

# Global Gazette Disability

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**Mar – Apr 2017 Volume 11, Issue 62**

## **Scheme almost doubles - 61,000 Australians now in the NDIS**

More than 61,000 Australians are now participants in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) with an approved plan. The NDIS Quarterly Report, covering the period from 1 October to 31 December 2016, shows the number of participants in the Scheme doubled to 61,000 in six months with strong growth in the last quarter. The Scheme grew by more than 25,000 people between October and December last year, with 23,494 participants receiving an NDIS plan and 2267 children referred through the NDIS Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) approach, which is available to children under six years of age who have a disability or developmental delay. [Read the report](#) and [Media Release](#).

## **Disability News**

### **NSW Government Transfers All State Disability Community Support Teams to NGO**

To support the roll out of the NDIS, the NSW Government is transferring all of its disability services to the non-government sector by July 2018.

The Benevolent Society will be the new provider of all our FACS community support teams across NSW. Community support teams include case managers, occupational therapists, speech pathologists, physiotherapists, behaviour support staff, dietitians, psychologists, nurses and therapy assistants. They're all highly skilled and dedicated professionals, have a great reputation across the disability sector. To provide continuity of care for our clients and to retain a capable and experienced workforce, clinical services staff and staff who directly support clinical services will transfer to the Benevolent Society. It is expected that the transfer will start from August 2017.

Minister for Disability Services Ray Williams said the Benevolent Society has been chosen after an extensive and competitive selection process. "The Benevolent Society is an exceptionally strong service provider with a great track record as Australia's first charity. For more than 200 years they have supported Australians to live their best life," he said. "They have an impressive plan to grow and expand the business, and a proven record in delivering supports to children, young people and adults with disability. Their safety and continuity of service throughout the transfer remains the priority." Other key factors in the decision were the Benevolent Society's strong existing footprint in NSW, and ability to integrate clinical services into its business.

Benevolent Society CEO Jo Toohey said the organisation was well positioned to integrate clinical services, with the appropriate business systems, quality and risk management frameworks and resources to enable a successful transition. "We aim to transform the specialist disability clinical services into a leading centre of excellence that is known for its research, practice development, clinical expertise and sector development to achieve better outcomes for people with disability." "Our strong focus on culture and people will ensure clients and staff are well supported," Ms Toohey said.

Read the full media release at [here](#).

## Featured Conference

**7 – 9 September 2017**

**Asia Pacific Autism Conference.**

International Conference Centre, Sydney. <http://www.apac17.org.au/>

**9 - 11 October 2017**

**Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity.**

Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. [web site](#)

## Disability News

### **Productivity Commission NDIS Costs Issues Paper - Call for submissions**

This paper was released on 22 February 2017 to assist participants in preparing a submission to the study into National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Costs. It outlines a range of issues about which the Commission is seeking information.

**Initial submissions are due by Friday 24 March 2017.** Opportunity for further comment will be sought upon release of the position paper in May 2017.

***Download the issues paper***

- [National Disability Insurance Scheme \(NDIS\) Costs - Issues paper \(PDF - 523 Kb\)](#)
- [National Disability Insurance Scheme \(NDIS\) Costs - Issues paper \(Word - 281 Kb\)](#)

## Disability News

### **The CEO's Dilemma: How To Reduce Costs And Improve Quality Under NDIS**

Recent industry advice to reduce service quality has caused a very big stir amongst NDIS participants. Sally Coddington explores the smarter alternatives providers have to reduce costs and improve quality.

Read the full Disability Services Consulting article by Sally Coddington [here](#).

## NDIS News

### **Outcomes Framework: Measuring outcomes of the NDIS for people with disability**

The NDIA released the results of a pilot study of the NDIS's new Outcomes Framework. The Framework was developed to measure the medium and long-term benefits of the NDIS for participants and their families. It will help the NDIA to understand what types of supports lead to good outcomes and identify areas that need development. The main aim of this pilot study was to assess the validity of the questions in the Framework. These cover topics including choice and control, daily living activities, relationships, home, health and wellbeing, lifelong learning, work, and social, community and civic participation.

