

Pave the Way Newsletter

December 2016

The Importance of Preparation

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 The importance of preparation
- 2 New resources from the NDIA
Three NDIS categories of support
- 3 Three NDIS categories of support (continued)
- 4 Contact Us

The NDIS officially started in Australia on 1 July this year. The trial, which was conducted from 2013 to 2016 in a number of regions around Australia, resulted in services and support to over 30,000 participants. The trials have shaped the final design and look of the scheme. The NDIS will continue being rolled out across Australia over the next three years so that by 2019, there will be around 430,000 participants on the scheme. In Queensland, it will be over 91,000 participants.

Pave the Way has continued its involvement in 'Participant Readiness' work in Far North Queensland and the North Coast (Redcliffe to Gympie) region.

This work consists of presentations and individual conversations with people with disabilities and their families. The presentations are free and provide a general overview of the scheme and some thoughts when it comes to planning.

At Pave the Way, we believe that preparation is an important key in making the most of the NDIS. Being well-informed and allowing time to think through your version of what will make a "good life" could assist in producing results that may make a significant difference to your life. Turning up on the day of your planning conversation and trying to ad-lib, or relying on your memory may leave you disappointed. Our presentations and the individual conversations we offer may help you gain clarity around what you need, what the scheme offers and what to ask for.

In 2016, PTW also presented a new 'Housing' workshop and an updated 'Planning' workshop. If you would like to see these workshops presented in your part of Queensland, please let us know and we'll consider that in our planning for 2017. Along with these, we have also been co-hosting *yarning circles* – an exciting addition to our work.

Since its inception, Pave the Way has provided families with legal information related to planning for the future. In February this year this work led to the establishment of Disability Law Queensland (DLQ). DLQ is a non-profit law firm that is focused on assisting families and people with disability to plan for the future. DLQ has already assisted over 100 people from throughout Queensland with advice, including the preparation of wills, trusts, and power of attorney documents. Aimee McVeigh, DLQ's Director and previously Pave the Way's legal consultant, returns from maternity leave after Christmas and is currently taking appointments for January. Appointments can be conducted in person as well as via Skype or phone. To make an appointment call DLQ on [3622 1250](tel:36221250).

It's our hope here at Pave the Way that you experience all of the joy and blessings of the festive season and that those blessings continue into 2017!



New resources from the NDIA

The National Disability Insurance Agency has released several new fact sheets that may assist you in preparing for the NDIS. These include the following:

1. Checklist – Getting ready for your planning conversation

This checklist outlines some of the things that you will be asked about in your first NDIS planning conversation. It's important that people are prepared for this conversation and these suggestions are a great place to start. One participant from the trial sites had some sage advice after his planning conversation – “Don't try and wing it on the day”. Preparation is an important part of the pathway.

2. Developing your first NDIS plan

Answers to common questions that are asked can be found in this fact sheet, including:

- How do I get my first plan?
- What if I already receive supports?
- Reasonable and necessary supports?
- Goals in your plan
- What happens next?

3. Information you need to know to access the NDIS

This fact sheet outlines some information you need to know to access the NDIS. Information such as “becoming a participant, eligibility criteria and who can help you prepare to access the NDIS?” are among some of the headings.

You can access these fact sheets on the NDIS website: [ndis.gov.au](https://www.ndis.gov.au)

Three NDIS categories of support

The NDIS provides funding to participants to purchase a range of supports aimed at increasing their independence, inclusion, and social and economic participation. This funding model is designed to be flexible and to allow **service innovation**. Importantly, the supports delivered will be chosen, and paid for, by individual participants with the range of support expanding over time.

In the NDIS payment system, supports for participants fall into three Support Purpose categories: **core, capital and capacity building**.

1. CORE – A support that enables a participant to complete activities of daily living and enables them to work towards their goals and meet their objectives.

2. CAPITAL – An investment, such as assistive technologies, equipment and home or vehicle modifications, funding for capital costs (e.g. to pay for Specialist Disability Accommodation).

