


ATSIDNQ

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Disability Network of Queensland

Edition 8 - October 2016



To all our carers ...
we appreciate you!

National Carers Week
October 16 - 22, 2016

National Carers Week is about recognising and celebrating the outstanding contribution unpaid carers make to our nation.

The theme for National Carers Week was 'Carers Count'.

Reconciliation Awards

The Yugambah Museum Youth Choir, established by Griffith Arts Research candidate Candace Kruger, has been named the winner of the Queensland Reconciliation Awards – Communities Division.

The Queensland Reconciliation Awards recognise the businesses, partnerships and community organisations fostering reconciliation across the state.

Ms Kruger formed the choir on the Gold Coast in 2014 – the first youth Indigenous choir of its kind.

"The choir have performed at community and corporate events including Commonwealth Day 2016, the launch of National Reconciliation Week 2015 and the 2015 NRL Indigenous All Stars Match."

"I have witnessed choir participants discover extended family and how they fit within cultural family groups, understand and learn language through song and begin to connect to an identity that they hadn't previously understood, particularly the youth who are in foster care." Ms Kruger said.

For more information or to book the choir, contact the Museum 3807 6155 or admin@yugambah.com

Support for name change

ATSIDNQ has been supported by QADA and its staff (Queensland Aged and Disability Advocacy) for the last 18 months.

In September this year QADA undertook a name change and rebrand and is now called ADA Australia (Aged and Disability Advocacy Australia).

Congratulations to ADA Australia on its new National profile. All arrangements in the support of ATSIDNQ will remain the same.

Positive Partnerships

Positive Partnerships has developed some resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to increase the recognition of Autism.

The lack of visibility of Aboriginal people on the autism spectrum means that it is mostly unheard of in many areas. Lack of appropriate services, appropriate diagnostic assessments and tools, the absence of trusted relationships, and the fear of shame and blame have led to lower numbers of children formally diagnosed with autism.

Most Aboriginal people with a disability are forced to leave their remote community and live in regional centres to obtain respite care.

The resources were developed in collaboration and partnership with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and include videos, booklets and information. To access these resources go to <http://www.positivepartnerships.com.au/resources-aboriginal-and-torres-strait-islander-peoples> or <https://www.autismspectrum.org.au/content/cultural-and-indigenous-support>



In the Community

It's been a busy few months with Carers week and Disability Action week falling during this time. We have loved connecting with members and spreading the word about the Network around the state.

Mel, Christine and Lindy from our ATSIDNQ team visited Palm Island again. It was Lindy's first time on Palm and being a new member to the team it was great we could introduce her to the community.

Lindy is based in Townsville and through her other role for ADA Australia is able to support people in Townsville and Palm Island with impaired capacity to plan for the NDIS. This is the Networks second visit to Palm for the year and the team always have a great time yarning with people from the community.

We heard about some of the challenges of residents around a number of topics such as aged care, disability, housing and health.

We held a Network meeting in Mackay in October. Community members were excited to know exactly what they need to consider for planning for the NDIS and were interested to hear from Lyn Gargano from Carers Qld about navigating as a carer through the NDIS process as the NDIS will be rolling out in Mackay from November 1.



Inclusion:

It's a game changer.

**DISABILITY
ACTION WEEK**
11-17 September 2016

www.qld.gov.au/daw

 @disabilityQLD



Frequently Asked Questions

What will the NDIS pay for?

The types of supports that the NDIS may fund for people with disability include:

- * daily personal activities
- * transport to be active in the community
- * economic and daily life activities
- * help to gain or keep employment
- * therapeutic supports including behaviour support
- * help at home
- * aids or equipment assessment,
- * set up and training home modification design and installation mobility equipment
- * car modifications

A graphic featuring a large maroon circle with a white border. Inside the circle, the words "NDIS" and "UPDATE" are written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters, stacked vertically. The background of the graphic is a black and white Aboriginal dot pattern.

NDIS UPDATE

Do I need to be assessed by the Queensland Government to access the NDIS?

No. People do not need to be registered with or assessed by Disability Services or any other Queensland Government department to participate in the NDIS.

NDIS assessment is supported through the NDIA.

