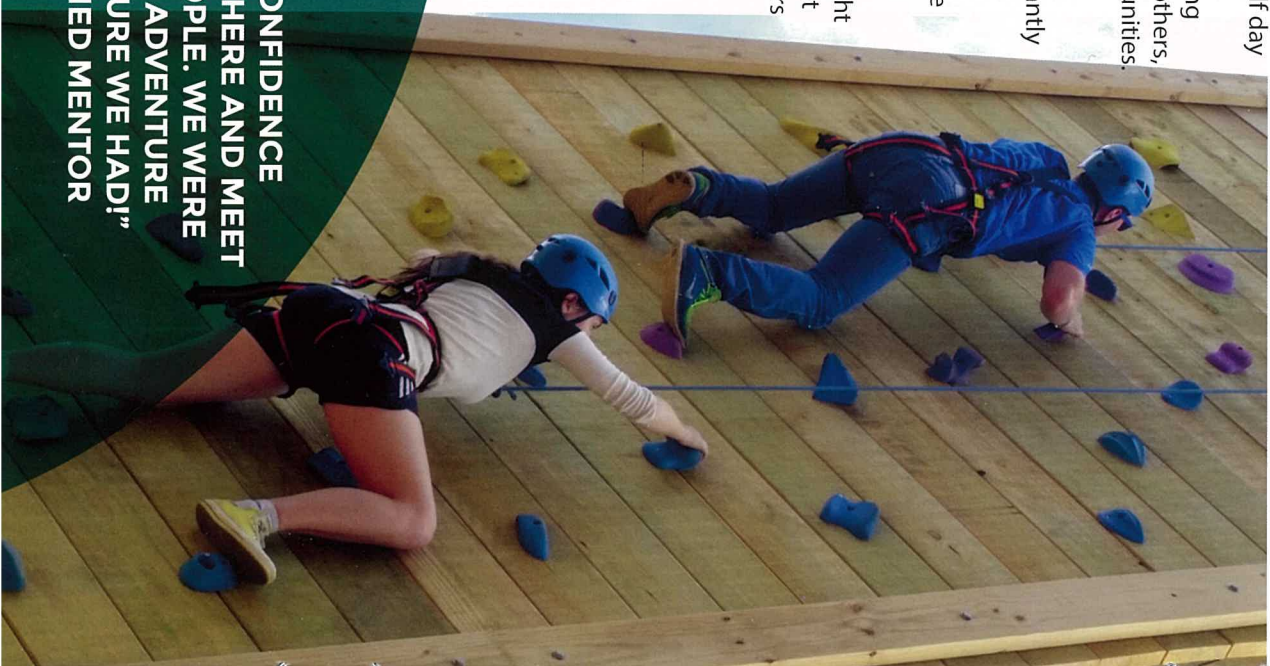
Our camps provide a wonderful opportunity for Autistic young people to have fun, make new friends and step outside of their comfort zones with a range of outdoor and group activities.

All I CAN Camps are two-and-a-half day residential camps, with a focus on building self-confidence, embracing self acceptance, connecting with others, and saying 'I CAN!' to new opportunities.

Because our camp programs have been designed and are predominantly staffed by Autistics, everything is structured to make the camp experience a safe, supportive place for our participants – including ample chill-out time and respect of sensory needs. A special highlight of every camp is the Saturday night "Dress To Obsess" in which campers and mentors are invited to share their personal passions.

For more information visit icannetwork/camps or write to us at camps@icannetwork.com.au

*Please note we only offer limited camps in Victoria and Queensland.



"CAMP GAVE ME THE CONFIDENCE TO PUSH MYSELF OUT THERE AND MEET ALL KINDS OF NEW PEOPLE. WE WERE ALL PREPARED FOR AN ADVENTURE AND WHAT AN ADVENTURE WE HAD!"
- CHLOE, MENTEE TURNED MENTOR

EVENTS

In addition to our on-the-ground and online mentoring programs, we also have a range of in-person events to welcome Autistic young people and supporters to our network. To keep up with national developments and local events, please subscribe to our newsletter at www.icannetwork.com.au/contactus or email us at events@icannetwork.com.au.

AWETISM EXPO - MELBOURNE

Our annual AWETISM Expo is a cornerstone annual event where students put the 'AWE' in Awetism! Autistic students are invited to present a 5-10 minute talk about their unique talent, interest or passion. We also have an exhibit space for participants to showcase their interests, products or collections. The Expo is a safe space for Autistic students to meet like-minded people and connect with new friends. It also offers a powerful opportunity for educational professionals, family and friends to experience truly unique insights and innovation whilst supporting Autistic young people in Australia. For more information, please see our website: icannetwork.com.au.

CITY TO SURF - SYDNEY

Held on the 2nd Sunday in August every year, the City2Surf is the world's largest charity race. We proudly sponsor "AWESome I CAN City2Surfers," which is an all-abilities team of I CAN members and supporters who come together to enjoy the 14 km route from the Sydney CDB to iconic Bondi Beach. No previous affiliation with I CAN, no previous race experience required.

REGIONAL EVENTS - VIC, QLD

Our program hubs in Victoria and Queensland hold various local events across their respective regions throughout the year. To stay up to date, sign up to our newsletter.



"OVER THE YEARS, I HAVE LEARNED TO SEE AUTISM NOT AS A DISORDER BUT ANOTHER WAY OF BEING IN THE WORLD. ALTHOUGH THE EFFECTS OF AUTISM ON ME CAN BE DEBILITATING, SEEING THE WORLD WITH DIFFERENT EYES AND IN DIFFERENT WAYS MORE THAN COMPENSATES."

"BY TAKING THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIS AND OTHERS LIKE HIM TO HEART, WE WILL BE ABLE TO EMBARK ON OUR OWN HERO'S JOURNEY OF SELF-TRANSFORMATION FROM AMPATHY AND DISENGAGEMENT TO SELF-ESTEEM AND CONFIDENCE TO LIVE A LIFE WORTH LIVING"

- TIM CHAN ('TEDX PRESENTER AND NON-SPEAKING AUTISTIC AUTHOR OF THE BOOK 'BACK FROM THE BRINK')

CONSULTANCY

WORKPLACE MENTORING

We deliver bespoke advice and workforce development programs that meet the needs and budget of your organisation. These can include mentoring sessions, facilitated by an Autistic professional, that explore self-awareness, leverage individual strengths and create targeted communication structures for Autistic staff and managers.

CONSULTING

We also deliver consultancy projects which usually take the form of co-designing professional training on Autism, workplace support strategies or developing platforms for promoting Autistic voice.

To enquire about our workplace mentoring and consultancy, write to us: consulting@icannetwork.com.au.

SPEAKER'S & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The I CAN Network provides talks and professional development to businesses, schools, conferences, governments and community groups. All of our speakers are on, or connected to, the Autism Spectrum. Their stories of resilience and leadership have inspired people across Australia.

Our speakers provide motivational talks through their personal I CAN stories, and discuss Autism through a variety of topics including governance, mental health, relationships and research.

We also run professional development classes with schools, businesses and organisations. Quiet Magic Method® is I CAN's method for setting people up for success in schools, workplaces and their home. We create practical workshops based on our knowledge of effective communication, increasing confidence, and leveraging the individual strengths of Autistic people. Our specialty is on strategies that are quiet, enabling and subtle, as opposed to heavy-handed or stigmatising.

For more information visit: icannetwork.com.au/speakers-agency/

To enquire about our Speakers and Professional Development Agency, write to us: bookings@icannetwork.com.au