- [Read more about the report in our Media release](#)
- [Read the Outcomes framework pilot study: summary report](#)

### **Mixed experiences as NDIS rolls out**

SCIA (Spinal Cord Injuries Australia) members and clients are reporting mixed experiences when entering the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). With the scheme rolling out in capital cities like Sydney in July, SCIA is sharing these experiences so that others are prepared for their own transition. For so many people this scheme will be a life-changer and it's important you go in prepared and informed. Bruce is an SCIA member with a longstanding spinal cord injury and lives in north-west Sydney in NSW. He has found the experience of entering the NDIS rather challenging, read more [here](#).

## Auslan for the NDIS

To help build awareness and understanding of the NDIS in the Australian Deaf Community we have recently developed NDIS communications materials as Auslan videos, which are now available on the NDIS website. <https://www.ndis.gov.au/auslan>

## ILC: Kneecapping the NDIS

There is a lot of confusion about how the ILC program will operate. Sadly, once you understand the fundamentals of ILC and LAC, confusion is replaced with serious concern. Roland outlines the major shortcomings of the ILC program design - and how a failure to address these might just kneecap the NDIS. Read the Disability Services Consulting [full article](#).

## Disability Issues In The Media

### [Silos breaking down as providers look to diversify revenues: report](#)

Disability service providers facing increased competition and funding pressures in the transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme are eyeing opportunities in new markets in a bid to secure their financial viability, a new survey shows.

### [Empowered clients do well under NDIS but older, rural people struggle: review](#)

The majority of clients in the National Disability Insurance Scheme trial have enjoyed greater choice and control under the new program, but some have found themselves to be worse off under the scheme, an evaluation has found. Read the full Community Care Review article [here](#).

### [Mix and cost of packages delaying access to home care, say stakeholders](#)

Home care providers are urging the review into aged care reforms to address ongoing concerns over lengthy consumer delays in accessing Level 3 and Level 4 packages and low take up of Level 1 and 2 packages.

### [Groups unite in fresh push for older people's housing](#)

A new coalition of aged care providers, homelessness services and consumers is being established to bring about government action on the urgent need for older people's housing amidst worsening rates of homelessness among seniors. Read the full Community Care Review article [here](#).

## Featured Organisation

### Spinal Cord Injuries Australia

<https://scia.org.au/about-us>

Spinal Cord Injuries Australia is all about promoting independence, and continues today with a proud history of providing consumer based support to people with physical disabilities. Our journey began nearly 50 years ago when we were formed as the Australian Quadriplegic Association.

Spinal Cord Injuries Australia was established in 1967 by a group of young men who wanted to change the world. These men, who were hospitalised at the time due to spinal cord injuries caused by traumatic accidents, faced a future with just two options: continuing hospitalisation, or relocation to a nursing home designed for older people approaching the end of their lives.

Spinal Cord Injuries Australia is a member based organisation and we value the input and contributions of our members.

Membership for people with a disability and their immediate family and carers is free. Membership will be auto-renewed for each person on their membership anniversary date<sup>1</sup>.

For others, such as professionals in the sector, membership remains \$10 per year. These members will be contacted before their membership anniversary date to renew.

Join online, or [download the PDF form here](#).

Renew your paid membership, [please use this form](#).

## Disability News

### [Capacity building of employers is needed to grow disability employment](#)

Australia's disability employment landscape is transforming. The National Disability Insurance Scheme continues to be rolled out across Australia, with the expectation of direct employment growth. Changes to government programs for people with disability are also underway. SVA in partnership with the Australian Network on Disability (AND) are trialling a model to:

- change employer perceptions of the cost and risk of employing people with disability
- create sustainable changes across employers' policies, processes and culture, and
- improve employment pathways for people with disability.

This article looks at the model and the early findings from the trial, and is based on the report: [High Growth Jobs, Talented Candidates, Early learnings](#) by AND and SVA.

Read the full article [here](#).

## Disability News

### **NDIS Housing: 4 Key Questions**

What do you say to participants and their families about how the NDIS can help overcome the housing problem? Luke Bo'sher and Libby Ellis explore four key questions and answers for Support Coordinators, service providers, advocates and families.