Will my disability supports from the Queensland Government or my funded service provider continue until I enter the NDIS?

Yes. People will continue to receive the Queensland Government funded disability services they currently receive until they become an NDIS participant with an approved plan.

When the NDIS is introduced in each location, eligible participants will move to the NDIS and have choice and control over their supports and services.

The Queensland Government will work with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA), service providers and people with disability, their families and carers to ensure that disability supports and services continue during the NDIS transition.

People who currently receive services funded by the Queensland Government, and who may not be eligible for the NDIS, will continue to be supported by the Queensland Government. These arrangements are being discussed between the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments.

What if I need disability support now but the NDIS has not yet rolled out to my area?

You can request support from Disability Services in any of the below ways:

Online - make a request for assistance.
Phone or in person - Contact your local service centre and make a request over the phone with an intake officer. If you're unsure which service centre is closest, call 13 QGOV (13 74 68), or for TTY users phone 133 677, and a customer service adviser will help.

FAQ Continued

What if I have a disability but I do not meet the access requirements for the NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) is able to connect you with community and mainstream supports to help you pursue your goals and aspirations, and participate in daily life.

You will continue to have access to mainstream services, such as health, education, transport and housing.

There will be continuity of support provisions if you are not eligible for the NDIS and currently receive disability supports from the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services.



How do I find out more information?

www.ndis.gov.au has further information on the NDIS. Sign up for the NDIS e-newsletter or call the NDIS Hotline on 1800 800 110.

sign up to the Queensland NDIS e-blast www.qld.gov.au/disability or call 13 QGOV (13 74 68) for information about current services for Queenslanders with disability.

- follow on Twitter @NDIS and @disabilityQLD
- for people with hearing or speech loss TTY 1800 555 677
- speak and listen 1800 555 727
- for people who need help with English TIS 131 450

Having problems with the NDIS /NDIA?

Are you unhappy with your NDIS package?
Are you upset or unhappy with a decision that the NDIA has made? Such as not qualifying or being assessed as not needing a particular support?

Do you have a complaint about the NDIA?
Have you been told that your family or support people aren't allowed to be with you when you talk the NDIA?

ADA Australia's Guardianship Advocate Lindy is a referral contact for members of ATSIDNQ.

Contact Lindy:

Lindy.harland@adaaustralia.com.au

or call 1800 818 338 and she can refer you to a service that will help you with any issues.

NDIS Calendar of events

Information sessions you can attend.

Nov 1 & Dec 6 - North Rockhampton
Nov 2 - Emerald and East Ipswich
Nov 7 - Toogoolawah
Nov 8 & 22 - Ipswich
Nov 8 -Victoria Point, Biloela, Bundaberg
Nov 9 - South Gladstone
Nov 10 - Toowoomba
Nov 15 - Capalaba
Nov 16 & Dec 8 - Herston
Nov 26 - Wellington Point
Nov 28 - Lowood
Nov 30 - Labrador
Dec 2 - Bundaberg
Dec 7 - Springwood
Dec 12 - Kilcoy

For information: <https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/reform-and-renewal/disability-services/national-disability-insurance-scheme-in-queensland/ndis-events-calendar> or contact us for details.

NDIS - Have your Say

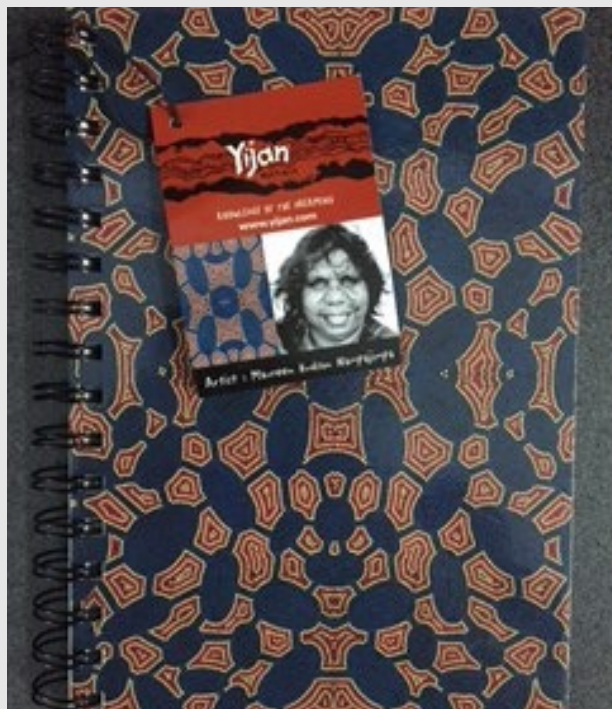
We're keen to hear about members experience with the NDIS for those who have already transitioned in the Townsville area. In particular, your feedback from the following questions:

