

# ATSI DNQ

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander  
Disability Network of Queensland

Edition 16 - February 2018



## Sorry Speech

The 13th of February 2018 marks ten years since the National Apology to the Stolen Generations.

'The image above 'Sharing Our Healing' depicts through its contemporary elements the Healing of Our People through sharing Our Stories, Respecting Our Culture and Healing Our People.

The Healing Foundation

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





## In the Community

On the 1st of December Network Member Tamarra and ATSIDNQ Project Officer Bronwyn had a stall at CQ University in Bundaberg for the NDIS and Community Expo held by Plan Management Partners.

Around 120 community members attended the Expo along with 30 service providers with stalls for community members to find out more about the services and what they offered.

There were sample bags and give aways, dancing by a local Aboriginal dance group and information sessions about the NDIS.

Everyone that came to our stall wanted an ATSIDNQ hat and commented on how good they looked!! Special thanks to Tamarra for Volunteering her time to assist with the stall.

Bundaberg's first Yarning Group went really well, with attendees including community members and service providers. The community was excited about the network coming to Bundaberg and having somewhere for members to connect. Thank you to Tamarra and her pup Calvin for helping to get the word of ATSIDNQ around Bundaberg.

Calvin pictured below is excited to be a part of the Network as well.







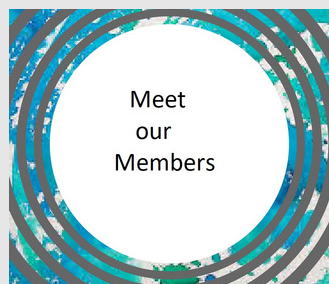
## Maryborough

Our Maryborough yarning group members shared a lot of information about experiences and issues that have been happening in the area.

More members signed up and we are hoping to have some guests speakers from NDIS and service providers attend future yarning groups to build strong relationships with the community. Thank you to Galangoor Duwalami Primary health care service for use of their meeting room and supporting The Network.







**Hello, my name is Owen McConnell and I have lived in Bundaberg my whole life.**

I enjoy cooking, photography, arts and crafts and my dog Jack.

I am very excited about ATSIDNQ coming to Bundaberg so that I can meet new people and share stories.

I have just received my NDIS package and am excited as it's given me the opportunity to have more one on one support and I am able to go away on holidays and be able to have my support workers assist me to attend events I enjoy,

I am looking forward to going to Brisbane for the Ekka for a holiday this year. I look forward to meeting more people and will be making piklets for the next Bundaberg Yarning group so make sure you come to try them.



Did you know?

My Rights Qld website.

[www.myrightsqld.com.au](http://www.myrightsqld.com.au) is a project ADA Australia has developed with funding from Legal Aid Queensland.

This guide gives you information about your rights as a person living with disability in Queensland, it can also support you to find help for a wide range of issues.

The My Rights Qld guide offers a free online resource for people with disability and their carers to access quick reference information about their rights and how to find help in Qld. The guide will be launched by Minister Coralee O'Rourke (Minister for Communities and Minister for Disability Services and Seniors) in April 2018.

**My Rights Qld – A disability rights guide**

This free online guide offers information to help you understand and exercise your rights in Queensland.  
Accessible on a computer, smartphone or tablet device.

[www.myrightsqld.com.au](http://www.myrightsqld.com.au)

**My Rights Qld** is an online guide providing information for Queenslanders with disability.

**My Rights Qld can help you:**

- understand your rights in relation to a wide range of topics, including the NDIS, decision-making, health, mental health, housing, discrimination and more
- understand how to get help and how to make a complaint
- connect with organisations that can support you to protect your rights.

To access the **My Rights Qld** guide, visit [www.myrightsqld.com.au](http://www.myrightsqld.com.au) on a smartphone, computer or tablet device.

