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Mar – Apr 2016 Volume 10, Issue 56

NDS state of the disability sector report 2015

Most disability service providers are cautiously optimistic and plan to grow in the next six months; but a high proportion think that government agencies are not working closely enough with the sector to implement the NDIS successfully.

The State of the Disability Sector report includes a business confidence survey which shows that most disability service providers are cautiously optimistic and plan to grow in the next six months; but a high proportion think that government agencies are not working closely enough with the sector to implement the NDIS successfully.

As part of the survey, organisations with less than \$1M in turnover reported higher financial stress than large organisations and were more likely to see the NDIS as a risk rather than an opportunity.

The Report includes the first release of data from the largest analysis of the disability workforce ever conducted in Australia. NDS has collated data from 20,000 employees to provide a snapshot of the disability workforce. A key finding from the snapshot is that 38% of all disability workers are casuals, a relatively high rate which is likely to increase under the NDIS.

The NDS State of the Disability Sector Report 2015 also highlights the need to improve employment opportunities for people with disability and provides an analysis of the hot issues facing policy makers. It concludes with 20 things NDS would like to see accomplished in 2016 to ensure the successful implementation of the NDIS and more opportunities for people with disability to work, be educated and engage in community life.

Read the report at

<http://apo.org.au/sites/all/modules/pubdlnet/pubdlnet.php?nid=60415&file=http://disabilitysectorreport.nds.org.au/images/State-of-the-disability-sector-report-2015.pdf>

Disability News

New Assistant Minister for Disability Services

Mrs Jane Prentice MP, is the first Minister with the Disability portfolio since 2013.

Jane Prentice was elected to the House of Representatives for the Federal Seat of Ryan in Queensland as the Liberal National Party Candidate on 21 August 2010. She is a former Councillor for Brisbane City Council. Before entering public life, Jane owned and managed a successful convention and event management firm and was responsible for organising many of Queensland's largest events. Her many roles as a Member of Parliament includes Chairman of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Communications,

Chairman of the Australia-Papua New Guinea Inter-Parliamentary Union, Co-Chairman of the Parliamentary Friends of Amnesty International and Co-Chairman of the Parliamentary Friends of Red Cross.

Her biography can be found at <http://www.janeprentice.com.au/About-Jane/Biography>

Other new Federal Ministerial Appointments are:-

- Scott Ryan - Minister for Vocational Education and Skills; and
- Alan Tudge - Minister for Human Services.

Christian Porter continues as Minister for Social Services.

Disability News

Post School Transition: The Experiences of Students with Disability. Issues Paper

Children with Disability Australia released an important issue paper Post School Transition: The Experiences of Students with Disability. The project was undertaken by CDA in order to gain a more detailed understanding of the support currently available for students with disability during post school transition. The paper highlights key issues from current research, legislations and consultations with key stakeholders. It explores present and past school transition practices and the barriers faced by students with disability. The paper also identifies system gaps and good practice, and presents recommendations for reform.

The report is available at <http://goo.gl/5udey1>

Featured Conference

25 – 26 April 2016

32nd Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity. Hawaii Convention Centre, Honolulu. <http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/news/2015/pac-rim-call-proposals-opens-soon>

14 August 2016

Pre-Congress Disability Support Workers' Conference

Melbourne Convention Centre, Australia.

<https://www.iassidd.org/uploads/article/general/generalgeneral/doc/DSW%20poster%20KN%2010122015%20amended.pdf>

15 – 19 August 2016

IASSIDD World Congress.

Melbourne Convention Centre, Australia.

International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. <https://iassid.org/conference/index.php/HPC/IWC/index>

Registrations now open <https://www.iassidd.org/conference/index.php/HPC/index/pages/view/2016Rates>

Early bird discounts up to May.

Disability News

Transition To Retirement for Older People with a Disability

Report by Roger Stancliffe, Christine Bigby, Susan Balandin, Nathan Wilson of the Centre of Disability Research and Policy (University of Sydney)

Due to increased life expectancy, the number of older Australians with a long-term disability, such as intellectual disability is increasing. More people with disability are facing retirement. This Policy Bulletin describes the

implementation and evaluation of the Transition to Retirement (TTR) Program that was examined in a three-year collaborative program of applied research involving university researchers and disability service providers. The Program sought to involve older Australians with mild to moderate intellectual disabilities in the creation of a 'retirement lifestyle'. The Policy Bulletin found that older Australians with disabilities are often prevented from engaging in these social activities, due to a lack of transportation, limited social groups, and limited ties to the community. The Policy Bulletin demonstrates that the TTR Program increased the number of acquaintances and social satisfaction of participants, and resulted in decreased working hours. The Policy Bulletin concludes by suggesting that the Program should be scaled up in order to assess its success in wide-scale adoption.

Download Policy Bulletin 2 at [Transition To Retirement Report](#)

Workshop on
Transition To Retirement
for Older People with a Disability
Friday 8 April 2016 – 9am to 4.30 pm

See attached brochure.