- Question 1) What support do I need to decide where/with who I will live with?
- Question 2) How likely is it that I will get a 'Specialist Disability Accommodation' payment from the NDIS?
- Question 3) What support I need to find and keep a place to live?
- Question 4) How do I want my day-to-day support to be linked to my home?

[Read more](#)

## Standards & Benchmarks

### [National framework sets professional benchmarks for community workers](#)

A new code of ethics and set of practice guidelines have been released by the Australian Community Workers Association to support best practice in the sector.

The standards cover community workers employed in a diverse range of areas including aged care, disability services, mental health and housing and have been developed in consultation with practitioners, industry and education providers.

Read the full Community Care Review article [here](#).

**Disability Nurses & Residential Support Workers.** Work the shifts and roster you want. Agency work gives you control of your life. **Why not join our Global team now.** Contact Global for an appointment.  
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[http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/work\\_with\\_global.html](http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/work_with_global.html)

### NDIS Quality and Safeguarding: What providers need to know

The rules governing how providers and workers will register in the NDIS after 2018-19 is one step closer. The Coalition of Australian Governments (COAG) Disability Reform Council (DRC) recently released the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding framework which provides some further insight into the national governance requirements that will take effect at full roll out of the scheme. Whilst the framework is high level policy at this stage it provides some insight into how the fully implemented system may operate. If there is one consistent theme throughout the document, it is a “risk-based approach” as those words appear on almost every second page. Read the full **Disability Services Consulting** article [here](#).

### NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework DSS page

The NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework provides a nationally consistent approach to help empower and support NDIS participants to exercise choice and control, while ensuring appropriate safeguards are in place and establishes expectations for providers and their staff to deliver high quality supports.

- [NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework](#)  
The NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework is designed to ensure high quality supports and safe environments for all NDIS participants.
- [Summary of the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework](#)  
A brief outline of the key components of the Framework. This page also includes an Easy Read version.
- [Factsheet for providers](#)  
Information for providers.
- [Factsheet for participants](#)  
Information for participants. This page also includes an Easy Read version.

## Books & Publications

### Your rights when you buy something

When you buy goods and services including disability-related purchases, you have rights under law. This guide explains your consumer rights and the steps you can take to resolve problems. It is written in Easy English, which is more accessible for people who have difficulty reading and understanding written information. This publication was developed by the state/territory consumer protection agencies and the ACCC. Available in various languages. [Download from here](#).

**Accord** - A quarterly journal, provides a forum for debate on issues related to living with a physical disability published by Spinal Cord Injuries Australia.

### [Mental health and addiction workforce action plan 2017–2021](#)

**Ministry of Health (New Zealand)**. The actions outlined in this plan are intended to support the development of the primary health care, community and specialist workforce, so they are well equipped, integrated, competent and capable of focusing on improving health and wellbeing. [Download here](#)

### Free guidance for directors

[Governance Institute of Australia](#) has developed a free guide – **Adding value to governance in aged care** – to help providers manage their governance responsibilities in light of these fundamental changes.

The [free guide](#) addresses a broad range of issues including:

- the unique challenges facing the sector
- factors to consider before taking a board position
- issues the board should consider when appointing a new member
- the relationship between the board and management
- interaction with stakeholders
- volunteer management
- risk management responsibilities.

### National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013

Direct link to the Act [here](#).

### New disability inclusion guide for councils

The Australian Local Government Association, with funding from the Commonwealth, has produced *Disability Inclusion Planning - A Guide for Local Government*. This Guide will be a valuable resource for councils across Australia, by not only assisting them to respond to the requirements of state, territory and Commonwealth legislation and policy, but also to proactively address the cultural change in relation to disability issues, encouraged by the National Disability Strategy 2010-2020 (NDS) and the introduction of the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

- [PDF version of the Guide](#) (accessible format)
- [Word version of the Guide](#) (accessible format)

### National guidelines for home delivered meals launched

For the first time, nationally consistent guidelines have been introduced for the home delivered and centre-based meals sector under the Commonwealth Home Support Program. While initially implemented as a set of voluntary standards, the national meal guidelines replace existing state-based guidelines to provide nationally consistent advice to CHSP meals providers. The guidelines were formally launched by the Australian Meals on Wheels Association (AMOWA) at Parliament House. Read the full Australian Ageing Agenda article at [here](#).

