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January-February 2014 Volume 8, Issue 43

Mental health and the National Disability Insurance Scheme: position paper

Managing madness: mental health and complexity in public policy

This paper explores the concept of collaborative care, particularly in relation to a range of new models of organisation and service that are emerging in response to one of the most problematic areas of public policy – mental health. These emerging models of coordinated mental health care are testing the limits of the evidence supporting coordinated care, and require critical evaluation. Myriad concepts of collaborative or coordinated care in health, including mental health, have created multiple definitions. Once definitional issues have been surmounted, however, the evidence for coordination of health care is reasonably strong. There is considerable research about which treatments and programs are best for people with a mental illness. There are few areas seemingly as complex as mental health, given that responsibility for policy and service lies across all three tiers of Australian government and across multiple jurisdictions. It also engages public, private and non-government sectors. Co-morbidities are commonplace, particularly drug and alcohol problems among younger people. Governments in Australia have traditionally taken responsibility for policy, programs and services, either as direct service providers or through contracting outputs from others. Yet the evidence indicates that for people with a mental illness, the best solutions are often not found in government but in the community and in organisations outside of government. New organisations and new structures are attempting more holistic management approaches, combining clinical care, community support, housing, employment and other services. This paper considers some of these new models in the light of existing evidence. The key challenge facing continued reform in mental health is not uncertainty regarding programs or services, but rather how to drive coordinated care for consumers across departments, governments and providers. This review will highlight the key changes that must be made for the benefit of the millions of Australians with a mental illness. Such changes need to empower users of care systems to choose options that actively support coordinated and efficient care delivery systems.

[Managing madness: mental health and complexity in public policy](#)

Disability News

Significant development in relation to the NDIS in NSW

There has been a significant development in relation to the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in NSW.

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NSW Enabling) Bill 2013 has been passed by the NSW Parliament.

By the end of the NDIS transition period in 2018, the NSW Government will no longer deliver disability services or basic community care supports, as this transfers to the non-government sector.

The legislation relates to the transfer of services from Government to the non-government sector and is designed to achieve three critical objectives:

- ensuring maximum continuity of services for people with disability as they make decisions about their future,
- promoting the retention of a skilled disability services workforce to continue to provide that support, and
- enabling the transfer of assets into the new disability sector.

The legislation allows consideration of a range of possible future scenarios for this transition of government services. It will ensure the Department of Family and Community Services – Ageing, Disability and Home Care (ADHC) can work with its diverse groups of staff and clients to put in place a model that respects the differences across the organisation.

Importantly, it also allows ADHC to progress discussions regarding service transition with the non-government sector in an open and transparent environment.

ADHC will, of course, continue to work closely with service providers on the broader NDIS transition when the parameters for full scheme have been negotiated with the Commonwealth.

A significant level of growth in the NSW disability sector is needed to deliver on the promise of the NDIS and this legislation allows all parties to work together to unlock the opportunities inherent in the NDIS for every segment of the sector.

It is vital that all sector participants work collaboratively to build broad community understanding of the valuable role of the non government sector in the Australia's disability sector – today and in the future of the NDIS.

A key priority is the collective role in providing support and continuity for people with disability during the transition into the NDIS.

The Department is communicating the intent of the Bill to staff and clients, as well as responding to the many questions that individuals have about how this will affect them. Ongoing and regular communication, as well as a process of consultation, will be ongoing and no doubt span many years until full rollout of the NDIS occurs.

Future Direction and New Protections For People With Disability

Ready Together Policy

As part of the International Day of People with Disability, NSW Minister for Disability Services, John Ajaka, announced further reforms and new protections for people with disability in NSW leading up to the full implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in 2018.

Ready Together continues the NSW Government's Stronger Together 2 reforms, which committed \$2 billion in new funding for disability services from 2011-12 to 2015-16, to deliver 47,200 new places for people with disability to access support.

Ready Together focuses this investment on what people say they most want - more flexibility, more choice and more control - implemented through the Living Life My Way framework.

As part of this, there will be two new laws in NSW. The Disability Inclusion Bill - protecting the rights of people with disability and promoting community inclusion now and into the future. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NSW Enabling) Act enables Government services to transfer to the non-government sector.

Ready Together is aimed at increasing access to individualised funding and preparing NSW for the transition to the NDIS by July 2018. For information booklets, [easy english version](#) and fact sheets [click here](#).