Western Sydney University: Hawkesbury, Building L2.G.30, Cnr Bourke St and Londonderry Rd, Richmond, NSW.

Presented by Prof. Roger Stancliffe, Uni of Syd and Dr. Nathan Wilson, Western Sydney Uni.

The workshop will provide disability practitioners with detailed practical information about how to effectively support older people with long-term disability (such as intellectual disability) to join mainstream community groups or volunteering groups and participate long term. Presentations will include detailed examples, practical exercises, and scenes from the Transition to Retirement DVD.

All participants receive the Transition to Retirement manual and DVD

Register online: via iPay https://ipay.uws.edu.au/products_show.asp

Scroll down to the School of Nursing and Midwifery and select the Transition to Retirement Workshop.

Disability News

[Addressing the housing needs of participants is critical to NDIS success](#)

Ilan Wiesel, Sandra Gendera, Karen Fisher, Trish Hill, Wendy Shaw, Catherine Bridge, Carmel Laragy, Samantha Jenkinson, Kate Finch | Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute

This project sought to understand the barriers and success factors facing people with disability to transition into housing which better suits their needs and preferences, and the outcomes associated with these moves. A key barrier they faced was lack of affordable housing. Those that had succeeded in accessing social housing had done so through special programs, or by being classified at risk of homelessness. Those achieving ownership received family financial support or utilised shared equity arrangements. Those in private rental had established relationships with landlords. Sharing was also a feature in private rental and ownership options.

Read the full Australian Policy Online article at <http://apo.org.au/resource/addressing-housing-needs-participants-critical-ndis-success>

Accommodation for people with disabilities and the NDIS

The Australian Parliament Joint Standing Committee on the NDIS is currently conducting an Inquiry into 'Accommodation for people with disabilities and the NDIS'. This Inquiry is examining access to affordable and appropriate housing for people with disability. The committee noted in its most recent report, that the lack of adequate accommodation can limit people's ability to fully exercise their individual choice and control. It can also limit people's ability to fully participate in society and live an ordinary life like any other Australian.

The committee is now calling for submissions on the issue of accommodation that address possible solutions, innovations, pilot programs and, in particular, possible funding models. The due date for submissions is **4 March 2016**.

Hearings: The committee will hold hearings in 2016 with dates to be advised.

Further details on the Parliamentary web site at

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/National_Disability_Insurance_Scheme/NDIS_accommodation

Disability News

[Restorative care program opens to other providers](#)

Approved aged care providers won't be the only ones who can deliver the government's new restorative care packages, the recently released framework for the scheme shows.

Stakeholders responded that it was important not to exclude organisations that "may have a relevant business model to deliver restorative care but are not currently an aged care provider," according to a [summary of the department's sector consultations](#).

The government recently released both the summary of the consultations and the finalised policy framework. The places under the STRC, which was announced in last year's federal budget, will be rolled out progressively, with the first 200 being allocated from 1 July. In total, the STRC will provide 2,000 new restorative care places by 2021, in addition to the 4,000 places provided in the Transition Care Program.

Read the full Australian Ageing Agenda newsletter article online at

<http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/2016/01/20/37526/>

FREE subscription to the Australian Ageing Agenda at <http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/subscribe/>

Disability News

Review of the NSW Guardianship Act 1987

Call for preliminary submissions

The NSW Law Reform Commission is **seeking preliminary submissions** on this review **by 21 March 2016**.

This preliminary process is an opportunity to tell us about any broad issues you think are relevant to the terms of reference. There is no need for detailed comments at this stage or for submissions to address all of the terms of reference. In the course of this project we will be providing further opportunities to address issues in more detail through various forms of consultation including submissions in response to consultation papers and in stakeholder round tables and other meetings.

The Commission's [contact page](#) sets out the addresses for sending submissions and for further enquiries.

Use of submissions and confidentiality

We will usually publish your submission on the website and refer to it in publications **unless you request confidentiality** for all or part of the document. See our [privacy and information management policy](#) for details. We will endeavour to respect a request for confidentiality, but the law provides some cases where we are required or authorised to disclose information. While it is our general policy to publish submissions online, we do not promise to do so. For example, submissions that contain offensive, defamatory or other material we consider inappropriate to publish will not be published or may be redacted.