### ILO: New guide to promote diversity and inclusion at the workplace

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has released a new guide to promote diversity and inclusion at the workplace entitled "Promoting diversity and inclusion through workplace adjustments: A practical guide". The guide notes that while all workers should enjoy equal access to employment, some of them face barriers that may put them at a disadvantage. Such barriers can prevent them from accessing or remaining in employment and, if not addressed, they can also deprive companies of a broader, more diverse pool of workers from which to recruit. ([http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS\\_536538/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/news/WCMS_536538/lang--en/index.htm))

## Directories Online

### SCIA app

- based on our comprehensive guide to life after a spinal cord injury 'Back on Track' and provides quick and convenient access to vital resources and information, including topics related to transport, finances, legal matters, employment, bladder care, assistance dogs, clothing, disability service providers, accessible places to visit and spinal cord injury news.

### Sydney Accessible Public Transport

opens in Google Earth to show the location of wheelchair accessible train stations, ferry wharves, and tram and monorail stations.

### **Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show with Ross M Fear** (Your Editor of the Global Gazette)

*Proudly sponsored by **Global Disability & Health Care Services***

**Tuesday night 9 to 12 pm** for all Australian blues, roots, jazz, folk and contemporary music. Weekly studio guests. Blues, Folk and Jazz Gig Guide and music.

**Internet Radio Streaming worldwide online** at [www.alive905.com.au](http://www.alive905.com.au) [follow the Listen Live links]

Over 400 Australian artistes have been featured studio guests on the Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show.

**The 2017 studio guests coming up include:** = Stormcellar, Luke Escombe, The Vegetable Plot, 8 Ball Aitken, Keith Hall Band, Joel Leffler, Orcaband, Mark & The Blues, Christina Crofts, Blues Arcade, Blues Explosion, Ivor SK, Dan Granero, Martin Cilia, Turner & Simmons, Kate Lush, TMG, Chris Turner, Paula McMahan, Blues Pirates, Phantom Mk V, The Rockwells, Chris O, Big Rock Records, The Barren Spinters, The Hollerin Sluggers, Sydney Blues & Roots Festival, Kevin Johnson, and many more in 2017. **Join our 10,600+ Facebook Likes** and follow our studio guest announcements at <https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Spectrum.Show.Alive90.5fm>

### [Cause of death and potentially avoidable deaths in Australian adults with intellectual disability using retrospective linked data](#)

The deaths of more than 700 Australian adults with an intellectual disability could have been avoided with more appropriate health care and monitoring, a UNSW study by Julian Trollor, Preeyaporn Srasuebkul, Han Xu and Sophie Howlett. has revealed.

The studies objective was to investigate mortality and its causes in adults over the age of 20 years with intellectual disability (ID) [who were registered users of Disability Services in NSW and therefore people with mild ID maybe under-represented]. The ID cohort comprised 42,204 individuals who registered for disability services with ID as a primary or secondary diagnosis from 2005 to 2011 in New South Wales (NSW). The Comparison cohort was obtained from published deaths in NSW from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) from 2005 to 2011. Cause of death in ID cohort was dominated by respiratory, circulatory, neoplasm and nervous system. After recoding deaths previously attributed to the aetiology of the disability, 38% of deaths in the ID cohort and 17% in the comparison cohort were potentially avoidable.

The conclusion was that adults with ID experience premature mortality and over-representation of potentially avoidable deaths. A national system of reporting of deaths in adults with ID is required. Inclusion in health policy and services development and in health promotion programmes is urgently required to address premature deaths and health inequalities for adults with ID.

Read the full article in the BMJ Journal at <http://bmjopen.bmj.com/content/7/2/e013489>

## Grant News

### **2017 ILC Grant Rounds: Closes Soon**

The NDIA has just announced the opening of the first round of ILC funding for both Jurisdictional Based Grants in the ACT and National Readiness Grants.

With this announcement comes confirmation of the total funding available in this round, with \$3 million available in the ACT and \$13.1 million available for National grants.

