

## MY Business Incubator 'Count Me IN' Project

Stephen Dawson, the WA Disability Services Minister recently announced that Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (Belmont BEC) was one of the recipients of a combined Commonwealth and Western Australian government Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) grant to increase employment and recreational opportunities for people with disability in WA.

Belmont BEC will in conjunction with its extensive Perth Metropolitan business network and business alliances will deliver the MY Business Incubator 'Count Me IN' Project to over 1,000 business participants that will include FREE Forums, Workshops, Webinars and Helpline Mentors to assist in breaking down barriers that prevent some employers from considering the employment of people with disabilities.

Businesses of all sizes, including micro, small, medium, large businesses and organisations are eligible to participate through an innovative and inspiring range of information and services over the next 17 months.

Belmont BEC will deliver the Project information and services throughout the Perth metropolitan region and the 'Count Me IN' Project Webinars will be delivered online to both metro and state-wide businesses that also includes regional and remote WA.

Carol Hanlon, CEO of Belmont BEC said, "The aim of this project is to create a memorable project that utilises business role models and inspirational participants to share stories on the positive attitude and business culture that employment of those with disabilities has brought to their workforce. The My Business Incubator program is part of the comprehensive program of services provided by the Belmont BEC. Belmont BEC is unique in the delivery of many of its programs as we run them online virtually. That means that people across Western Australia & beyond can be part of our programs."

Belmont BEC will hold 56 Forums which will showcase successful disability employers and role model disability employees to potential employer & HR participants that will outline the benefits of being involved in employment of those with disabilities.

The Belmont BEC will also provide 28 workshops about the Count Me IN Project with employer workplace implementation, equal opportunity and awareness of changes that may need to be reviewed within the business organisations culture.

A total of 34 Webinars Online will provide practical skills toolkit for staff re employing and retaining people with disability in the workplace and information on assistance schemes available. In addition, a project helpline will be set up with project mentors available for queries or referral to employment providers.

The Hon Paul Fletcher MP, Federal Minister for Families and Social Services said, "These grants are a fundamental aspect of the NDIS, designed to empower people with disability to access their community and achieve their goals."

Stephen Dawson, the WA Disability Services Minister said, "It's my hope that this funding will go a long way to substantially improving both employment and recreational outcomes for people with disability in Western Australia. "Improving and delivering employment outcomes for people with disability remains one of the focus areas of the State Government.

"Participation in sport and recreation contributes to the health and wellbeing of all people and helps break down the barriers that once stopped people with disability from participating."

MY Business Incubator 'Count Me IN' Project is an NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) initiative and supported by: the Department of Communities, the Belmont Business Enterprise Centre Inc. (BEC) and Textile, Clothing, Footwear Resource Centre of Western Australia Inc. (TCFWA), plus supporters and volunteers.

To register your business in the My Business Incubator 'Count Me IN' Project log onto <u>www.mybusinessincubator.com.au/register</u>



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## About:

**Belmont BEC** | **BEC Global** is a non-profit community organisation established in 1994, providing training and mentoring support services to over 27,000+ individuals in Australia to start or improve their small business and is a specialist in virtual business incubation. <u>www.belmonbec.com</u> www.bpwbusinessincubator.com/empoweringwomen

**TCFWA | TCF Australia | TCF Global** is a non-profit community organisation established in 1998, assisting over 6,500+ designers and fashion industry small businesses with fashion business skill development, linkages in the global supply chain, International trade and industry networks. <u>www.tcfwa.com</u> <u>www.tcfaustralia.com</u> <u>www.tcfglobal.com</u>