

ATSIDNQ

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Disability Network of Queensland

Edition 19 - September 2018



What's new?

We have welcomed many new members in the recent months. ATSIDNQ now has 860 members around the state!

The past two months have also seen many major days of celebration, including:

International Day of Indigenous People – 9 August

National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day – 4 August

Brain Injury Awareness Week – 20 – 26 August

Indigenous Literacy Day – 5 September

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People (Anniversary) – 13 September

This edition has some great information on events and opportunities. We hope you are enjoying our newsletters. If you have something to contribute, please give us a call 1800 718 969.

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

In the Community

In celebration of National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children's Day 2018, Kurbingui Youth and Family Development in collaboration with Life Without Barriers hosted an event at Pine Rivers. It was a lovely day for families and their children, including a Welcome to Country and traditional dance group.

We recently held Yarning Groups in Maryborough and Bundaberg in September and visited locals in Hervey Bay. Welcome to all the new ATSIDNQ members who have signed up to our network at these events!



Our Project Officer also attended: Building the Aboriginal Disability Service Sector Gathering, hosted by the First Peoples Disability Network Australia in Tamworth in mid-August.

It brought together about 50 people from all around NSW to contribute ideas and become informed about current issues within the Disability Sector. It highlighted the similarities seen in QLD and NSW of the ongoing challenges faced within our communities for disability service provision for our mob. It was a good opportunity to network with like-minded professionals and the community who shared their stories of inspiration.



**2018 NATIONAL
INDIGENOUS
NDIS CONFERENCE
DECEMBER 11-13, 2018
MARRIOTT HOTEL
BRISBANE QLD**

**1st
NATIONAL
INDIGENOUS**

**NDIS
CONFERENCE**

11TH-13TH DECEMBER 2018

MARRIOTT BRISBANE

www.icsconferences.org

**TPCH Garden / Mural Opening - Lighthouse
Project**

To coincide with the **International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples**, Prince Charles Hospital officially opened their healing garden mural.

It's part of the Lighthouse Project, which aims to drive change in quality care within the acute care setting. It's jointly funded program with the Heart Foundation, the Australian Healthcare; Hospitals Association (AHHA) and the Australian Government.

If you visiting the hospital, please make a special stop at the Healing Garden.



Disability Employment

Centrecare NQ have recently been announced as one of 13 recipients to receive two years funding to support the growing need in disability employment, which will specifically focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living with disabilities in the Northern Territory (NT), Queensland (QLD) and South Australia (SA)

The funding will cover two major principles around personal capacity building and community capacity building, which is aimed at focusing on building inclusiveness of individuals as well as communities.

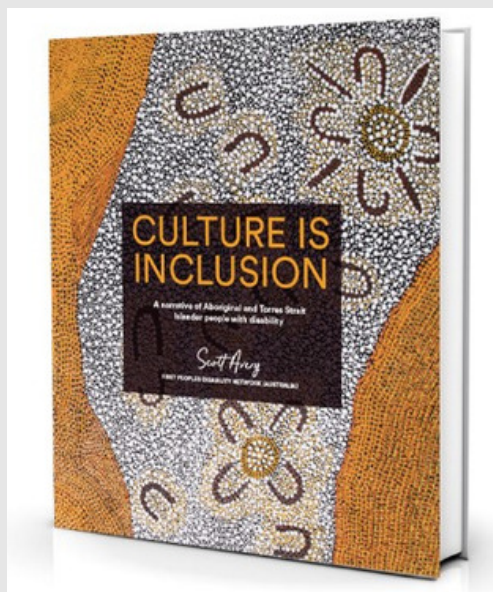
This additional funding is a step in the right direction towards supporting inclusiveness for people with disabilities in our communities.

Culture is Inclusion

Culture is Inclusion: A narrative of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability.

A landmark report has been released to share the lived experience and stories of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people living with disabilities.

Go to: www.fpdn.org.au



The Energy and Water Ombudsman Queensland (EWOQ), a free, fair and independent dispute resolution service for customers who have unresolved issues with their electricity, gas or water supplier.

