

Submission by [REDACTED] to the NDIS Review – Public

Submission taken and summarized by Advocacy for Disability Access and Inclusion

Client details:

Name: [REDACTED]

DOB: [REDACTED]

Description: Submission to NDIS Review

Consent: Consent form attached

Privacy Preference: Public

Advocates notes:

[REDACTED] is a [REDACTED] year-old man, currently incarcerated at Cadell Training Centre. He has participated in a 1 hour phone interview with Advocacy for Disability Access and Inclusion (ADAI) Advocate with the intention of making a submission to the NDIS Review. The advocate has provided an outline of the conversation below with a direct quotes from [REDACTED] in quotation marks. [REDACTED] would like a copy of the submission sent to him in the prison.

[REDACTED] is Australian. His primary disability is psychosocial.

[REDACTED] gave verbal consent over the phone.

Submission:

Advocate explained that the NDIS Review is wanting to hear about peoples experiences with the NDIS, and they want suggestions about how their experiences can be improved.

*Advocate Question: Have you applied for access to the NDIS while in prison?*

Yes, [REDACTED] has applied to the NDIS while in prison, with the help of a worker from Work Ready, Release Ready. [REDACTED] was rejected stating that there were therapies that he could try. [REDACTED] has an NDIS participant number. [REDACTED] had no support to write the NDIS application and was unable to put in as much information as he would have liked.

No one from the NDIS has seen [REDACTED] while he has been in prison.

*Advocate Question: Have you had someone do an assessment for the NDIS with you while you have been in prison?*

[REDACTED] was told to go through the social worker at Cadell to get assessments for his NDIS Access. [REDACTED] found it very hard to get assessments done. As part of [REDACTED] parole conditions he had an assessment done from a Clinical Psychologist – Director of Forensics. It was on her recommendation that he applied. [REDACTED] has PTSD. As part of [REDACTED] parole conditions he has to have mental health help when he is released.

*Advocate Question: Have you had any follow up contact after your application was made to the NDIS?*

Yes, ██████ received a rejection letter, stating that not all his treatment options have been explored. ██████ has written a letter to his Local Area Coordinator, but is still awaiting a response from them.

*Advocate Question: do you receive support at home from a family member or a friend that isn't through the NDIS?*

██████ is receiving the Disability Support Pension due to a bad back, there was no support or help for his disability.

██████ has been in and out of prison since he was 17. Out of the past 38 years, ██████ has spent 5 of those out of prison. ██████ will not be able to receive support from his sister for his PTSD. ██████ has tried to gain help for his mental health while he has been in prison but "they don't want to hear about it"

"I threatened to blow up the Supreme Court, judge didn't want to hear about it. Had one 1 on 1 session with a psychologist via video link, didn't have any privacy, the door had to stay open, with someone standing at the door, I felt that I couldn't tell her anything"

*Advocate Question: When you are released where will you be living? Have you heard of supported independent living?*

██████ will be living with his sister when he is released. ██████ is unsure the level of support that she will be able to provide. ██████ was not aware that the NDIS had housing options. The level of information ██████ has seen on the NDIS is a pamphlet here or there inside the prison.

██████ is eager to obtain any help he is eligible for.

██████ is on the emergency list for housing, with Housing SA.

*Advocate Question: Do you have a regular doctor?*

Yes, ██████ saw a regular doctor in Elizabeth, SA.

*Advocate Question: Are you under any type of guardianship arrangement with the public trustee?*

No, ██████ is not under any type of guardianship arrangement.

*Advocate Question: How could your experience with the NDIS have been improved?*

██████ experience could have been improved if access to information and the application process was easier. ██████ is limited to the numbers he can call.