- Did you feel prepared for the introduction of the NDIS in your area?
- How could preparation be improved?
- How did you find the sign up process?
- How could the sign up process be improved?
- Are you happy with the plan you received?
- How could your plan be improved?
- Has your experience with NDIS so far been culturally appropriate?
- How could the NDIS experience for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in your community be improved?

If you have any responses for one or more of these questions above, please contact us at info@atsidnq.com.au

Members contributions will help inform the Networks comments for submissions on behalf of members.

A prize draw will be held for all members who contact us about this feedback. You could win the Yijan art Journal seen here.



A word from uncle Ted

I am now officially an old bugger, as I turned 65 at the beginning of the month!

We had our third meeting for the ATSIDNQ group in Maryborough in September which involved four people with intellectual disabilities, a mother carer, two support workers, the A&TSI police liaison officer, Gay and myself.

I also recently attended the disability conference in Maryborough, which was a full house, many service providers and people with disabilities.

It was a great event for finding out more about what is going on and connecting with others.



Maryborough Local Champion Ted Thorburn

Did you know?

Kiah Hostel Brisbane is a new service for Indigenous patients undergoing medical treatments in Brisbane and their families/carers.

Kiah Hostel is able to provide accommodation, transport and meals. It is 10 minutes from the airport and 15 minutes from the Royal Brisbane Hospital.

Contact Murray and Teena Vogt on 3314 8330 or email [mma.kiah@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mmm.kiah@bigpond.net.au)



Title: Voices of Our Community (August 2016); Artist: Michelle Tyhuis

The artwork subject and composition symbolise the important role ADA Australia plays in listening to and giving voice to people in need. Both the Kookaburra and Cockatoo are powerful spiritual symbols in our Dreaming. The Kookaburra brings the medicine of laughter and joy, starting the fire of the sun with his happy laugh. He calls out to awaken people and day creatures – his laugh placing gladness in their hearts.

Curious Cockatoo and his friend Green Tree Frog listen to Kookaburra, hearing the message shared as it echoes into the silent night. Cockatoo takes his position as look-out, ready to protect his friends and their joy. He is the master of getting out of tricky situations – but he is also a great listener, so he is captivated by Kookaburra. The large gumtree is a home to a diverse range of creatures, all with their own voice.

This shared home, symbolises ADA Australia's vision and the power of the organisation's support, especially to older people and people with a disability. (ADA Australia staff make up the team for the ATSIDNQ Network).

Free Forum in Townsville – Understanding Abuse and Staying Safe – Free Forum

NDS QLD and Parent to Parent are pleased to be working together to co-host a free forum about human rights, safety and preventing abuse and neglect of people with disability.

We will hear from representatives from VALID about their Staying Safe training program for people with disability. NDS's Zero Tolerance team will also talk about the recently launched Understanding Abuse online training and tools for providers.

The forums are part of a national partnership between NDS and Inclusion Australia to build understanding on how to prevent and respond to abuse, and strengthen the rights of people with disability.

We invite people with disability and their support workers, as well as team leaders and supervisors to learn together about feeling safe and being safe.

When: 17 November 2016

Where: Tony Ireland Stadium - Function Room, 2 - 14
SPORTING DR, CONDON, QLD, 4815

Time: 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Further information Phone: 0738289400 Email:
tash.mucha@nds.org.au

GET
CONNECTED



Want more information about
The Network? Check out our
website www.atsidnq.com.au



The Network has a public
Facebook page.
<https://www.facebook.com/Aboriginal-Torres-Strait-Islander-Disability-Network-QLD-418621321682340/?fref=ts>



1800 718 969

