

ATSIDNQ

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Disability Network of Queensland

Edition 5 - May 2016

We've been all over!

From morning teas in Logan and Townsville, to Mt Isa and Palm Island, we've been travelling all over Queensland and meeting some inspirational people.

Thank-you to those who have shared their stories with us and are wanting to be part of the Network to build it into a strong voice for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with a disability, their carers, families and supporters.

With your support and helping us spread the word, the Network is growing each month.

We are hoping to increase the number of morning teas across the state and develop these Network events into local network groups, where members can come together and share in regular meetings.

The Network groups will also give members an opportunity to have their say about what is important to them.

The Network can provide input into Government submissions and consultations on behalf of Network members, ensuring their voice is heard.

We are also developing our communication tools and will soon be launching a brand new website. So stay tuned.

ATSIDNQ TEAM

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are warned this document may contain the images and names of people now deceased.



Get Connected

Join other Network members in our closed group Facebook page. Members can jump online, introduce themselves and share information with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disabilities in Queensland.

To join our member group:

1. Login to your own Facebook account
2. Type ATSIDNQ Members Page in search
3. Click the magnifying glass to start search
4. Click on the group ATSIDNQ Members Page
5. On the page select 'Join Group'
6. Wait a few days for admin to approve

We look forward to seeing you there!

Ian's Story

Fifty two year old Ian Connelly was a live-in-carer for his nephew Andrew over a two year period. Andrew, 40 is the youngest in his family and has a moderate intellectual disability. He was born on Palm Island and grew up there before moving to Cairns.

Ian and Andrew often accessed Aboriginal Community Controlled supports such as Wuchopperen Health Service P300 program, the men's group and had regular health check-ups in the general clinic.

Ian says being involved in social activities made a big difference to his role as a carer and believes more organised social support would have made his time with Andrew go more smoothly.

"It was not easy. There were times when things became frustrating. Issues around clear communication and mood swings made the role more complex for me."

Ian supports the idea of this network for Murris and Islanders with disabilities, and looks forward to seeing how the Network grows.

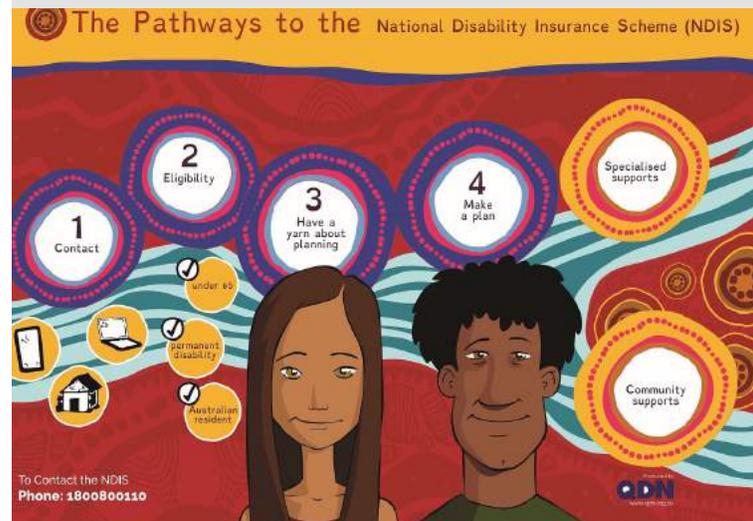


Get connected

The NDIS is now underway in some parts of Qld and rolling out across the rest of the state through till 2019.

The Network has assisted Queenslanders with Disability Network (QDN) in creating an NDIS readiness resource booklet for Aboriginal people living in remote Qld. This booklet will help people think about what they may want for their life under the NDIS.

If you would like a copy of the below resource contact the Network on 1800 718



NDIS has also produced a **Participant Pack** for Queensland about the NDIS roll out, general information and other aspects that would be of interest to people with a disability in Queensland.

To get your copy go to:

<http://www.ndis.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/QLD-Participant-Pack-Final.pdf>

Or the Network can send you an electronic copy to your email or a paper copy to you in the post. Contact us for your pack.



In the Community

Our Network welcome morning teas are continuing around the state with ones recently held in Logan and Ashgrove to invite new members to our Brisbane Network.

We also had some follow up visits and morning teas in Townsville and Charters Towers.

The Network has also been spreading the word at the Punyahara Festiva in Brisbane and visiting Mount Isa and Palm Island.