**The application deadline is Wednesday 8 March.**

The Agency has released an Application Pack for both funding rounds. To read more, visit <https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants/ilc-national-readiness-grants>

### **National Disability Conference Initiative 2017-18**

The Australian Government is inviting organisations to apply via an open process to deliver services under the Disability Mental Health and Carers Program – Disability and Carer Support – National Disability Conference Initiative (NDCI) 2017-18. Total funding of \$315,000 is available for the NDCI for conferences held between 1 July 2017 and 30 June 2018. Within this funding, up to \$10,000 is available for each conference.

The Disability and Carer Support (DaCS) Activity provides assistance, support and services for people with disability and carers. It provides and improves access to services and support, including advocacy and through stakeholder engagement. The National Disability Conference Initiative 2017-18 is offered under the Disability and Carer Support Activity and provides grants to help people with disability to participate in nationally-focused, disability-related conferences held in Australia.

**Applications close at 2pm AEDT on Tuesday 14 March 2017.**

For further information about eligibility and how to apply, refer to the [Funding Open for Application page](#).

### Intellectual Disability, Australia

In 2012 there were around 668,100 Australians (2.9%) with intellectual disability.

Intellectual disability was most common in the very young and very old, with prevalence rates of 4% for children aged 0-14 years and 10% for people aged 75 years and over.

The rates of intellectual disability were higher for men (3.3%) than for women (2.6%).

The difference was particularly marked for boys aged 0-14 years who were twice as likely to have intellectual disability than girls in the same age group.

Young boys in this age group were 3.6 times more likely to have Autism or a related disorder than girls (50,500 boys compared with 13,900 girls).

There are many causes of intellectual disability including genetic conditions, problems during pregnancy, problems at birth and health problems during childhood as well as conditions that occur more commonly in later life, such as dementia.

Many people had an intellectual disability as a result of a head injury (32,600 people), stroke (35,900 people), or other brain damage (31,100 people).

The most commonly reported main condition causing intellectual disability was "intellectual and developmental disorders" (88,200 people). Some of the other reported conditions included Dementia (86,500 people) and Autism and related disorders (including Rett's syndrome and Asperger's syndrome) (84,800 people).

See the full ABS report at

<http://www.abs.gov.au/ausstats/abs@.nsf/Latestproducts/4433.0.55.003Main%20Features12012?opendocument&tabname=Summary&prodno=4433.0.55.003&issue=2012&num=&view=>

### Research into Maximising Life Choices of People with a Spinal Cord Injury.

Spinal Cord Injuries Australia (SCIA) recently commissioned the Social Policy Research Centre at the University of New South Wales to carry out research about maximising life choices of people with spinal cord injury (SCI). SCIA really wanted to understand what the main things are that are stopping people who experience a SCI from being fully involved in all aspects of society. As our organisation's Vision is all about "a society without barriers for people with a SCI", we really need to do everything we can to understand what these barriers are, so we can do whatever it takes to remove them.

### Mental health-related prescriptions

<http://mhsa.aihw.gov.au/resources/prescriptions/>

This section presents information on [prescriptions](#) for mental health-related [medications](#). Mental health-related medications reported here cover antipsychotics, anxiolytics, hypnotics and sedatives, antidepressants, and psychostimulants and nootropics—prescribed by all medical practitioners.

Information for mental health-related prescription is sourced through the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) and the Repatriation Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (RPBS).

#### Key points

- There were 35.3 million prescriptions for mental health-related medications dispensed (subsidised and under co-payment) in 2014–15. This equates to an average of 9.0 prescriptions per patient in 2014–15.
- There were a total of 24.8 million prescriptions for subsidised mental health-related medications in 2014–15, which was 7 in 10 (70.1%) of the total number of mental health-related prescriptions.
- 86.8% of the mental health-related prescriptions (subsidised and under co-payment) were provided by GPs, with 8.0% being prescribed by psychiatrists and 4.6% by non-psychiatrist specialists.
- Antidepressant medications accounted for 67.8% of total mental health-related (subsidised and under co-payment) prescriptions.
- Females, those aged 65 and over and those people living in *Inner regional* areas had the highest mental health-related prescription and patient rates.