Background information

NSW Legislation

- [Guardianship Act 1987](#) (NSW)
- [NSW Trustee and Guardian Act 2009](#) (NSW)
- [Powers of Attorney Act 2003](#) (NSW)
- [Mental Health Act 2007](#) (NSW)
- [Guardianship of Infants Act 1916](#) (NSW)

International instruments

[Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#)

Recent reports from other jurisdictions

- **Australian Law Reform Commission**, [Equality, Capacity and Disability in Commonwealth Laws, Report 124](#) (2014)
- **Queensland Law Reform Commission**, [A Review of Queensland's Guardianship Laws, Report 67](#) (2010)
- **Victorian Law Reform Commission**, [Guardianship, Final Report 24](#) (2012)
- **Scottish Law Commission**, [Report on Adults with Incapacity, Report 240](#) (2014)

Disability Issues In The Media

[Aged care staff need to counter dangerous food myths: expert](#)

Aged care workers need to educate their clients that the nutritional needs of an ageing body are the same as a younger person, and in fact seniors need greater quantities of protein and some other nutrients. Dietitian and author Ngaire Hobbins said the prevailing urban myth that older people did not need to eat as much was prompting many seniors to eat too little, causing themselves serious health problems as a result. Community Care Review article by Natasha Egan at <http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/2015/11/11/aged-care-staff-need-to-counter-dangerous-food-myths-expert/>

[Centrelink's IT meltdown hits the disability pension](#)

Centrelink's tech woes disrupts Disability Pension medical crackdown. (Canberra Times article [hear](#).)

Featured Organisation

Down Syndrome Association

Down Syndrome NSW (DS NSW) champions the right of people with Down syndrome to have the same access to society as everyone else. This means the right to health, education, work, family and being part of the community. We achieve this by supporting people with Down syndrome, their families and carers to be part of a strong and vibrant community that is informed, engaged and active.

DS NSW is an independent, not-for-profit organisation that was established in 1980 by parents of children with Down syndrome. Today DS NSW is still proudly parent run.

We provide

- A dedicated information and referral service for families and professionals
- Peer to peer support to families at all life stages
- A library resource centre housing the largest collection of information and resources about Down syndrome in Australia
- Workshops and community events for members
- Professional development and training for education and health professionals
- Representing the interests and needs of people with Down syndrome at state and federal levels
- A voice for people with Down syndrome and their families in public discourse and policy development
- Social networking and self-advocacy opportunities for adults with Down syndrome.

DS NSW is a member of Down Syndrome Australia, a federation of eight State and Territory associations which represents the interests of our constituency at a national level.

<http://www.downsyndromensw.org.au/?gclid=CLLi--LtissCFdgnvQod6ucLVA>

21 March 2016

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

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Disability News

[Peak urges nutrition training for home care workers](#)

Alzheimer's Australia NSW has called for national nutrition guidelines to be developed for meal delivery services funded under the Commonwealth Home Support Program and targeted training of home care workers to support the early identification of malnutrition among older people with dementia. Older people with dementia, especially those living alone, are at higher risk of poor nutrition and malnutrition, which has significant impacts on cognitive and functional symptoms, and on the overall clinical prognosis. Community Care Review article <http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/2015/12/10/peak-urges-nutrition-training-for-home-care-workers/>

Disability News

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) Commonwealth Ombudsman

Getting help with NDIS complaints and appeals.

The NDIS is a statutory scheme established to provide people with a permanent disability with an individualised package of funded supports. The National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) administers the NDIS. Legal Aid Commissions and the Commonwealth Ombudsman all have important roles to play in this jurisdiction.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman's role is to investigate complaints about the administrative actions of the NDIA including complaints about staff behaviour, conflicts of interest, privacy and record keeping.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman has held consultations with disability advocacy agencies in all the trial sites across Australia and met with legal aid lawyers to gain insight into the problems agencies and participants are encountering with NDIS. The Ombudsman's regular meetings with the NDIA provide an opportunity to raise systemic issues.

Complaints can be lodged with the Commonwealth Ombudsman by:

phone: 1300 362 072

email: ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au

mail: GPO Box 442, Canberra ACT 2601

SEE NDIS Information Events listed in our online Global Conferences & Workshops Calendar at http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

Grants, Scholarships & Fellowships News

Commonwealth HACC Program - New Service Providers

How do I Become a Commonwealth HACC Service Provider?

A Commonwealth HACC service provider is an organisation that receives funding through the Commonwealth HACC Program to deliver basic maintenance, support and care services to frail older people and their carers. Funding to become a Commonwealth HACC service provider is on an application basis. Eligibility and other

requirements will be clearly specified in the documentation for the funding process. Information on any current Commonwealth HACC funding process will be available on the Tenders and Grants page on the department's website and on the Government's grants website as well as major newspapers. To receive funding for programs that come under The Aged Care Act 1997, such as the Home Care Packages Program, organisations are required to be granted 'approved provider' status prior to commencement of funding. If you are looking to become a Commonwealth HACC service provider, you are not required to become an 'approved provider' as the Commonwealth HACC Program is not under The Aged Care Act 1997.

How do I Apply for Funding Under the Program?

Funding must be sought through an approved funding process run by the Department. Any eligibility and other requirements for a particular funding process will be clearly specified in the documentation for that process.

More Information about [becoming a HACC provider](#).

Disability Nurses & Residential Support Workers & Mental Health Nurses

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Free phone: 1 800 009 292

http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/work_with_global.html

Disability News

Innovative ideas sought for housing for people with disabilities

The NDIS has put out the call for information and ideas that will contribute to an increased supply of housing options for participants of the Scheme. To gather ideas the Agency is undertaking a Request for Information followed by a series of consultations with participants, carers and families using a co-design approach.