EWOQ may help customers to get reconnected, more time to pay a bill and provide information about concessions, rebates and assistance programs. Some of the rebates include:

- The Home Energy Emergency Assistance Scheme, worth up to \$720,
- Medical cooling and heating concession scheme, worth \$340 per year for eligible applicants,
- Electricity life support concession (for oxygen concentrators or kidney dialysis machines issued free of charge by Queensland Health), \$694 per year (oxygen concentrator) or \$464 per year (kidney dialysis) for eligible applicants.

Email: complaints@ewoq.com.au

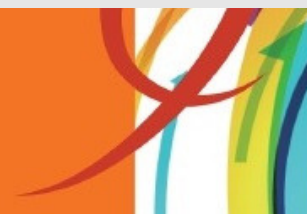
Phone: 1800 662 837

www.ewoq.com.au

(search indigenous communities brochure)



Changing Lives, Changing Communities



Do you want a more inclusive community?

Changing Lives, Changing Communities is about bringing together all parts of the community to co-create solutions to ensure people with disability are included in their community and can access what they need, like a place to call home, good health, transport, education and a job.

Community events will be held around the state which will focus on what has been achieved and what more can be done. During the two day events, there will be discussions about the stories to tell in our communities and plans for a movement for change. These will be hands-on sessions, drawing from the strength and wisdom in the room, to develop a vision and key actions for change.

At the end of day one at each location there will be a Community Marketplace where mainstream and community providers will be invited to showcase what they do and their inclusive services. Any social enterprises are also welcome to be part of the exciting market places!

Play Your Part

Toowoomba - 10 & 11 October
Mackay - 17 & 18 October
Gladstone - 1 & 2 November
Cairns - 8 & 9 November
Mt Isa - 13 & 14 November
Brisbane - 28 & 29 November
Caboolture - 3 & 4 December

**For information, flyers, or
to register for these
events go to
www.qcoss.org.au**



Did you know?

Anti-Discrimination Sport

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Unit within the Anti-Discrimination Commission Queensland are a great resource and information provider and offers free training on "Tracking Your Rights", a community resource to raise awareness of issues related to discrimination, harassment and vilification.

The Commission can support you in understanding the discrimination law in QLD; give you strategies for preventing discrimination and harassment; provide you with plans on responding to problems and assistance in understanding workplace plans and procedures.



New Microsoft Word Features

Microsoft Word (for Office 365 subscribers Online) has seen new disability friendly features.

The Microsoft 'Word' program can now read aloud to you at the click of a button. It can also read aloud in many different languages. There is also an inbuilt accessibility checker. These features can be accessed in the review top tab. For information search Microsoft Office on the web.



NDIS Questions and Answers



What is the difference between NDIS / NDIA?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is run by an independent agency, which is the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA). The NDIS is just one component that aims to bring community, government and industry together to address the challenges faced by people with disability.

I have heard the NDIS is bigger than just plans for individuals. What does this mean?

The whole NDIS system aims to work towards ensuring also that mainstream support services such as health, education, transport and the wider community are included in those support services for people who access the scheme.

The below picture shows how all the programs under the NDIS intersect. Not all people with disability will be eligible for an NDIS plan, so other projects will work towards providing support for other needs in the community.



I received a text or SMS message from the NDIA notifying me that a representative will call me soon. Is this a scam?

No, this is not a scam. The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has introduced SMS notifications to support the Access Request process (this is the request process to encourage people to become a National Disability Insurance Scheme participant).

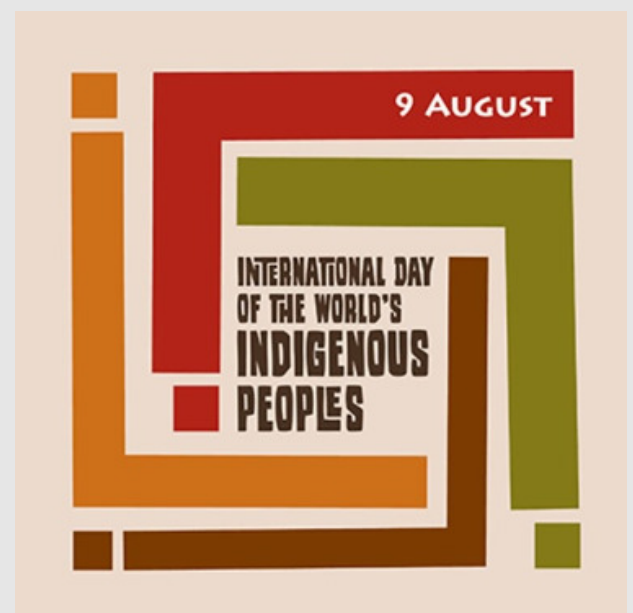
In some cases, people applying for the Scheme say that they would like to complete their NDIS Access Request verbally.