The Network was represented at the NDIS Information, Linking and apacity (ILC) Consultations in Brisbane by Uncle Willie Prince.

This was an opportunity for the Network to understand more abut this aspect of the NDIS and provide input on how the roll out could better suit Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disabilities.

The Network will also be represented at the Yugambeh Mabo Festival on Sunday 29th May in Mudgeeraba. Come and see us at our stall if you are around.



No disadvantage

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will be a new way to help people with a disability get care and support in the next few years.

You might already get money to pay for care and support from Disability Services. In the next few months or years (depending on where you live) you may receive money for these types of supports from the NDIS instead.

If you are already getting a service when the NDIS comes to your area, if you are **not eligible** there is a guarantee from Government that you will not be disadvantaged. This means that no one will be worse off than they are now, and will continue to receive the supports they need to live in the community.

If you are eligible for NDIS support your new disability services might be different from your old disability services. The NO DISADVANTAGE promise from the Government also means that under the NDIS you will be no worse off.

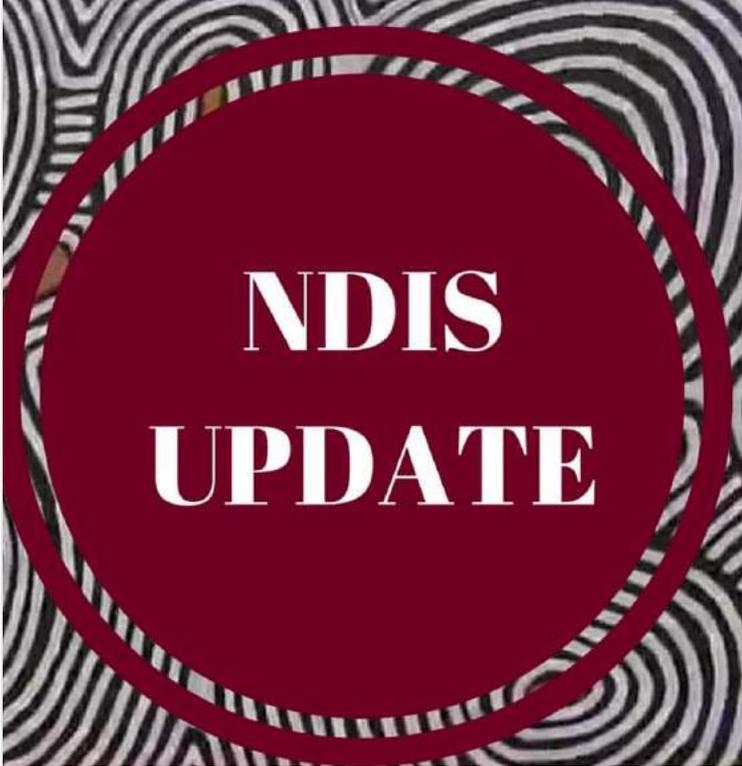
The NDIS will pay for reasonable and necessary supports. These will be different for all people. NDIS is about things you need related to your disability that are fair and necessary for your life.

Supports for people under NDIS fall into several areas. or example:

- Services you need - Transport, someone to help
- Being part of your community - groups, work
- Equipment - Wheelchair, communication device
- Independence - changes to house or car, life skills

The NDIS will say no to things that are not related to your disability. For example, the NDIS will not pay for things that everyone has to pay, like food, electricity, or movie tickets.

To check your eligibility go to <http://www.ndis.gov.au/ndis-access-checklist>.



NDIS UPDATE

For more Information on the NDIS

Website www.ndis.gov.au

Phone 1800 800 110
(Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)

Is English hard for you? Do you speak a different language? Call 13 14 50

Are you deaf or hearing impaired?
You can use TTY Call 1800 556 677
Then give the number 1800 800 110

Is your speech hard to understand?
Use the NRS Speak and Listen
Call 1800 555 727
Then give the number 1800 800 110

email enquiries@ndis.gov.au

Find out when NDIS is coming to your area
www.ndis.gov.au/about-us/our-sites/qld#region

To receive newsletter updates on the NDIS
www.ndis.gov.au/sign-updates

Did you know

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have higher rates of hearing loss. The National Relay Service has recently produced a range of resources designed especially for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

<http://relayservice.gov.au/support/aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples-and-the-nrs/>

Their general website is also a good place to find out about the range of call types available to people experiencing hearing and or speech loss www.relayservice.gov.au or you can call their friendly help desk staff on 1800 555 660 if you would like to take advantage of free training.