These ideas will contribute to accommodation which supports people with disabilities to live and participate in our community. They can be bricks and mortar design, finance models, design principles, and new models of community and inclusion. No idea is too small. The ideas will then be developed into models of housing to become pilot projects.

The first stage of the housing pilots will be in the Barwon region of Victoria with other areas to be considered in the future. [More information and frequently asked question are available on the NDIS website](#).

Books & Publications

Disability, Rights Monitoring, and Social Change

Disability, Rights Monitoring, and Social Change is an important and timely collection that explores and challenges the ways in which disability rights are monitored. The contributors to this edited volume range from grassroots activists to international scholars and UN advisors. The chapters address the current theoretical, methodological, and practical issues surrounding disability rights monitoring and offer a detailed look at law and policy reforms, best practices, and holistic methods. This unique compilation crosses the divide between the global South and North and explores the complex issues of intersectionality that arise for women with disabilities, indigenous peoples with disabilities, and people with diverse disabilities. <http://bit.ly/1P9Uc2j>

Australian charities report 2014

In this first comprehensive report to include the financial information of Australian charities, this resource uses 2014 reporting data provided to the ACNC by over 37,000 charities. Natasha Cortis, Ilro Lee, Abigail Powell, Roger Simnett, Rebecca Reeve | Centre for Social Impact | Social Policy Research Centre (UNSW) | Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.
<http://apo.org.au/sites/all/modules/pubdlnet/pubdlnet.php?nid=60407&file=http://apo.org.au/files/Resource/austral-ian-charities-report-2014-final.pdf>

Policies & Guidelines

Models of disability support governance: a framework for assessing and reforming social policy

Paul Henman, Michele Foster | Australian Journal of Social Issues

In many developed countries, the provision of disability services has undergone significant transformations, from institutional to community based care, and from organisational to personalised funding. Yet delivering disability support remains an ongoing challenge for governments. Specifically, the relative success of different types of disability support governance is convoluted and problematic given the diversity and complexity of disability support systems and the people they serve. To enhance the systematic analysis and evaluation of disability support governance, this paper conceptually advances four distinct models based on the locus of control and coordination of such support:

- uncoordinated
- casework governance
- dwelling-based governance and
- user-coordinated

<http://search.informit.com.au/documentSummary;dn=494616352464650;res=IELHSS>

Consumer and Carer Co-Design in Mental Health

The Consumer and Carer Co-Design Initiative is a national project to enable large numbers of consumers and carers to co-design and co-produce community-based mental health services with PHNs, service providers and practitioners. Consumers and carers can no longer allow the design and implementation of services to be done exclusively by governments, providers and practitioners. Consumers and carers have a right to participate in shaping these services and initiate the processes by which this is done properly, respectfully, and without tokenism. How you can be involved [read more](#)

National Disability Insurance Scheme: Commonwealth financial arrangements up to 2019-20

This paper by Richard Madden of the Centre for Disability Research and Policy explores the Commonwealth Government portion of the NDIS' finances. The financial arrangements for the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) are crucial to the successful implementation of the Scheme. The NDIS is jointly funded by the Commonwealth and the States and Territories. The DisabilityCare Australia (DCA) levy (0.5% of income) was introduced on 1 July 2014, when the NDIS itself was only being introduced at trial sites. Consequently, most of the levy is being accumulated in the early years of the NDIS to meet future commitments of the Commonwealth and the States and Territories. How long will the accumulated balances of the levy survive if they are used to fund NDIS expenses as they increase? This paper attempts to answer this key question for the Commonwealth Government portion of the NDIS' finances. Read the full Australian Policy Online article at <http://apo.org.au/resource/national-disability-insurance-scheme-commonwealth-financial-arrangements-2019-20>

Aged Care Quality National Consultation Report

The Quality Agency conducted a "Quality Dialogue" with the aged care community. This dialogue was all about the concept of quality in relation to aged care. People were invited to share with us their thinking and questions, and to explore and debate the best possible ways to define, encourage, measure and monitor quality in aged care services.

This report captures this dialogue and reflects more than 16 hours of forums and meetings with stakeholders, 15 written submissions and 152 contributions made on line from consumers, consumer advocate groups, providers (managers and frontline staff), carers, peak bodies, researchers and others interested in the quality of aged care in Australia. It explores new or different concepts of quality that are beyond just meeting the standards.

The Australian Aged Care Quality Agency (the Quality Agency) provides a framework for ensuring that all residential and home care services meet minimum standards of care. The accreditation system has set clear expectations for residential aged care and, over time, systems and practices improved and fewer and fewer residential aged care services failed to receive full accreditation or meet the Accreditation Standards.