ADA Australia My Rights Qld was developed by ADA Australia, funded by Legal Aid Queensland. Legal Aid



# Mipla Binna



Families learning and sharing  
their hearing loss journey

Mipla Binna – Our Ears website is a resource to help families learn about permanent hearing loss. Mipla Binna has information to help families plan early intervention options for their child.



The new Mipla Binna web page can be found on the Children's Health Queensland website  
<https://www.childrens.health.qld.gov.au/miplabinna>

We raise awareness of the  
cultural and social needs of  
Aboriginal and Torres Strait  
Islander people with a disability,  
their families and carers.

## Early Intervention Indigenous Liaison Officer (EI ILO) Program

The Early Intervention Indigenous Liaison Officer (EI ILO) Program aims to increase awareness of childhood disability in Indigenous families and communities, assist access to diagnosis, education and funding, and to provide links to culturally relevant services to enable a better understanding of each other and the roles they play in their child's wellbeing.

Three Early intervention Indigenous Liaison Officers based at Autism Queensland are charged with raising awareness in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities nationally about:

- Childhood disability
- Developmental red flags
- Pathways for diagnosis
- The benefits of early intervention
- Funding options for early intervention

For more information go to  
<https://www.eiilo.com.au/> or call (07) 3273 0038

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Disability Network of Qld

Phone: 1800 718 969

Email: [info@atsidnq.com.au](mailto:info@atsidnq.com.au)

Web: [www.atsidnq.com.au](http://www.atsidnq.com.au)





# NDIS News

## March 2018

3rd

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

NDIS Are You Ready? - Redcliffe Workshop  
Redcliffe Cultural Centre

12th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

NDIS Are You Ready? - Caboolture Workshop  
Caboolture Hub

19th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

NDIS Are You Ready? - Caloundra Workshop  
Caloundra Community Centre

## April 2018

23rd

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

NDIS Are You Ready? - Caloundra Workshop  
Caloundra Community Centre

30th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

NDIS Are You Ready? - Redcliffe Workshop  
Redcliffe Cultural Centre

## June 2018

4th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

NDIS Are You Ready? - Caloundra Workshop  
Caloundra Community Centre

6th

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

NDIS Are You Ready? - Redcliffe Workshop  
Redcliffe Cultural Centre

## From 1 July 2018 the NDIS will become available in:

Brisbane City areas north & south of the Brisbane River

Robina, Gold Coast and Hinterland areas

Logan City and Redland City

Maryborough - includes Fraser Coast, North Burnett, South Burnett and Cherbourg

Cairns- includes Cassowary Coast, Tablelands, Croydon, Etheridge, Cape York and Torres Strait

This means you can now contact the NDIS to start applications for access.

## NDIS workshops

Parent to Parent are holding NDIS workshops this year.

### What are the NDIS workshops about?

This is a hands-on workshop which provides you with up to date information on the NDIS and how you can be ready for when it rolls out in your area.

### Who should attend these NDIS workshops?

People who should attend are people with disability, anyone interested in learning more about the NDIS, families, support workers, service providers, schools and other community providers.

# NDIS

## Questions and Answers

### **Can you stop receiving NDIS funding after a review?**

Yes, plan reviews are a normal part of the NDIS. Your plan review is the opportunity to check your supports are working for you and are helping you to progress and achieve your goals. It is expected that your first plan review will take place after your first 12 months in the scheme. Plan reviews can then be scheduled up to two years apart dependent on personal circumstances and goals.

If you no longer meet the access requirements, transitioning from the NDIS means that you have built up your skills and no longer need NDIS supports or you may be better supported by other government services. If this happens but you feel that you still need NDIS funded support, you can request a review of the decision and supply additional information to meet the access requirements.

It is important to remember that the NDIS approach means if, after a period, you need funded supports again, the NDIS will again provide reasonable and necessary funded support.

### **Are copies of plans automatically supplied to my GP?**

No. It may be useful for your GP to be aware of what outcomes you would like to achieve and what services can be purchased in your plan, as these may complement other services available through Medicare.