To find out more visit: www.adhc.nsw.gov.au/about_us/strategies/ready_together

Picture My Future

The Picture My Future is an new online training course designed to teach you how to support people with disability as they explore their goals for the future.

The Picture My Future approach has been developed by a research team from Deakin University. They have worked with people with disability to develop an approach that supports people to talk to planners about what is important to them so that they have meaningful involvement in the planning process.

The training modules and toolkit enable people with disability and those who support them to implement the approach.

For further information visit: www.picturemyfuture.com

Featured Conference

10 – 11 February 2014

NDS NSW State Conference.

National Disability Services NSW



The leading conference for disability service providers.

Hilton, Sydney.

Registrations NOW OPEN

See attached registration forms or register directly online.

<http://www.nds.org.au/events/1378273159>

DisabilityCare: how a forty-year-old proposal became a movement for change

Amid the often-protracted policy debates of the Rudd and Gillard years, DisabilityCare is widely seen as Labor's most popular and effectively managed reform. The story begins during the Whitlam years, and takes in a highly effective community campaign.

Critical to success was having people with disabilities at the forefront of the campaign. Rather than relying on professionals to lobby governments and oppositions, they and their families arranged appointments with their local MPs. "These meetings were very deliberately structured to be positive," says Deane. "MPs are very used to people coming into their office and complaining about a particular issue." Instead, people told their local members about the difference an NDIS would make to their lives, often finishing with a line like, "I need you to be my champion in parliament."

At least 80 per cent of federal parliament's 150 lower house MPs received visits from people with disabilities, and some more than once.

Source: Mike Steketee | Inside Story & **Australian Policy Online** – More at

<http://apo.org.au/commentary/disabilitycare-how-forty-year-old-proposal-became-movement-change>

The full article at Inside Story <http://inside.org.au/national-disability-insurance-scheme/>

Transition to retirement: a guide to inclusive practice

Roger J. Stancliffe, Nathan J. Wilson, Nicolette Gambin, Christine Bigby & Susan Balandin.
Sydney University Press. ISBN: 9781743323274. Paperback \$25
<http://fmx01.ucc.usyd.edu.au/jspcart/cart/Product.jsp?nID=870&nCategoryID=12>

As much as everyone groans from time to time about the humdrum and stresses of work, retirement is an unsettling prospect for most people. It's a major transition in anyone's life and change of this magnitude often arouses anxiety. This is much more so for people with disability, particularly intellectual disability.

But, as this manual shows, it doesn't have to be like that. The Transition to Retirement (TTR) program has been developed in response to a genuine problem: the need for an effective approach to supporting older employees to build an active, socially inclusive lifestyle after retirement. The approach mapped out in this manual may not be the solution for all workers with disability, but it will certainly assist quite a few.

The TTR program emphasises social inclusion. It is consistent with the focus of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) on building community participation and independence. It is also consistent with the National Disability Strategy's emphasis on promoting social inclusion in mainstream community settings and service systems. The TTR program supports ageing people with disability to develop new interests, skills and social networks, and facilitates their participation in mainstream community groups.

With the manual comes a DVD, which makes the idea of inclusive activities in retirement easily understandable to people with disability, their families and community organisations. Author royalties from sales of this manual to the Australian Foundation for Disability (AFFORD) to support AFFORD's Transition to Retirement program.

Disability Issues In The Media

We will deliver NDIS: Abbott government

THE Abbott government insists it has no plans to either privatise or unwind the national disability insurance scheme...

Senator Fifield said the coalition had enthusiastically supported the NDIS through parliament and was committed to rolling it out. Read the full **The Australian** article at <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/latest-news/changes-to-ndis-put-it-at-risk-macklin/story-fn3dxiwe-1226746605280>

Hunter DisabilityCare pilot in jeopardy due to low payments

Providers of DisabilityCare in the Hunter region have warned unless the hourly payment for workers is increased the scheme faces failure in the long run. For the past four months the Hunter has been one of four sites trialling the disability scheme. When it was launched providers raised concerns the set Commonwealth payment for workers was too low. Read the full **ABC News** article at <http://mobile.abc.net.au/news/2013-11-06/hunter-disabilitycare-pilot-in-jeopardy-due-to-low-payments/5072166?§ion=news>

Disability pension 'targeted for budget savings' in welfare reform

THE welfare lobby is gearing up for a huge fight on the government's proposed welfare crackdown, indicating that any slashing of the number of disability support pension recipients would be strongly resisted.

