

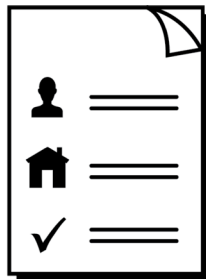


*Working together to deliver the NDIS*



## People with mental health conditions

NDIS Review fact sheet



**Easy Read**

## About this fact sheet



This fact sheet is written by the NDIS Review.

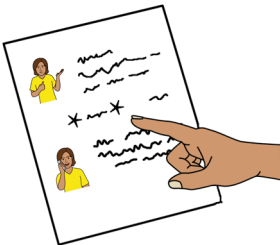


You can read more about this topic on our website.

Visit [ndisreview.gov.au](https://www.ndisreview.gov.au)



This fact sheet is written in a way that is easy to understand.



We add a star before and after **\*hard words\***. Then we explain what the words mean.



You can ask someone to help you read and understand this fact sheet.



Contact information is at the end of this fact sheet.

## The NDIS Review



Our review started in October 2022.



We talked to lots of people.



We heard about problems with the NDIS and what needs to change.

## What we learnt about people with \*mental health conditions\*

Mental health is how you think and feel.



Mental health conditions make it hard to

- do everyday activities
- be part of the community.



There are many names for mental health conditions.



We need to support people with mental health conditions in different ways.

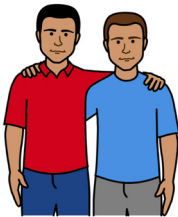


People with mental health conditions need support in and outside the NDIS.



We need to help people work towards

- feeling better

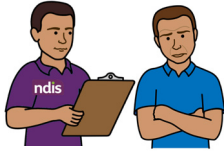


- living a good life



- being **\*independent\***
  - independent means doing things by yourself.

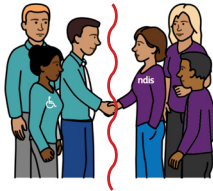
## What are the problems?



The NDIS does not support people with mental health conditions well.



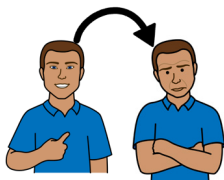
There is not enough support outside the NDIS.



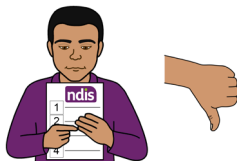
The NDIS does not work well with the mental health system.



This makes it hard for people who need help from the NDIS and the mental health system.



People with mental health conditions have changing needs.



NDIS processes are not set up well for people with changing needs.



**\*NDIA\*** staff do not know enough about mental health conditions.



The NDIA is the agency that manages the NDIS.



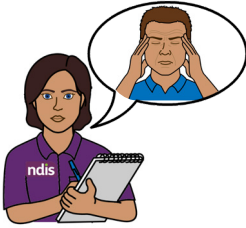
It is hard for people with mental health conditions to find

- good services



- workers with the right skills and experience.

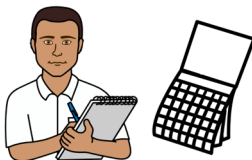
## What needs to happen?



The NDIS needs to support people with high support needs, including people with severe mental health conditions.



The NDIS should have a new **\*early intervention pathway\***.



The early intervention pathway should help people with mental health conditions to get support for up to 3 years.



For example, help to get

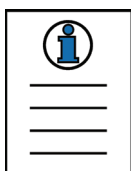
- housing



- support to find a job



- help with daily activities



- information and support for families.



People with mental health conditions should also get support from a **\*specialist navigator\***.



A specialist navigator would

- have experience and training in this area



- know how to find the right supports.

A specialist navigator should help participants connect with



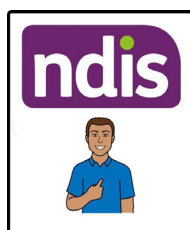
- mental health services



- school and training



- job services.



If people need more support after early intervention they should get ongoing NDIS **\*funding\***.

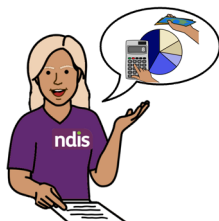


Funding means money to support someone.





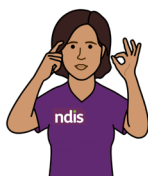
People who do **not** need ongoing NDIS funding should get support from their navigator to access other mental health services.



We think NDIS **\*budgets\*** should be set after a **\*needs assessment\***.



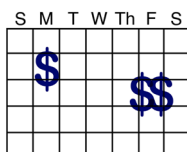
Budgets means money in NDIS plans.



A needs assessment means understanding your needs and setting the right budget.



A person should be able to spend the budget in a way that suits them.



For example, they might need more support on some days and less support on other days.



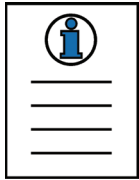
We think service providers and workers who support people with mental health conditions should be **\*registered\***.



Registered means they meet NDIS standards.

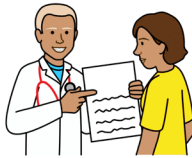


We also think there should be **\*foundational supports\*** for people who cannot access the NDIS.



Foundational supports might be

- information
- support programs
- help with everyday activities.

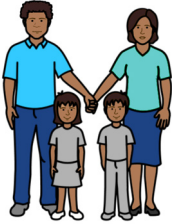


The NDIS and other mental health services should work together to meet people's needs.

## How will the changes help?



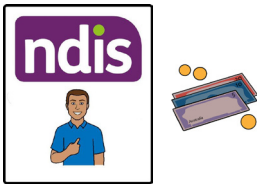
People with mental health conditions will have better support in and outside the NDIS.



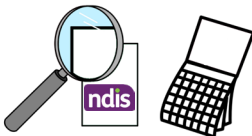
Families will also have more support.



The early intervention pathway will help people as soon as possible.



People with lots of support needs will get ongoing funding in their NDIS budget.



We think these ideas should be tested and changes should be made slowly.



## More information



For more information about the NDIS Review

Visit [ndisreview.gov.au](https://www.ndisreview.gov.au)



Australian Government  
Department of Social Services

You can contact the Department of Social Services about next steps.



Call 1300 653 227



Email [enquiries@dss.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@dss.gov.au)

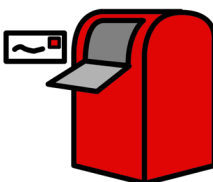
## Visit



Department of Social Services

71 Athllon Drive

Greenway ACT 2900



## Send a letter

Department of Social Services

GPO Box 9820

Canberra ACT 2601



If you need help to speak or listen, the National Relay Service can help you make a call.

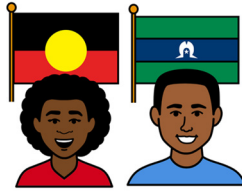
**Call**      1800 555 660

**Visit**      [accesshub.gov.au/nrs-helpdesk](https://accesshub.gov.au/nrs-helpdesk)



If you need help with other languages, contact the Translating and Interpreting Service.

**Visit**      [tisnational.gov.au](https://tisnational.gov.au)



## **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country across this nation on whose lands we all work, play and live. We acknowledge their ongoing connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging.

Easy Read Australia created this Easy Read document in November 2023 using Picture Communication Symbols (PCS). PCS and Boardmaker are trademarks of Tobii Dynavox LLC. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

You must ask for permission to use the images in this document.

For more information, please visit [easyreadaust.com.au](https://easyreadaust.com.au)