Access the report here https://www.aacqa.gov.au/for-providers/promoting-quality/copy2_of_AACQA_lets_talk_about_quality_report_web.pdf

New topical guide on disability inclusion

The Governance and Social Development Resource Centre (GSDRC) established by DFID in 2001, has published this topical guide that summarises evidence on the key debates and challenges of disability inclusion in development and humanitarian response. While disability does not necessarily imply limited well-being and poverty, there is growing evidence that the estimated one billion people with disabilities face attitudinal, physical and institutional barriers that result in multi-dimensional poverty, exclusion and marginalization. Disability inclusion could increase earnings, tax revenues, and individual and societal well-being, and it need not be costly or complicated. Inclusive approaches are more cost-effective than piecemeal disability interventions.

<http://www.gsdr.org/topic-guides/disability-inclusion/>

Directories Online

Carer Gateway

Carer Gateway is a national online and phone service that provides practical information and resources to support carers. Carer Gateway provides information about the services and support available for people who care for someone with a disability, chronic illness, dementia, mental illness or who are frail aged. The interactive service finder helps carers connect to local support services.

<https://www.carergateway.gov.au/>

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

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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.

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Over 300 Australian artistes have been featured studio guests on the Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show.

The studio guests coming up include: = Foreday Riders, Arc Riders, Blues on the Water, Kate Lush, Los Skeletone Blues, Dan Granero, Helmut Uhlmann, Big Rock Records, Chris Turner, Phil Simmons, Damien Binder, Keith Hall & Pat Dow Band, Christian Marsh, Dr. Goodvibe, Wiseman's Circus, Amanda Easton, Cameron Henderson, Chich & The Soul Messengers, Blues Explosion, Toongabbie Music Club, Hornsby BUGS Uke Group, PHUN Uke and many more in 2015. **Join our 6,000+ Facebook Likes** or follow our studio guest announcements at <https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Spectrum.Show.Alive90.5fm>

Disability News

[New housing options for people with significant disability: design insights](#)

Astrid Reynolds, Sophie Ryan | Summer Foundation

Insights into design based on the Summer Foundation's learnings from housing demonstration projects in Abbotsford, Victoria and the Hunter region of NSW.

The Summer Foundation is developing a small number of integrated housing and support demonstration projects to test and refine a new innovative housing and support option for young people in or at risk of entering residential aged care facilities. In 2013 the Summer Foundation established its first demonstration project in Abbotsford, Victoria. The Summer Foundation is now establishing a second project in the NSW Hunter NDIS trial site. One area of emphasis has been on apartment design that supports the independence and inclusion of people with significant disabilities in the community. There has also been a focus on incorporating smart home technology as a way of enhancing the opportunities for more independent living. Australian Policy Online article http://apo.org.au/sites/all/modules/pubdlnet/pubdlnet.php?nid=58268&file=http://apo.org.au/files/Resource/nho_design_report_0.pdf

Technology News

GSP Smart Sole to find lost and wondering person.

The patented GPS enabled "Smart" insoles fit easily into most adult shoes and let you monitor the whereabouts of loved ones who may have a tendency to wander or at risk of becoming disoriented and lost. No need for them to remember to carry a separate tracking device, just slip on their shoes and go – like they normally would. Seamless and effortless.

You can track their location through any smartphone, tablet or web browser, set up SMS text and e-mail alerts if they leave or enter defined areas on a map.

GPS SmartSoles provide peace of mind for family members and those caring for the millions of people suffering from memory impairment and wandering which can be caused by Alzheimer's, Dementia, Autism, Traumatic Brain Injury or other cognitive memory disability.

<http://mcarewatch.com.au/products/gps-smartsole/>

Research & Demographic Reports

Association of Mental Disorders With Subsequent Chronic Physical Conditions: World Mental Health Surveys From 17 Countries

Kate M. Scott, MA(ClinPsych), PhD; Carmen Lim, MSc; Ali Al-Hamzawi, MD; et al.

JAMA Psychiatry. Published online December 23, 2015. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2015.2688

These findings suggest that mental disorders of all kinds are associated with an increased risk of onset of a wide range of chronic physical conditions. Current efforts to improve the physical health of individuals with mental disorders may be too narrowly focused on the small group with the most severe mental disorders. Interventions aimed at the primary prevention of chronic physical diseases should optimally be integrated into treatment of all mental disorders in primary and secondary care from early in the disorder course. Read full FREE article [here](#)

World Population Ageing 2015 infographic

This infochart conveys key messages on World Population Ageing, reflecting the latest estimates and projections from the 2015 Revision of World Population Prospects. For more information: [World Population Ageing 2015](#)

[The cost effectiveness of sustaining tenancies of formerly homeless clients with high needs](#)

Kaylene Zaretsky, Paul Flatau | Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute

11 November 2015 | Provides an Australia-wide review of programs which assist clients to access and maintain a social housing tenancy, or support existing social housing tenants at risk of homelessness to maintain their tenancies.

