

Stronger Families



A 5 day/night intensive stay for the whole family!
A time to connect with others while supported by caring, compassionate, autism-trained professionals.

Stronger Families builds social, recreational and communication skills. We have professional expertise in autism and offer individualised strategies and supports in a purpose-built rural setting .

Our support is autism-specific.

Making connections

It is the community experience of Stronger Families that makes it so special. Families find immense value from the support of others going through similar experiences. Autistic young people meet and support each other. Parents connect and share time together. Siblings enjoy their own program.

A supportive family atmosphere

Practical and inclusive support at our accommodation facilities for the whole family. Our Stronger Families intensive stay runs from our beautiful rural locale in Mansfield for five nights, with a focus on being in nature. Stronger Families is open to families across Australia.

Parent training and follow up support

Parents have access to autism training from behaviour support practitioners and see strategies in practice over the 5 days. We offer built-in follow up support to encourage the transfer of new strategies to the home.

A range of activities

We offer a balanced schedule with autism education, relaxation, outdoor experiences, nature, art and craft, yoga, games, healthy foods and exercise.

Health and wellbeing

We ditch the screens and engage in simple activities for health and wellbeing. We love getting outdoors and enjoying nature.

2026 dates

Jan 19 - 24 | Apr 13 - 18 | Jun 22 - 27
Jul 6 - 11 | Sep 14 - 19 | Sep 28 - Oct 3



We will be forever grateful for this opportunity and experience. We learned a great deal and are already seeing the difference!

"This was life-changing for us...we still use the strategies we learned and they still work!"

Key details:

- Run from our beautiful 100-acre property in Mansfield, Victoria for five nights, from Monday to Saturday.
- Each autistic young person has a 1:1 support worker for the majority of the stay and engages in a range of activities.
- Siblings are supported in small groups with other siblings.
- Our group sizes are small. Each intensive stay supports up to 6 autistic young people and their families.
- Parents attend autism-specific sessions and workshops. Parents are supported individually to learn effective ways to support their child, for example at mealtimes and during daily living routines.
- Parents receive autism training from behaviour support practitioners and learn management strategies which can be practiced immediately.
- Follow up support from a behaviour support practitioner is provided to assist the transfer of skills and strategies to the home
- Families enjoy quality time together and have fun.
- Stronger Families is for autistic young people up to the age of 18 years and their families. We also run intensive stays for young autistic adults aged 18-25 and their families.
- Accommodation is in three-bedroom cabins with views over Mt Buller, with one cabin per family.
- Stronger Families is fully catered (family fee covers meals and accommodation).
- We have limited capacity. We will confirm availability following a service request.
- Participants require NDIS funding in their Core and Improved Daily Living budgets.
- For the family, there are funding options available to subsidise the cost of attending. Families are supported to apply for funding, and if successful, will be out of pocket only the registration fee of \$150 per family.

Contact Us!

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Mansfield Autism Statewide Services are committed to promoting and protecting at all times the best interests of children and young people involved in its programs. Any child having contact with Mansfield Autism Statewide Service, has the right to feel safe and be safe. The wellbeing of children in our care will always be our first priority and we have zero tolerance to child abuse.

In our service, we aim to:

- Build daily living skills, self care, social and emotional skills, independence, and communication.
- Enable parents, siblings and autistic young people to build social networks and reduce social isolation.
- Enhance family relationships and increase understanding of autism.
- Build capacity of parents and siblings to maintain informal supports of their autistic child/sibling.

Stronger Families Costs

Below are the NDIS costs for a family with 1 child with autism. We have flexibility to quote for other family situations. We recommend families that are plan-managed seek pre-approval from their plan managers before registering for peace of mind. We can provide quotes to help with pre-approval - please ask our team.

Core funds = \$8,167.47

Improved Daily Living funds = \$4,317.06

Total NDIS cost = \$12,484.53

*there is some flexibility to adjust quotes to align with your NDIS budgets, just ask our team

Family registration fee = \$150

Subsidised family food, accommodation and activity fees

While Stronger Families is for the whole family, the NDIS funding covers only the NDIS participant. Families may be eligible for support from **Carer Gateway**. Carer Gateway provides free services and supports for carers. Upon application and approval, Carer Gateway may cover the cost of accommodation, meals and activities for parents and siblings, and/or support workers for the sibling program. Carers will be contacted by a Carer Gateway Assessment Officer, and funding may be provided based on individual needs and eligibility.

Other funding options are also available for families who are not eligible for Carer Gateway support.

To register, visit autismmansfield.org.au



Information on this brochure is current from 8 DEC 25