### **How does the NDIS get in contact with people when the Scheme starts in a new area?**

This depends on if you are already receiving disability supports. If you currently get disability supports, the NDIA will contact you when the NDIS is available in your area.

If you are not currently receiving supports, you will need to contact NDIS when the NDIS is available in your area.

There is also a fact sheet on the NDIS website on how to access the NDIS.

### **Is there going to be other ways to search for a provider with the NDIS?**

The current list available doesn't show all locations. You can go on the NDIS website or use the Provider Finder tool in your Participant Portal.

**For more information, contact the NDIS call center on 1800 800 110 or visit the website <https://www.ndis.gov.au/>**



# NDIS Q and A continued.

## How long will it take for my access request to be processed?

As the NDIS rolls out to even more new locations they are receiving a very high number of requests from people to access the scheme. To meet this need, the NDIS is working hard to make sure their responses are timely and efficient.

After you have submitted a valid access request, the NDIS must respond within 21 days of receiving the valid access request form. You can find more information about this in the NDIS Operational Guidelines. In some cases, the NDIS may need more documents, assessments or evidence, which means it might take longer for your request to be assessed.

Here are some things you can do to assist the NDIA to process your request quickly.

- Go to the NDIS website to find out when the NDIS is available in your area and how you can prepare. If you are submitting an Access Request Form, make sure it is complete and signed, with all your information attached
- If you have already submitted an access request and received a letter from the NDIS saying they will be contacting you, make sure you have information on hand about the impact of your impairment or disability.
- If you have a Centrelink Reference Number, providing this will mean the NDIS can confirm your age and residence without requesting additional documents.

Your LAC (Local area coordinator) or Early Childhood partner can provide support and review your access request form prior to submitting it to the NDIA.

## What kind of things come under other government supports?

While the NDIS is expected to provide disability supports for over 460,000 Australians with a significant and permanent disability, it is not intended to replace other services that are available to all Australians, such as health, education, employment, transport, aged care, justice and housing.

NDIS funded plans are additional to any other supports that people may be eligible to receive from other government services such as the Disability Support Pension, Carers Allowance or Health Care Card.

NDIS plans are goal orientated, and will provide support to access and connect with other services that can also help you to achieve better outcomes in life.

Because the NDIS is not intended to replace other available services, you will still need to independently access support through different government funded sectors.

For example:

- You may access the health system to visit your doctor, dentist, or local hospital,
- You may access the transport system to catch the bus to work, school or community events,
- Or you may access the education system to go to School, TAFE or University.

The NDIS is a supporting system that enables people living disability to access, use and benefit from other services that are available to all Australians.





## Get Active with Our Network

### Do you have a story to share?

Sharing our stories can be a way of helping people to feel connected and less isolated. Members of the Network who share their story can inspire others and help build our community.

To view some of our member stories check out our website [www.atsidnq.com.au](http://www.atsidnq.com.au)

### Help others join

We are encouraging community members to join our group, so if you have friends who would like to hear news about NDIS and what's happening in their area perhaps suggest they join the Network.

People can apply easily on line through our website [www.atsidnq.com.au](http://www.atsidnq.com.au). Help us spread the word so the Network can continue to grow.

### Our Network Contact Details are:

**email:** [info@atsidnq.com.au](mailto:info@atsidnq.com.au)

**www:** [www.atsidnq.com.au](http://www.atsidnq.com.au)

**Phone:** 1800 718 969

### Join us on Facebook

The Network has a closed Facebook group just for members!

**To join the group, go into your Facebook account and search:**

**ATSIDNQ Members Page**

After a few days (to allow admin to approve), you will then be able to connect, receive and share information with other Network members.

Some ideas for contributions could be:

- Introduce yourself
- Share your interests
- Ask questions
- Answer others questions
- Share your experience of NDIS
- Share interesting articles
- Celebrate achievements

Or just be anonymous and learn from others!



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.