Specialist homelessness services 2014-15

This is the fourth annual report of the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection, and the first as an online web report. The web report provides information about the clients of specialist homelessness agencies who were assisted in 2014-15 and the support they received. It also presents key trends from the 4 years of the collection. The report provides information on all clients of SHS agencies as well as comparisons of key priority groups, including clients in regional and remote areas, Indigenous clients, and those clients experiencing domestic and family violence. Data on clients who require assistance for a disability are provided for 2 years. View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online

Audit Office Mental Health Post- discharge Care Report released

The Audit office has completed a Performance audit on how well NSW Health and Local Health Districts provide follow-up care for mental health consumers within seven days of being discharged from public mental health units. As part of this audit MHCC raised issues of concern regarding the inclusion and involvement of community organisations in protocols in place around transfer of care between mental health facilities and community managed programs and services. The report is available to view [here](#), and the report overview and accompanying media release is available [here](#)

Featured Course

7 – 11 March 2016

P.A.R.T. Train The Trainer Course (Predict, Assess & Respond To Threat of Aggression/Assault Training).

Westmead, Sydney. MTU Training Concepts.

Info & Registration Forms Ph: 02 974 32392 Email info@mtu.net.au web

<http://www.mtu.net.au/>

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

Leadership Development Programs – useful resources

Developed by the Aged Care Leadership Development Centre

What types of behaviours could help you become an effective leader? You can check out the Aged Care Leadership Capability Framework available from www.acldc.com. This Framework is the result of 2 years of research with over 500 leaders across Australia.

You can use this Capability Framework to guide leadership assessment, development and career planning processes both as an individual or across your organisation. To download a copy at www.acldc.com and register to access your copy.

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Take free online classes from 115+ top universities and educational organizations. We partner with schools like Stanford, Melbourne, Yale, NSW, Princeton, Western Australia, London, John Hopkins, Edinburgh, Manchester, and others. Courses are open to anyone, and learning is free. Online learning plays a significant role in a lifelong education. Watch short video lectures, take interactive quizzes, complete peer graded assessments, and connect with fellow learners and instructors.

EXAMPLES of go at your own pace and start at your own time courses:-

[Child Nutrition and Cooking](#) – Stanford University

[Introductory Human Physiology](#) – Duke University

[Epidemiology: The Basic Science of Public Health](#) – Uni of North Carolina

[Public Policy Challenges of the 21st Century](#) – University of Virginia

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Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com

Registered Nurses & Endorsed Enrolled Nurses specialised in disability &/or mental health (casual work)

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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.globalcaresstaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

1 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Bankstown. 10 am. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

1 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Bankstown. 5 pm. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

1 March 2016

NDIS Information Desk. Fletcher, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/fletcher-ndis-information-desk-2/>

1 March 2016

NDIS Service Provider Readiness Forum Round One. Penrith, NSW.

<https://www.regonline.com.au/register/checkin.aspx?eventid=1806126>

1 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Dubbo, NSW.

<http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/01/19/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

2 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Dubbo, NSW.

<http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/02/16/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

2 March 2016

NDIS Service Provider Readiness Forum Round One. Newcastle, NSW.

<https://www.regonline.com.au/register/checkin.aspx?eventid=1806126>

2 March 2016

Role of Support Workers in an NDIS World. Northbridge WA. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1449632397>

3 March 2016

Carers and the NDIS. Campbelltown, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/carers-and-the-ndis-campbelltown-2/>

3 March 2016

Role of Support Workers in an NDIS World. NDS Training Room, Northbridge WA.

<http://www.ndp.org.au/events/132-role-of-support-workers-in-an-ndis-world>

3 March 2016

NDIS Information Desk. Belmont Citi, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/belmont-ndis-information-desk-0>

3 March 2016

NDIS Service Provider Readiness Forum Round One. Blacktown, NSW.

<https://www.regonline.com.au/register/checkin.aspx?eventid=1806126>

3 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Tamworth, NSW. 10 am. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

3 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Tamworth, NSW. 5 pm. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

4 March 2016

NDIS Service Provider Readiness Forum Round One. Hornsby, NSW.

<https://www.regonline.com.au/calendarNET/EventCalendar.aspx?EventID=1806079&view=location>

7 – 8 March 2016

NDS Victoria Conference. **NDIS** Pullman on the Park, Melbourne. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1439428023>

7 – 11 March 2016

P.A.R.T. Train The Trainer Course (Predict, Assess & Respond To Threat of Aggression/Assault Training).