## Key Performance Indicators for Australian Public Mental Health Services

A Key Performance Indicator (KPI) is a measure that describes a situation concisely, helps track progress and performance and acts as a guide to inform decision making. KPIs in the public mental health sector cover different aspects of services, may be affected by many factors, and are often interconnected. See the current KPI report [online](#).

### Featured Course

## TAFE OTEN

<https://oten.tafensw.edu.au/>

The Open Training and Education Network, OTEN, is the largest provider of distance education and vocational training in Australia. OTEN is part of the award winning TAFE NSW - Western Sydney Institute, national winner of the 2010 Large Training Provider and 2011 Skills for Sustainability at the Australian Training Awards.

### Certificate III in Individual Support (Disability) CHC33015-03V02

This qualification reflects the role of workers in the community and/or residential setting who follow an individualised plan to provide person-centred support to people who may require support due to ageing, disability or some other reason. Work involves using discretion and judgement in relation to individual support as well as taking responsibility for own outputs. Workers have a range of factual, technical and procedural knowledge, as well as some theoretical knowledge of the concepts and practices required to provide person-centred support. To achieve this qualification, the candidate must have completed at least 120 hours of work as detailed in the Assessment Requirements of the units of competency.

### Certificate IV in Mental Health CHC43315-01V02

This qualification reflects the role of workers who provide self-directed recovery oriented support for people affected by mental illness and psychiatric disability. Work involves implementing community based programs and activities focusing on mental health, mental illness and psychiatric disability. Work is undertaken in a range of community contexts such as community based non-government organisations; home based outreach; centre-based programs; respite care; residential services, rehabilitation programs; clinical settings; or supporting people in employment. Work is carried out autonomously under the broad guidance of other practitioners and professionals.

To achieve this qualification, the candidate must have completed at least 80 hours of work as detailed in the Assessment Requirements of units of competency.

## Palliative Care Webinars for Aged Care Staff

Decision Assist is hosting a series of webinars for aged care workers on the fundamentals of advance care planning.

- **Jane does not want to go to hospital**  
**Thursday 30 March 2017** 1.30pm-2.15pm AEST  
To Register <http://www.webcasts.com.au/decisionassist300117/>
- **Marjorie is breathless**  
**Thursday 27 April 2017** 1.30pm-2.15pm AEST  
To Register <http://www.webcasts.com.au/decisionassist270417/>
- **Do you think dad is dying?**  
**Thursday 25 May 2017** 1.30pm-2.15pm AEST  
To Register <http://www.webcasts.com.au/decisionassist250517/>

## ONLINE EDUCATION DIRECTORY

*Online professional development is an easy way to access further education – especially valuable for shift workers – so we have researched some options and put them on our web site at*

[http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/online\\_education.html](http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/online_education.html)

## Education Resources

### Education kit for children with disability

Reach & Match Learning Kit is for children with sensory impairment, intellectual and physical delays. The award winning design empowers children to learn through play-based activities in a mainstream setting. A fun, thoughtful and high quality curriculum tool it assists with developing literacy and acquiring early concepts of space and positional play, motor, communication and social skills. Read the full article at Freedom2live [here](#).

### Disability awareness e-learning for panel lawyers and community workers online

Legal Aid NSW has developed an [e-learning module on disability awareness](#) to increase awareness among staff and panel lawyers about people with disability and the issues they face. It contains information about different disabilities, common misconceptions, do's and don'ts when interacting with people with disability, and how to minimise barriers for them. The training module takes approximately 30 minutes to complete and includes assessment questions. [Register for the module on the LMS](#).

### The Mental Health Review Tribunal DVD's

The Mental Health Review Tribunal, with the support of the Mental Health Commission, has recently developed a series of 3 educational DVDs explaining the role of the Tribunal for:

- 1) consumers and family members/carers;
- 2) clinicians presenting matters before the Tribunal; and
- 3) legal representatives representing consumers at Tribunal hearings.

All three DVDs are available on the Tribunal's website [here](#)

These DVDs provide an important new resource that will help to 'demystify' the Tribunal's processes and assist persons appearing before the Tribunal to know what to expect at a hearing. The clinicians DVD may be particularly relevant to staff involved in presenting matters to the Tribunal, particularly new Registrars or case managers.

