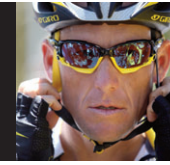


DISABILITY FACTS

Where's Lance?



Sometime soon Premier Mike Rann will need to announce SA's worst kept secret..... Lance Armstrong's new cycling team "Radio Shack!" will compete in the 2010 Tour Down Under. With SA event promoters already searching for a private residence for Lance's comfort, Mr Rann will no doubt think his omnipotent "Lanceonabike" will divert media and community attention away from significant social problems like our states tragic disability crisis. Subsequently non steroid enhanced swinging voters will be expected to zoom wearing lycra shorts with gatorade fuelled smiles to the March polling booths to deliver Rann an "Arc DeTriomphe" like reception and a third term. History beckons?

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Maybe "Mikenotonabike" will announce on the next bad news day in the disability community. After all, the giant golden army of Lance fans (We are all genuine fans of the great man!!!) might fall for that strange accent that Mike projects when making his "How great am I and look who's standing next to me" pontifications or when recently on radio vitriolically disparaging disability advocates for challenging Mr Rann's glowing self eulogy on support for the disabled.

The attached official government file, just released, showing the June 2009 unmet need waiting lists contradicts Mr Rann's on his governments effective attack on the disability crisis. A 5% blowout in waiting list numbers in just 7 months to 2283 is horrific, making Mr Rann's self proclaimed "King of the Disability Mountain" status seem to some in the disability community as phony as that accent and questionable disability commitment record. The mathematics of how many years it will be before such critical disability services are delivered would rival the economic benefit modelling of "Le Tour de Lance" which is

beyond the comprehension of most trackside supporters. On a dollar per vote basis clearly "La smelly bike seat"beats "disability services" handlebars down.

Established stationary bike team "Le Social Inclusion De Cappio" has already confirmed a major social disaster

Mr Rann was recently invited by Disability Speaks to pick any day, date, time and place and Disability Speaks would organize a community meeting so Mr Rann could spell out "Future Tour De Route" for disability services. As yet he has not responded to this invitation. Mr Rann would be most welcome to bring Lance with him to such meeting. Lance is widely respected for his outstanding charitable work and his acclaimed Livestrong Foundation. His presence would no doubt be a fillup for what already would be a bumper crowd.

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This invitation remains open. Disability Speaks founder David Holst has indicated he would be delighted to front a public disability debate with Mr Rann on "The State of our State" Mr Holst said "lets go head to head like the tough guy cyclists do in the French Alps pushing towards a Mont Ventoux finish" Lets hope Mr Rann is not wearing his Maillot Jaune jersey and accepts this challenge!

While SA routinely underfunds disability services by 5% per annum and provides service at the lowest per client rate in the country lets hope that none of the amateur cyclists who sweat the bitumen to ride with Lance strike a pothole and crash a la O'Grady. On joining the growing ranks of road trauma/ brain injury victims on the disability unmet need waiting lists they may have a very different perception of 'La Twitta Premiere' and his record of

disability success.

SA is pedalling uphill, on a 30 year old bike, into a gale, using high gears, with 8 inch rims and flat tyres as the updated disability data confirms.

It is time for disability support to become a priority in SA people are dying!

Disability Services Unmet Need - Quarter Ending June 2009		
	SERVICES PROVIDED	
	Total - all Categories	2007-08
	Total Services	Total Services
1 ACCOMMODATION SUPPORT		
Supported Accommodation		
Basic	182	
Moderate	483	
High	208	
Intensive	15	
Total Supported Accommodation	888	
Total Supp' Accom - Unique Clients	881	
Personal Support		
Basic	384	
Moderate	248	
High	206	
Intensive	83	
Total Personal Support	1885	
Total Personal Support - Unique Clients	1885	
Total Accommodation Support	2784	5,462
Total Accommodation Support - Unique Clients	2784	4,988
2 COMMUNITY SUPPORT		
Case Management	79	
Therapy Services	482	
Behavioural Intervention	108	
Counselling	87	
Parents with Disability	7	
Total Community Support	773	22,274
Total Community Support - Unique Clients	538	14,283
3 COMMUNITY ACCESS		
Learning and Life Skills Development	141	
Recreation Holiday Programs	173	
Day Outings	101	
Total Community Access	415	7,643
Total Community Access - Unique Clients	332	5,728
4 RESPITE		
Own Home	122	
After School/School Holidays	288	
Total Respite	410	2,724
Total Respite - Unique Clients	383	1,664
GRAND TOTAL - SERVICES	3484	17,381
Total Unique Clients	2283	18,358

1. Unique clients should not be the sum of across service types or categories as some clients may have an unmet need recorded for more than one service type and/or category.
 2. Disability services are those provided under the Commonwealth State Territory Disability Agreement (CSTDA), excluding employment services.
 3. Clients with an unmet need may also have received a service in 2007/08 or be currently receiving a service.
 Category 1 - Critical Handicaps/Injuries and high risk of harm to self or others
 Category 2 - General Risk of harm to self or others of handicaps
 Category 3 - Potential "deteriorating health and/or ability of a consumer or carer"
 Category 4 - Deteriorating "enhancement of quality of life"