Cassandra Goldie, chief executive of Australian Council of Social Service, said she was concerned the government was targeting people on the disability support pension for budget savings. "**We know the devastating impact the previous government's cuts had on single parent families, with around 100,000 dropped down to the lower paying Newstart Allowance and losing about \$100 a week,**" she said.

Social Services Minister Kevin Andrews yesterday said the government was "just looking at the welfare system as any new prudent government would do. We know that there's been growth in certain areas over the last decade - for example in the disability support pension - and we are going to carefully look at that over the next few months, consult broadly with stakeholders in the area so that we can have a grip on what's actually happening and what responses we might make." Read the full article at The Australian <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/policy/disability-pension-targeted-for-budget-savings-in-welfare-reform/story-fn59nokw-1226762845110>

Disability care to be sent to private providers to implement

[Anna Patty](#) State Political Reporter, **Sydney Morning Herald** October 28, 2013.

Three excerpt from the original article:- (

1) The NSW government plans to transfer all its disability services to the private sector from next year in preparation for the introduction of the national scheme, the National Disability Insurance Scheme, in 2018.

(2) The NSW Minister for Ageing and Disability Services, John Ajaka, said more than 60 per cent of disability services were already provided by non-government organisations.....

(3) John Della Bosca, campaign director for Every Australian Counts, said the NDIS was designed to "shift choice and control to people with disability and their families". "This requires a market where disability services are diverse ... This is not possible when a single provider, such as a government, dominates the market," he said.

Read the full article at <http://www.smh.com.au/federal-politics/political-news/disability-care-to-be-sent-to-private-providers-to-implement-20131027-2w9rt.html>

Featured Organisation



– National Disability Services

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

National Disability Services (NDS) is Australia's peak body for non-government disability service organisations. Collectively, our 840 NDS members operate several thousand services for Australians with all types of disability. Members range in size from small support groups to large multi-service organisations.

NDS's purpose is to promote quality service provision and life opportunities for Australians with disability. This is achieved by influencing governments at all levels and providing members with information and advice, networking opportunities and business support.

NDS has a National Secretariat in Canberra and offices in every state and territory. The National Secretariat allows for co-ordination of the respective state and territory bodies at a federal level, while the latter focus on state issues surrounding disability. The organisation as a whole is governed by a national Board which includes the elected Chair from each state/territory, as well as representatives elected directly by members.

Membership Categories

National Disability Services has two categories of membership: Organisational and Life.

- Organisational Membership is for not-for-profit organisations in the disability field.
- Life members are individuals elected by a general meeting of NDS.

[Benefits and Entitlements of NDS membership](#)

Subscriber Categories

National Disability Services has two categories of subscribers: Organisational Associate and Individual Associate

- Organisational Associate is for for-profit and government organisations with an interest in disability issues.
- Individual Associate is for individuals with an interest in disability issues. However, it is not available to members or staff of organisations eligible to be Organisational members of NDS, but who have not taken up such membership.

[Benefits and Entitlements of Associates and Individuals](#)

Don't forget to register NOW for the NDS NSW Conference – places are filling up fast.

10 – 11 February 2014

NDS NSW State Conference.

National Disability Services NSW

Hilton, Sydney.

Registrations NOW OPEN

<http://www.nds.org.au/events/1378273159>

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* the NSW Home Care contract for casual personal care staffing.

* NSW Public and Private hospitals

* many non-government organisations.

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Disability News

A new bill for a more inclusive society in NSW

Minister for Disability Services John Ajaka has invited the public to have their say on the draft **Disability Inclusion Bill 2014** before it is introduced into Parliament in 2014.

Minister Ajaka said the NSW Government needs to ensure the legislative framework embraces changes to support the individual rights of people, while providing necessary safeguards as we move towards full access under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). "The draft Bill is intended to **replace the NSW Disability Services Act 1993** and proposes a rights-based inclusion framework that moves us away from historical, highly regulated services," Mr Ajaka said. "This legislation will ensure there is greater opportunity for people with disability by opening the door to individual choice in the way supports are provided.