Westmead, Sydney. MTU Training Concepts. Info & Registration Forms Ph: 02 974 32392 Email

info@mtu.net.au web <http://www.mtu.net.au/>

8 March 2016

NDIS Costing and Pricing Phase 2. Northbridge WA. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1450139058>

8 March 2016

NDIS Information Desk. Edgeworth, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/edgeworth-ndis-information-desk-1>

8 March 2016

NSW Improve IT-4 the NDIS Service Provider Workshop. Campbelltown, NSW.
<http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4121>

8 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Marimbula, NSW.
<http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/08/17/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

8 March 2016

Darwin Regional Forum NDS NT & the NDIS. Darwin, NT. <http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4122>

8 – 9 March 2016

Disability Advocacy Network Australia Managers & Board Chairs Summit. NDIS Melbourne.
<http://goo.gl/CZryQu>

9 March 2016

NDIS Planning Master Class, Burwood, NSW. 10am-12pm. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/ndis-planning-master-class/>

9 March 2016

NDIS & You. Parramatta, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/ndis-you-parramatta/>

9 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Bateman's Bay, NSW. <http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/09/18/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

9 March 2016

NSW Improve IT-4 the NDIS Service Provider Workshop. Armidale, NSW.
<http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4121>

9 March 2016

NDIS Costing and Pricing The Curtin/NDS Tool. Northbridge WA. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1449114843>

10 March 2016

Carers and the NDIS Campbelltown, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/carers-and-the-ndis-campbelltown-3/>

10 March 2016

NDIS Information Desk. Morisset, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/morisset-ndis-information-desk-3/>

11 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Blacktown, NSW. 10 am. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

11 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Blacktown, NSW. 5 pm. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

14 March 2016

Preparing for the NDIS: Supporting Your Clients Using Life Coaching Techniques. Sydney, ACWA.
http://www.acwa.asn.au/Course_Details11.php?recid=8458

14 – 15 March 2016

PASSING Social Role Valorisation Course. Sydney, NSW. Contact: [Foundations Forum](#)

15 March 2016

NDIS Planning Master Class, Belmore, NSW. 10am-12pm. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/ndis-planning-master-class/>

15 – 16 March 2016

National Disability Summit. NDIS SMC Conference & Function Centre, Sydney.

<http://www.informa.com.au/conferences/health-care-conference/national-disability-summit>

15 – 17 March 2016

Australian Healthcare Week Expo. Australian Technology Park, Sydney. <http://www.austhealthweek.com.au/>

16 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Burwood, NSW. <http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/16/20/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

16 March 2016

NSW Improve IT-4 the NDIS Service Provider Workshop. Canberra, ACT. <http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4121>

17 March 2016

Carers and the NDIS Bankstown, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/carers-and-the-ndis-bankstown/>

17 March 2016

NSW Improve IT-4 the NDIS Service Provider Workshop. Batemans Bay, NSW. <http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4121>

17 – 18 March 2016

Down Syndrome NSW - Education Conference. SMC Conference & Function Centre, Sydney. <http://secure.downsyndromensw.org.au/training/workshops/education-conference-2016>

17– 18 March 2016

Resourcing Families Regional Conference: Harness the Possibilities: NDIS Wagga Wagga <http://www.resourcingfamilies.org.au/>

17 – 18 March 2016

NDS WA Conference. NDIS Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1439428273>

17– 18 March 2016

Aged & Community Services Northern Regions Conference. Ballina NSW. http://www.australianageingagenda.com.au/event/acs-northern-regions-conference-ballina/?instance_id=1837

19 March 2016

Education and Care Services Conference. Campbelltown Arts Centre, NSW. <http://www.campbelltown.nsw.gov.au/EducationandCareServicesBiennialConference>

21 March 2016

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

21 – 22 March 2016

National Dementia Conference. Novotel Brisbane. <http://www.informa.com.au/conferences/health-care-conference/national-dementia-conference>

21 – 22 March 2016

Reforming NDIS / Reforming Mental Health. Angliss Conference Centre, Melbourne. <http://www.civilsociety.org.au/March2016RegistrationForm.htm>

22 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Hornsby, NSW. 10 am. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

22 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Hornsby, NSW. 5 pm. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

23 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Kingsford, NSW. <http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/23/21/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

23 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Gosford, NSW. 10 am. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

23 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Gosford, NSW. 5 pm. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

26 March 2016

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

30 March 2016

NDIS and You. Leumeah, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/ndis-you-leumeah/>

30 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Brookvale, NSW. <http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/30/22/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

30 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Bega, NSW. 10 am. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

30 March 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Bega, NSW. 5 pm. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

30 March 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 10am – 1pm Derwent Entertainment Centre, Glenorchy, Hobart. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/3003-ilc>

31 March 2016

NDIS My Choice Matters for People with Disability & Family Members: Get More Skills. Castle Hill, NSW. <http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/icalrepeat.detail/2016/03/31/23/get-more-skills-a-good-life>

31 March 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 10am – 2pm Derwent Entertainment Centre, Glenorchy, Hobart. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/3103-ilc>

1 -4 April 2016

Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association USA Annual Education Conference. Hyatt Regency Hotel on Mission Bay, San Diego, California. <http://ddna.org/conference/>

2 April 2016

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

4 April 2016

NSW Improve IT-4 the NDIS Service Provider Workshop. Parramatta, NSW. <http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4121>

4 April 2016

NDIS Costing and Pricing Phase 2. Northbridge WA. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1450138019>

6 April 2016

Mental Health Practitioner National Conference. After Care. SMC Conference Centre, Sydney. info@mycareer2016.com.au

