

## 11. National Disability Insurance Scheme - NDIS

This is a plain English summary of Australia's 2019 CRPD Factsheet 11

### NDIS

The National Disability Insurance Scheme supports Australians with disability.



It is called the NDIS for short.

It is for people with a disability that is permanent and significant.

The NDIS started in 2012 and by 2020 will be in full effect.

It aims to make sure people with disability are included in all parts of society.

### Issues

Many people with disability cannot get the NDIS because they do not meet the rules to get it.

For example many people with mental illness cannot get the NDIS because the effects of their disability is not always obvious so the NDIS say it is not permanent.

The planning process to join the NDIS is hard to follow.

Information is often hard to read and understand.

People with disability often don't know their rights and options with the NDIS.

Many people who can get the NDIS are not getting it, this includes

- Women with disability
- Aboriginal people
- People from different cultural backgrounds
- LGBTIQ+ people with disability
- People with disability in prison

The government has not funded **advocacy** for people in the NDIS well.

The NDIS does not replace mainstream services like health and education but some of these services are not supporting people well.

### **What we recommend**

- Changes the NDIS law so that people whose disability is not considered permanent can still get the NDIS.
- Change the NDIS law so the government and NDIA must work with people with disability and our organisations.
- Make the NDIS fairer for people who are missing out like women and people in prison.
- Make sure people have access to advocacy and advocacy services are well funded.
- Make information and processes for the NDIS easy to understand.
- Develop a national Disability and Ageing Strategy to make sure people with disability over the age of 65 get specialist disability services.