"The draft Bill is about the dignity and respect that every single person is entitled to. The *Disability Inclusion Bill* will be a landmark bill that upholds the rights of people with disability to live free from abuse, neglect and exploitation. "The draft Bill also includes provisions to introduce compulsory reporting safeguards in addition to the current investigative powers of the NSW Ombudsman to ensure the safety of all people with disability.

"Early this year, a series of community consultations were held across NSW with people with disability, their families and carers as a first step in the review process. After listening to what they said they wanted from this legislation, we are looking forward to their further feedback on the draft Bill.

"The draft Bill also sets out the role of the NSW Government following the transition to the NDIS. While the NDIS transfers service provision from NSW Government to the Commonwealth, it does not alter our obligations to remain as protectors for people with disability."

Source: NSW Ministerial Media Release

Disability & Health News

Diabetes and disability: impairments, activity limitations, participation restrictions and comorbidities

The report examines the association between diabetes and disability in Australia using data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics' Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers 2009. People with diabetes were twice as likely to have a disability (39% compared with 17%) and almost 3 times as likely to have a severe or profound limitation (14% compared with 5%) than people without diabetes. Among working-age people with diabetes and disability, 40% said

they were permanently unable to work compared with 20% of people with a disability who did not have diabetes. People with diabetes reported higher rates of high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, stroke, depression, vision loss and kidney related disorders than people without diabetes. AIHW catalogue number (CVD 63). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

Aged Care News

[Depression in residential aged care 2008-2012](#)

This Australian Institute of Health and Welfare report provides the first in-depth review of available administrative data to explore the prevalence and characteristics of people with symptoms of depression in residential aged care.

[Mental health blind spot in ACAT](#)

People with mental health illness are being locked out of aged care services due to the reluctance of Aged Care Assessment Teams to assess people under the age of 65, according to the results of a SANE Australia survey. Read the **Australian Ageing Agenda News** item [here](#).

Scholarships & Fellowships News

Churchill Fellowship

Applications close: Monday 19 February 2014

A Churchill Fellowship aims to provide an opportunity for Australians to travel overseas to conduct research in their chosen field that is not readily available in Australia.

A Churchill Fellowship is a remarkable opportunity to travel overseas for a minimum of four and a maximum of about eight weeks to conduct research into a topic that you are passionate about. It is for anyone who feels that they have exhausted all research opportunities within Australia and would like to see what overseas currently has to offer. Every application is assessed based on merit, a demonstrated need for the proposed research, the perceived benefit to Australia and a willingness to share the overseas findings and knowledge with the Australian community.

The Trust aims to reward proven achievement of talented and deserving Australians with further opportunity in their pursuit of excellence for the enrichment of Australian society.

No prescribed qualifications are required in order to apply for a Churchill Fellowship. The subject of the proposed project is limitless provided a benefit to Australia is evident and a willingness to share the research findings with the Australian community is displayed.

To be eligible to apply for a Churchill Fellowship you must:

- be an Australian Citizen over the age of 18
- not be completing tertiary studies directly related to the topic of your proposed project
- have experience in and commitment to the field of your project
- have a worthy project that requires overseas investigation
- be willing to disseminate the results of your research to the broader Australian community and
- not have been awarded a Churchill Fellowship in the past.

Web site: <http://www.churchilltrust.com.au/>

The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Email: churchilltrust@bigpond.com **Freecall:** 1800 777 231 **Telephone:** (02) 6247 8333

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

Disability News

Mental health services in brief 2013

Mental health services - in brief 2013 provides an overview of data about the national response of the health and welfare system to the mental health care needs of Australians.

It is designed to accompany the more comprehensive data on Australia's mental health services available online at <http://mhsa.aihw.gov.au>.

View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online. AIHW catalogue number (HSE 141).

The following information on the AIHW's Mental Health Services in Australia (MHSA) website has also been updated. These updated sections can be viewed at <http://mhsa.aihw.gov.au>

- Mental health services provided in emergency departments
- Background to mental health services in Australia
- Technical information
- State and territory summary data tables

Books & Publications

[Making Sense of Autism](#)

Making Sense of Autism What autism is and how it affects behaviour and learning Travis Thomson, a highly respected autism researcher and clinician, answers questions about issues such as challenging behaviour, types of early interventions, etc. FPANSW Bookshop.

[My Friend with Autism enhanced edition](#)

My Friend with Autism enhanced edition Picture book with free CD of colouring pages My Friend with Autism is the result of a parent's determination to educate her son's classmates about autism, and help her son fit in at school. FPANSW Bookshop.