6 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 10am – 1pm. ANZ Stadium, Gate L, 15 Edwin Flack Ave, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/0604-ilc-0>

6 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 1.30 – 5.30pm. ANZ Stadium, Gate L, 15 Edwin Flack Ave, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/0604-ilc>

6 – 8 April 2016

National Volunteering Conference. National Convention Centre, Canberra. <http://2016nationalvolunteeringconference.com.au/>

7 April 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Goulburn, NSW. 10 am. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

7 April 2016

NDIS Information Forum (free). Goulburn, NSW. 5 pm. Every Australian Counts. [Web site](#)

7 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 10am – 1pm. ANZ Stadium, Gate L, 15 Edwin Flack Ave, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/0704-ilc>

7 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 1.30 – 5.30pm. ANZ Stadium, Gate L, 15 Edwin Flack Ave, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/0604-ilc-0>

7 – 8 April 2016

AAG & ACS Regional Conference. Dubbo, NSW. <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/ehome/140135>

8 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 9am – 12 noon. Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, 155 Darling Street, Dubbo, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/0804-ilc>

8 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 12.30 – 3.30pm. Dubbo Regional Theatre and Convention Centre, 155 Darling Street, Dubbo, NSW. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/0804-ilc-pwd>

11 April 2016

NSW Improve IT-4 the NDIS Service Provider Workshop. Hornsby, NSW. <http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4121>

11 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 10am – 1pm. Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Level 5, 2 Clarendon St, South Wharf, Melbourne. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/1104-ilc>

11 – 12 April 2016

NDS Queensland Conference. NDIS Convention Centre Brisbane. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1441250076>

11 – 13 April 2016

9th World of Disabled People's International (DPI). www.disabledpeoplesinternational.org

11 – 15 April 2016

P.A.R.T. Train The Trainer Course (Predict, Assess & Respond To Threat of Aggression/Assault Training). Queensland/Northern Territory. MTU Training Concepts. Info & Registration Forms Ph: 02 974 32392 Email info@mtu.net.au web <http://www.mtu.net.au/>

12 April 2016

Carers and the NDIS. Sutherland, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/carers-and-the-ndis-sutherland/>

12 April 2016

NSW Improve IT-4 the NDIS Service Provider Workshop. Maitland, NSW. <http://www.nds.org.au/news/article/4121>

12 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 10am – 2pm. Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Level 5, 2 Clarendon St, South Wharf, Melbourne.. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/1204-ilc>

12 – 14 April 2016

Understanding Accreditation for Residential Aged Care. NSW. AACQA. <http://www.aacqa.gov.au/providers/education/courses-and-workshops/understanding-accreditation>

13 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 10am – 1pm. Mercure Grosvenor, 125 North Terrace, Adelaide.

<http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/1304-ilc>

13 – 14 April 2016

Redesigning Business Models for the NDIS. Mecure, Sydney.

<http://www.criterionconferences.com/event/ndis/>

14 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 10am – 2pm. Mercure Grosvenor, 125 North Terrace, Adelaide. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/1404-ilc>

15 – 16 April 2016

Independence Expo, Australian Technology Park, Sydney. Free to attend. [Web site](#)

18 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 10am – 1pm. Brisbane City Hall, 64 Adelaide Street, Brisbane.

<http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/1804-ilc>

19 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 10am – 2pm. Brisbane City Hall, 64 Adelaide Street, Brisbane. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/1904-ilc>

20 April 2016

NDIS and You. Parramatta, NSW. <http://ndis.nsw.gov.au/event/ndis-you-parramatta-2/>

20 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for people with disability, families and carers. 10am – 1pm. The Ville Resort Casino, Sir Leslie Thies Drive, Townsville City.

<http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/2004-ilc>

20 – 21 April 2016

Aged Care Nurse Managers Conference. Caulfield Racecourse, Melbourne.

<http://totalagedservices.com.au/index.php?q=acnm-conference.html>

20 – 21 April 2016

Dementia & Community Care Conference. Caulfield Racecourse, Melbourne.

<http://totalagedservices.com.au/index.php?q=dcc-conference.html>

21 April 2016

NDIS Information, Linkages and Capacity Building Framework Consultation for service providers. 10am – 2pm. The Ville Resort Casino, Sir Leslie Thies Drive, Townsville City. <http://www.ndis.gov.au/event/2004-ilc-0>

25 – 26 April 2016

32nd Annual Pacific Rim International Conference on Disability and Diversity. Hawaii Convention Centre, Honolulu. <http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/news/2015/pac-rim-call-proposals-opens-soon>

28 – 29 April 2016

Home Modifications Australia National Conference. National Convention Centre, Canberra.

<http://www.moda2016.org.au/>

29 - 30 April 2016

9th Primary Mental Health Care Conference. Canberra Rex Hotel, ACT.

<http://acmhn.eventsair.com/QuickEventWebsitePortal/9th-pmhcc/eis>

Many more Conferences and Workshops listed online at

http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

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http://www.globalcaresstaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

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