



Family and Participant eNewsletter

Keeping you in the loop

DECEMBER 2025

Merry Christmas from Identitywa

As 2025 draws to a close and we look ahead to 2026, it's a wonderful time to pause and reflect on the journey we've shared together.

This year has been one of change and growth, with Identitywa transitioning to a new entity, Identitywa Disability Services Limited. We are deeply grateful for the support of families throughout this process and this change has strengthened our organisation for the future.

Together, we've celebrated significant milestones:

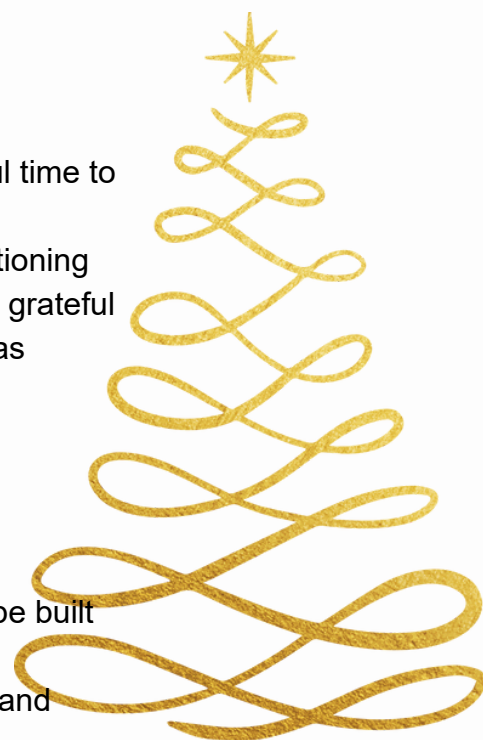
- Three new homes completed, now welcoming eight participants.
- Land cleared in Eden Hill for two new homes to be built in 2026.
- The final block purchased in Spearwood, where two houses will be built in 2026 in partnership with Jarra.
- Six participants moved into their new homes in East Cannington and Ferndale.

These achievements reflect the strength of Identitywa and the dedication of everyone involved in supporting participants and their families.

As we enter the festive season, we extend our heartfelt thanks to you, our participants and families who walk alongside us every day. We wish you a joyful Christmas filled with rest, laughter and time with loved ones.

Thank you for being part of our journey this year. We look forward to continuing to grow together in 2026.

Merry Christmas and wishing you the very best for 2026!



Condolences

We are deeply saddened by the tragic events at Bondi yesterday. Our hearts go out to all those who lost their lives or were injured and to the families and loved ones affected. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this time of grief and healing. [Please find a statement from Archbishop Timothy Costelloe SDB here.](#)

Christmas Mass 2025

Thank you for joining us for Christmas Mass at John XXIII on Saturday 13 December. It was a wonderful celebration with a record turnout. Special thanks to all our dedicated support workers and volunteers for making it a memorable occasion for participants and their families.



Preparation for the bushfire season

As we approach the bushfire season, we are prioritising the testing and strengthening of our emergency procedures to ensure everyone's safety.

All houses are undertaking bushfire evacuation drills and reviewing participant emergency plans. If you plan to be away during the holiday season, please inform your Team Leader in advance.

Be sure to provide the name and contact details of someone we can reach in case of an emergency such as a bushfire. Thank you



Identitywa policy updates

- [Identitywa Policy Updates](#)

Let's tell your story

We're always looking for interesting stories and photos (with consent for use) to feature in our eNewsletters. Whether it's a personal achievement, memorable event or simply a day in your life - your stories inspire and connect us all.

Please email your photos and stories or ideas: communications@identitywa.com.au

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SHARING THE JOURNEY

A carnival of inclusion, celebrating IDPwD

Our Northbridge office was transformed into a vibrant festive hub on the International Day of People with Disability (IDPwD).

The day was filled with music, colour, creativity and joy, in celebration of all abilities and inclusion. Identitywa participants came together for a wonderful event jam packed with activities.

Jakim and Zoe took centre stage and performed beautiful music to the delight of everyone in attendance.

Participants enjoyed engaging in creative arts, sports, games and activities, while our beauty bar offered a little extra pampering throughout the event. The atmosphere was filled with laughter, joy and connection.

Ellen said she loved the day and was overjoyed with the sweet sounds of Zoe and Jakim.

Josh took to the karaoke mike and showed off his awesome singing and dance moves and Zac expressed his delight at all the sights and sounds.

This year's IDPwD theme, 'Fostering disability inclusive societies for advancing social progress,' highlights the importance of collective action in building a fairer world, one that fully respects and upholds the rights of people with disability.

Thank you to everyone who joined us in celebrating the amazing abilities, talents and contributions of people with disability in our community.



Identitywa shining stars

In November, we celebrated the incredible contributions of Identitywa workers during our Annual Review and Employee Excellence Awards night.

Following the Annual Review which was presented by Chairperson Graeme Mander, Treasurer Mimli Kulshreshtha and CEO Marina Re, we recognised the individuals and teams whose dedication, empathy and professionalism create an environment where the people we support can thrive.

Chief Executive Officer Marina Re congratulated all the worthy nominees and winners of the Excellence Awards and acknowledged the long serving members of our workforce for their years of service.

“My sincere thanks to each of you for delivering exceptional support to participants and regularly going above and beyond to help them achieve their goals,” Marina said.

Marina also extended thanks to Harold and Dom for their participation, enthusiasm and assistance with presenting the awards and certificates.



Excellence Award Winners

Above and Beyond Award

- Rowena Babinall
- Sagar Kothi
- Jakim Visitacion
- Rhine Team
- Thornett Team

Aspiring Leader Award

- Joanne Downey
- Bahati Lukuta

Quiet Achiever Award

- Planning Officers - Yvonne Leeper, Lee Mitchell, Karen Bowker-Douglass and Camelia Luka
- Bincy Mathew
- Mitra Shams

Practice Excellence Award

- Ashraf Gadalla
- Gavin Slater
- Patchett B Team

CEO Award

- The Transition Working Party - Resi Mitterbauer, Kevin Taylor, Vanessa Strack and Lauren Brewerton

We also celebrated and acknowledged long-serving team members who collectively dedicated over 170 years to Identitywa and presented them with Years of Service certificates.

Years of Service Certificate recipients

10 years of service

- Rose Boonnark
- Deborah Cummings
- Naume Faneti
- Shekhar Ghimire
- Ann-Marie Gladwell
- Carla Jacob
- Camelia Luka
- Jason McMillan
- Deborah Peters
- Brett Royal
- Mitra Shams

20 years of service

- Sandra Maughan

30 years of service

- Jane Lefroy