

Auckland Parents of Deaf Children Membership Policy (August 2023)

Definitions:

Full Membership is open to any family/whanau with a deaf / Deaf / hard of hearing child (DHH), and DHH youth up to 24 years old, residing in the Auckland region. Membership is per family, and includes immediate family members, including parents, legal guardians, the DHH child, and any siblings.

Associate Membership is open to any other party with an interest in the welfare of Deaf or Hard of Hearing children. Associate members include deaf adults, CODA families (Child/ren of a DHH Adult), , body corporates, groups, organisations and individuals, residing in the Auckland region.

Committee Membership is open to any member who is formally appointed to the APODC Committee to help further the mission of our society.

Alumni Membership is open to any former members of APODC who want to remain active in the community.

Lifetime Membership will be awarded in recognition to those who have gone above and beyond to support and extend our community. These are past or current members who have been nominated and endorsed as lifetime members by the APODC committee and communicated to all members at the AGM.

Who is included in the Membership? Membership is per family, and includes immediate family members, including parents, legal guardians, the DHH child, and any siblings.

Process:

Becoming a member: New members must complete and sign the membership form, agreeing to promote and not hinder the mission and objects of Auckland Parents of Deaf Children Incorporated, as below:

Mission: APODC promotes and facilitates informed, supportive, and cohesive relationships between families and whanau with a DHH child, living in Auckland. We respect the individual choices which families and whanau make on behalf of their children and seek not to impose any particular perspective.

Membership Fees: Membership is annual, and renewal of membership is dependent on the payment of a fee set by the Committee each year.

Membership

Benefits:

Full Members:

Full Member benefits include free entry to most events, access to the APODC Scholarship, DCNZ sponsorship and grants. Adult Full Members are eligible to serve as an Officer on the Committee (President, Secretary, Treasurer).

Full Members will have access to, monthly newsletters, Annual General and Special Meetings, a wide range of social and information sharing events in venues across Auckland, activities to suit different age groups eg newly diagnosed children and youth, and free admission to these APODC events. They are also eligible to put themselves forward for Committee nomination (up to 20% of the Committee, maximum of 2, can be Associate Members).

Grandparents or adults replacing parents/caregivers at an event are welcome to attend. However, if they are in addition to the parents/caregivers, they may be required to pay an additional cost as necessary.

Associate Members: Associate Members are eligible to a maximum of 2 representative places at each event, at the reduced Associate rate, or for free when this applies.

Associate Members will have access to, monthly newsletters, Annual General and Special Meetings, and reduced admission rates (where applicable) at APODC events. They are also eligible to put themselves forward for Committee nomination (up to 20% of the Committee, maximum of 2, can be Associate Members).

Committee Members:

Committee Members will benefit from free annual membership.

Committee Members will be part of the team that make vital decisions that uphold the values and objectives of our society.

Alumni Members:

Alumni Members will have access to monthly newsletters, Annual General and Special Meetings and will be invited to significant APODC events.

Lifetime Members:

Lifetime Members will benefit from a free lifetime membership to APODC.

Lifetime members will have access to, monthly newsletters, Annual General and Special Meetings, a wide range of social and information sharing events in venues across Auckland, activities to suit different age groups e.g. newly diagnosed children and youth, and free admission to these APODC events.