This is called a Verbal Access Request (VAR), and it means that the NDIA will contact you by phone to discuss your Access Request.

However, the NDIA found that often it was hard to reach people by phone, so they implemented a SMS process where they send a SMS the day before making a VAR call, making the person aware the NDIA will call them.

It's important to be aware of potential scams.

If you are unsure about whether a person calling you is from the NDIA, you can ask for their name and number.





WHAT IS QDN'S NDIS PEER TO PEER ADVOCACY PROJECT?

NDIS Peer to Peer Advocacy is a 12 month project that runs from 1 July 2018 – 30 June 2019, supporting people with disability around the NDIS, including access, pre-planning and planning. Queenslanders with Disability Network (QDN) has been funded by the Department of Communities, Disability Services and Seniors to work with people with disability (and their supporters) who live in the roll out areas for the final year of transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). QDN will provide independent support with:

- Making an access request to the NDIS
- Knowing what paperwork is needed for the access request including information from General Practitioners or allied health professional
- Getting ready for the NDIS planning meeting
- Having a peer advocate support them at their NDIS planning meeting.

QDN's NDIS Peer to Peer Advocacy project will work with people with disability who may not have access to the support they need from other services or informal supports to move through the steps of the NDIS journey.

About Queenslanders with Disability Network

Queenslanders with Disability Network (QDN) is an organisation of, by and for people with disability. QDN is not a service provider and is not a government department. QDN has over 1500 members and supporters across the state to have a say around the important issues that impact on their lives. QDN's statewide member network provides feedback to inform big picture policy work with Government and peak bodies to give people with disability a voice. QDN also delivers specifically funded projects, supporting people with disability as leaders of change in their own lives, in their communities and at system level. Over the past 4 years, QDN has worked with over 10,000 Queenslanders with disability and their supporters to get ready for the NDIS. NDIS Peer to Peer Advocacy will build upon all this work and give people with disability access to independent support and information.



What support will people get from QDN?

People with disability will be able to get independent support through phone or face to face, and will include 1:1 support or in a small group session depending on need. People will get peer support from peer advocates who are people with lived experience of disability and the NDIS. This will include information, tips, resources and practical support at key stages of their NDIS journey.

People may ask for support for just one part of their NDIS journey, or need support at all stages. People will be matched to someone in the project team, including peer advocates to assist them with the information or support they need.

QDN will prioritise people currently not connected to a range of services, social and formal networks to assist them in their NDIS process. QDN will also link people into the NDIS Partners in the Community such as Local Area Coordinators (LACs), Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI), the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) or government departments who are best placed to provide more specific information or assistance.

Who can get support through the NDIS Peer to Peer Advocacy project?

People with disability who are living in the areas where the NDIS is rolling out from 1 July 2018 through to 30 June 2019 can get independent support through this project. This includes areas in the South East corner of Queensland including Brisbane, Gold Coast, Logan and Redlands, Moreton Bay, Fraser Coast and Sunshine Coast Local Government Areas (LGAs).

QDN can also work with people who may be eligible in other areas where the NDIS has rolled out and are still yet to access the scheme via phone or skype to provide information and support. The project aims to support people with disability without funded disability services or where people may not have social supports in their life to complete the NDIS access pathway and participate actively in their NDIS planning meeting. The project may also support people who currently get a disability service who need assistance.




QDN'S NDIS PEER TO PEER ADVOCACY PROJECT – SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY WITH NDIS ACCESS AND NDIS PLANNING

How to contact QDN?

 **ph/tty** 07 3252 8566
free call 1300 363 783

 **email** qdn@qdn.org.au

 **website** www.qdn.org.au

 **address** Ground Floor
338 Turbot Street
Spring Hill QLD 4000