3. CAPACITY BUILDING - A support that enables a participant to build their independence and skills.

NDIS Outcomes Framework: Supports should help participants achieve their goals. The NDIS Outcomes Framework has been developed to measure goal attainment for individual participants and overall performance of the Scheme.

There are 8 Outcome Domains ('Domains') in the framework. These Domains help participants think about goals in different life areas and assist planners to explore where supports in these areas already exist and where further supports are required.

1. Daily Living

3. Health and Well-being

5. Work

7. Relationships

2. Home

4. Lifelong Learning

6. Social and Community Participation

8. Choice and Control

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NDIS service providers should be aware that all supports and services for Scheme participants should contribute to the achievement of their individual goals.

Support Categories

This NDIA Price Guide is arranged into 15 categories that align to the purpose of the funded supports and the NDIA Outcomes Framework (see above)



NDIS service providers should be aware that all supports and services for scheme participants should contribute to the achievement of their individual goals.

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SUPPORT PURPOSE	OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK DOMAIN	SUPPORT CATEGORY (Plan Budgets)
CORE	Daily Living Daily Living Daily Living Social & Community Participation	1. Assistance with Daily Life 2. Transport 3. Consumables 4. Assistance with Social & Community Participation
CAPITAL	Daily Living Home	5. Assistive Technology 6. Home
CAPACITY BUILDING	Choice & Control Home Social and Community Participation Work Relationships Health & Wellbeing Lifelong Learning Choice and Control Daily Living	7. Coordination of Supports 8. Improved Living Arrangements 9. Increased Social and Community Participation 10. Finding and Keeping a Job 11. Improved Relationships 12. Improved Health and Wellbeing 13. Improved Learning 14. Improved Life Choices 15. Improved Daily Living Skills

Participant budgets are allocated according to support purpose

Supports in participant plans are categorised according to the three support purposes noted earlier. Within a plan participant budgets are subject to the following rules in relation to support purposes:

CORE SUPPORTS: Participant budgets are flexible across the four sub-categories: Assistance with daily living, Transport, Consumables, and Assistance with Social and Community Participation. A participant may choose how to spend their core support funding, but cannot reallocate core support funding to other support purposes (i.e. capital or capacity building supports).

CAPITAL SUPPORTS: Participant budgets for this support purpose are usually restricted to specific items identified in the participant's plan. These include Assistive Technology and Home Modifications, as well as Specialist Disability Accommodation. Most items are 'quotable', which means that providers must negotiate a price in a Service Agreement with a participant. Supports can include assessment, delivery, set-up, adjustment and maintenance costs.

CAPACITY BUILDING: Participant budgets are allocated at a support category level, and must be used to achieve goals in the participant's plan. These supports include Coordination of Supports, Improved Living Arrangements, and Increased Social & Community Participation, Finding & Keeping a Job, Improved Relationships, Improved Health & Wellbeing, Improved Learning, Improved Life Choices and Improved Daily Living Skills.

Pave the Way

Pave the Way is funded by the Department of Communities' (Disability Services) to deliver Participant Readiness activities. This aspect of Pave the Way's work will assist Queenslanders with disabilities, their families and carers in the North Coast and Far North Queensland regions to prepare for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

We will continue to assist families throughout Queensland to clarify their vision for their family member with a disability and to plan to implement that vision. We encourage planning which is vision driven, 'whole of life', developmental, outside service planning and which safeguards family members in the long-term.

Contact Us

Please contact us if you would like to be on our mailing list, or if you would like information about planning for the future and preparing for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

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2017

The Pave the Way team is currently in the process of planning our events calendar for 2017. We will resume with presentations and group and individual conversations from late January to early February. These events will be advertised on Pave the Way's website and flyers will be sent to those on our mailing list 3-4 weeks before holding an event in your area.

If you are not already on our mailing list and would like to join to be notified when we will be next visiting your area please contact us via the details below.

Please note: The Pave the Way office will be closed from Friday 23 December until Monday 2 January 2017.

From all of us at Pave the Way we would like to wish you and your family a wonderful festive season and a very happy new year. We look forward to seeing you in 2017!