### [Online education program to help carers navigate respite system](#)

Carers of people with dementia are being encouraged to participate in a new online education program developed by the University of Wollongong to boost uptake of respite services.

## Scholarships

### PhD Scholarship: Intellectual Disability, Mental Health and Offending

This scholarship is open for applications to 31 March 2017, unless filled prior. It is required that your full time study starts by August 2017.

Project The Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry (3DN) within the School of Psychiatry, <http://3dn.unsw.edu.au/> in conjunction with Intellectual Disability and Behaviour Support [IDBS] within the School of Social Sciences <http://arts.unsw.edu.au/idbs> is offering a three-year full-time PhD scholarship to a highly motivated student to work with Professor Julian Trollor & A/Prof Leanne Dowse on a project that will examine the intersection between intellectual disability, mental health, and the criminal justice system. In part, this work will utilise Big Data from a large linked cohort of people with intellectual disability in NSW. The work is expected to be translational in nature, in that the studies conducted will have a direct relevance to service provision, clinical practices, policy and legislative decision making frameworks related to people with intellectual disability or mental illness.

The candidate will be part of a multidisciplinary research team with expertise in epidemiology and biostatistics and social policy/social science and will be involved in data linkage and other analyses related to the study. Study Subject: Data Linkage, intersection of intellectual disability and the criminal justice system.

Eligibility This scholarship requires you to have achieved outstanding academic results. Only citizens of Australia or New Zealand or Australian permanent residents can apply. You can download a PDF with more information about the scholarship at <http://3dn.unsw.edu.au/content/scholarships>

Web Address: <http://3dn.unsw.edu.au/content/scholarships>

## Positions Vacant

### **Support Workers - Disability & /or Mental Health Support *Email:***

**[Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com](mailto:Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com) Free phone: 1800 009 292.** We are a leading staff agency offering a variety of shifts to care workers throughout the greater Sydney region, Hunter, Central Coast, Illawarra, Southern Highlands and Blue Mountains. Currently we are seeking experienced support workers to work with people who have a disability. Plenty of shifts available. Weekly pay. Choose your own days & shift availability. Must have previous experience in a similar role. Police Check Certificate & Working With Children Clearance Certificate, Drivers License and First Aid Certificate required. Ability to communicate effectively with people who have a disability is essential. Must be able to work as part of a team. For more information call 1800 009 292 or forward your resume along with contact details of two referees to: [Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com](mailto:Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com)

### **Registered Nurses & Endorsed Enrolled Nurses specialised in disability or mental health**

***Email:* [Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com](mailto:Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com) Free phone: 1800 009 292.** One of the market leaders in the public, private mental health, disability, and general health fields. Global can offer you plenty of shifts in private and public hospitals, disability, mental health services, dual diagnosis and disability special care areas. An agency founded and run by Registered Nurses, we can assist you in finding work in a variety of locations. Choose the hours and shifts to suit your lifestyle. Must be registered to practice in Australia. Police Check Certificate & Working With Children Clearance Certificate, Up-to-date immunisation health card. Drivers License and First Aid Certificate required. **Excellent pay rates. Weekly pays.** Why not forward your resume to [Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com](mailto:Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com) or phone to speak to one of our friendly consultants who can help you make that great career move. Free phone: 1800 009 292.

See Current Positions Vacant at <http://www.globalcarestaff.com/plugins/job.cgi>

## Conference Calendar

See a more comprehensive listing of conferences at our web site

[http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference\\_calendar.html](http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html)

6 March 2017

**NDIS Community Information Centre, Kogarah.** Carlton, NSW. [Details & Registration.](#)

6 March 2017

**NDIS Getting Ready for your NDIS Planning conversation.** Townsville, Qld. [Details & Registration](#)

6 - 10 March 2017

**PASSING Social Role Valorisation/Normalisation Workshop.** Sydney. [Register for this workshop online](#)

7 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Sydney, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

8 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Gosford, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

8 March 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts.** Casino, NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

8 - 9 March 2017

**Aged Care Summit.** International Convention Centre, Darling Harbour, Sydney. [Details & Registration.](#)

9 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Marrickville, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

9 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Wyong, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