They also have an App for your phone you may like to check out.

Grounded Inspiration

Indigenous people with disabilities are running a café in coastal New South Wales, with great success.

Two months ago the Nambucca Heads Aboriginal Land Council (NHALC) set up the organic food café **Traditionally Grounded**.

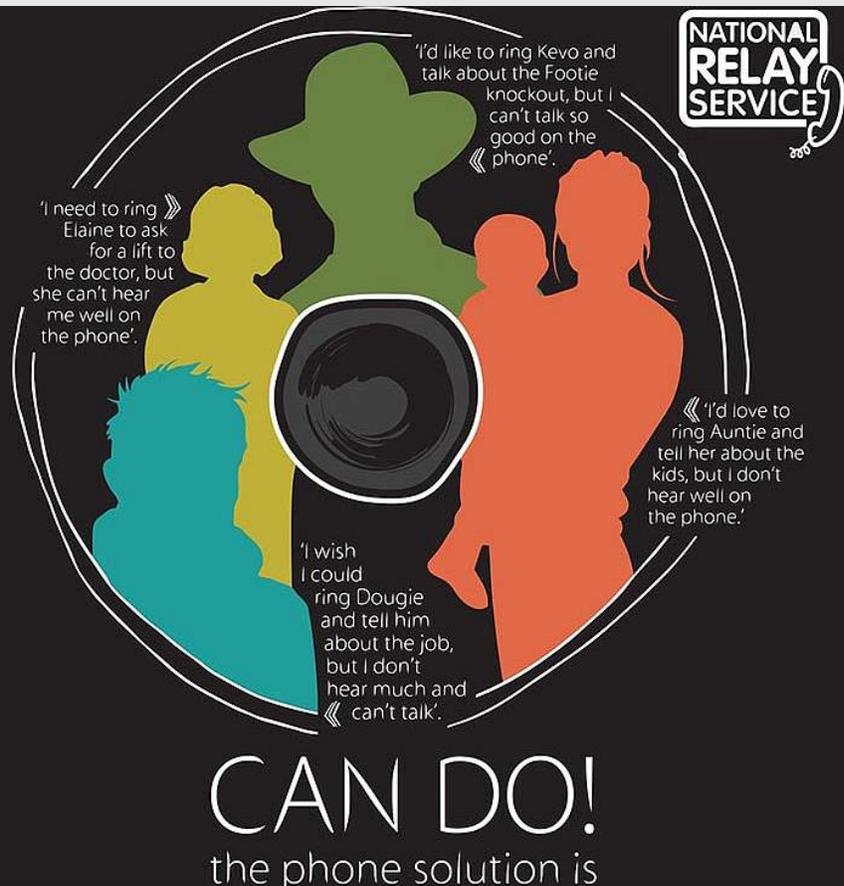
The café is operated by 12 Indigenous locals living with disabilities, who are each being trained in the arts of coffee-making, food preparation, and customer service.

NHALC chief executive Louise Robinson said the café made employment available for people facing barriers within the Aboriginal community. "They've responded brilliantly. Just the self-confidence alone is amazing."

"It's not about money ... you've provided 12 people with an opportunity for the rest of their lives".

"If you can change one person's life that's wonderful, but imagine changing 12 people's lives," she said.

Source: www.abc.net.au



Deadly Hats



Our deadly Network stickers and hats have been a great hit with new and existing members!

These are a great way of spreading the word about the Network. So wear your hat with pride, pop your sticker somewhere visible and have a yarn about our Network with other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disabilities that you know.

If you have not yet received your hat and sticker and would like one, please contact the Network on 1800 718 969 and leave a clear message with your name and postal address

(Members only, limit one of each per member).

What's Happening?

Do you know someone deadly with a disability we could profile in our next newsletter?

Are you involved in a community event and want some information or material about the Network? Contact us.

Phone: 1800 718 969

Email: info@atsidnq.com.au

Post: 121 Coppefield St Geebung, 4034

(Sticker pictured below)



May 26 - Sorry Day
May 27 - 1967 Referendum
June 3 - Mabo Day

**National
Reconciliation
Week 2016**
27 May to 3 June

**OUR HISTORY,
OUR STORY,
OUR FUTURE**

**25
YEARS**
RECONCILIATION
IN AUSTRALIA



The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Disability Network of Queensland acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands in which we work and honour the elders past, present and future