9 March 2017

**Disability Justice Specialist Support Coordination:** Webinar. 10-11.30am. [Register.](#)

9 March 2017

**NDIS My Learning Matters for Consumers.** Sutherland, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

9 March 2017

**Disability Justice Specialist Support Coordination:** Webinar. 5.30-7pm. [Register.](#)

9 March 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts.** Grafton, NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

9 -10 March 2017

**Aged & Community Services Northern Region Conference.** Coffs Harbour, NSW. [Details & Registration.](#)

10 March 2017

**NDIS Getting Ready for your NDIS Planning conversation.** Townsville, Qld. [Details & Registration](#)

14 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Chatswood, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

14 March 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts. Coffs Harbour,** NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

14 March 2017

**NDIS My Learning Matters for Consumers.** Gosford, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

14 - 15 March 2017

**Person-Centred Active Support Training Workshop.** Centre for Disability Studies, MFB Auditorium, University of Sydney, Camperdown, NSW. [Info & Registration.](#)

15 March 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts. Port Macquarie,** NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

15 March 2017

**Voice Your Choice: Disability Supported Decision Making Training for Workers.** Sydney. ACWA-CCWT. [Register here.](#)

16 March 2017

**NDIS My Learning Matters for Consumers.** Wyong, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

16 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Kiama, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

17 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Wollongong, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

20 March 2017

**Interface of the NDIS and the Child Protection and Family Support Systems.** Sydney. ACWA-CCWT.  
[Register here.](#)

21 March 2017

**World Down Syndrome Day.** <http://www.un.org/en/events/downsyndromeday/>

22 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Dubbo, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

22 March 2017

**Home Modifications Workshop.** Melbourne. [Info.](#)

23 March 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts. Wagga Wagga,** NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

23 March 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Campbelltown, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

26 March 2017

**Go Purple – Epilepsy Awareness Day.** <http://www.epilepsy.org.au/purple-day>

27 – 28 March 2017

**National Disability Services NDS Victoria 2017 Conference.** Melbourne.

<https://www.nds.org.au/events-and-training/conferences/nds-victoria-conference-2017>

29 - 31 March 2017

**LASA Queensland State Conference.** Jupiters Hotel Gold Coast, Broadbeach, Qld.

<http://www.qld.lasa.asn.au/events>

30 - 31 March 2017

**Portability in Home Care Packages.** William Angliss Conference Centre, Melbourne. [Info & Registration.](#)

30 - 31 March 2017

**ACSWA State Conference.** Joondalup Resort, Connolly, WA.

<http://www.acswaconferenceperth.com.au/index.html>

2 April 2017

**World Autism Awareness Day.** <http://www.un.org/en/events/autismday/>

4 April 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Katoomba, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

4 April 2017

**Autism Spectrum Disorders: Introduction.** Sydney. ACWA-CCWT. [Register here.](#)

5 April 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts. Orange,** NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

5 April 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Lithgow, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

5 April 2017

**Home Modifications Workshop.** Adelaide. [Info.](#)

6 April 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Tamworth, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

6 April 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts.** Dubbo, NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

6 -7 April 2017

**Aged & Community Services & Australian Association of Gerontology Regional Conference.** Cessnock, NSW. [Details & Registration.](#)

13 April 2017

**NDIS Community Information Centre, Waverley.** Bondi Junction, NSW. [Details & Registration.](#)

20 April 2017

**NDIS Get More Skills: A Good Life for Consumers.** Bankstown, NSW. My Choice Matters. [Detail & Registration.](#)

27 April 2017

**Palliative Care Webinar: "Marjorie Is Breathless".** 1.30pm. To Register <http://www.webcasts.com.au/decisionassist270417/>

27 April 2017

**Navigating Your Way around Mental Health Law.** Sydney. ACWA-CCWT. [Register here.](#)

2 May 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts.** Nowra, NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

3 May 2017

**Better Practice in Aged Care.** DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, Darwin City NT. <https://www.aacqa.gov.au/>

3 May 2017

**NDIS Let's Get NDIS Ready: Every Australian Counts.** Wollongong, NSW. [Details & Registration](#)

4 - 7 May 2017

**International Society for Bipolar Disorders Conference.** Arlington, VA, USA. [web site](#)

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