[Social Work Practice and Intellectual Disability](#)

Social Work Practice and Intellectual Disability Working to support change Social Work Practice and Intellectual Disability gives readers an understanding of the knowledge, values and skills needed to work effectively in the area. FPANSW Bookshop.

[When Your Child Has a Disability](#)

When Your Child Has a Disability The complete sourcebook of daily and medical care When Your Child Has A Disability is a practical resource for parents and carers of children with disabilities such as autism, cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, etc. FPANSW Bookshop.

[Asperger Syndrome What Teachers Need To Know 2nd edition](#)

Asperger Syndrome 2nd edition What teachers need to know Awareness of Asperger Syndrome is growing and Matt Winter, a teacher himself, provides tips and practical ideas that are invaluable for anyone working in a primary school environment. FPANSW Bookshop. \$23.95

[Spinal Cord Injury Desk Reference](#)

Spinal Cord Injury Desk Reference Guidelines for life care planning and case management This comprehensive resource for health professionals and educators provides tools and insights for assessing, planning and addressing long-term care. FPANSW Bookshop.

Carer Recognition Act 2010 Guidelines

The *Carer Recognition Act 2010* came into effect on 18 November 2010, and is the Australian Government's commitment to deliver the first element of the National Carer Recognition Framework.

The aim of the Act is to increase recognition and awareness of the role carers play in providing daily care and support to people with disability, medical conditions, mental illness or who are frail aged.

The Australian Government has released the *Carer Recognition Act 2010* Guidelines. The Guidelines have been developed to assist Australian Public Service Agencies and funded providers to meet their responsibilities under the Act.

Word Version http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/07_2012/car_recognition_act_1.doc

PDF Version http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/07_2012/car_recognition_act_0.pdf

National Carer Strategy Action Plan (2011-2014)

The [National Carer Strategy](#) Action Plan (2011-2014) sets out tangible short-term actions with scorecards to measure success against each of the Strategy's six priority areas. Many of these actions are designed to make sure that broader reform agendas consider and support the crucial role of carers in the care and support system. The Action Plan (2011-2014) is a companion document to the [Implementation Plan](#) which outlines how the Strategy's priorities and ideas for action will be put in place.

Download Documents

- [National Carer Strategy Action Plan \(2011-2014\) - pdf \[742kB\]](#)
- http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/05_2013/national_carer_strategy_-_action_plan_as_v6_13052013_2.docx

National Carer Strategy Implementation Plan

The [National Carer Strategy](#) is the Australian Government's recognition of the invaluable contribution of carers to the Australian community.

The National Carer Strategy Implementation Plan outlines how the Strategy's priorities and ideas for action will be put in place now and into the future. The Implementation Plan is based on three year action plans, outlining practical actions, responsibilities and timelines against each of the Strategy's priority areas.

The [Action Plan \(2011-2014\)](#) is a companion document to the Implementation Plan.

The Implementation Plan and first [Action Plan \(2011-2014\)](#) were developed in consultation with carers, state and territory governments, service providers and peak organisations. An easy read version titled Carrying out the National Carer Strategy is available on this page. The document is a summary of the Implementation Plan, first three year Action plan (2011-2014) and first year Progress Report (2011-2012).

PDF Version http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/10_2012/ncs_implementation_plan.pdf

Word Version

http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/10_2012/national_carer_strategy-implementation_plan.doc

Easy English Version

http://www.fahcsia.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/04_2013/carrying_out_national_carer_strategy.pdf

Directories Online

Disability Directory

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

Find Support Providers <http://www.disabilitydirectory.net.au/find-a-provider/>

Find Information <http://www.disabilitydirectory.net.au/finding-information/>

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

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

Internet Radio Streaming worldwide online at www.alive905.com.au [follow the Listen Live links]

The studio guests coming up include: = Foreday Riders, Dom Turner, Backsliders, Doggn It Blues, Dan Granero, Steve Mulry, Black Label, Tony Cini's Blues Explosion, Dave Tice Buffalo Revisited, Ali Penney, Luke Escombe, Sally Street, Alex Bowen, Mark Cashin, Rob Grosser & The Elephant In The Room and many more in 2014.

Grant News

Telstra Disability Equipment Program

<http://www.telstra.com.au/abouttelstra/commitments/disability-services/disability-equipment-program/>

Telstra's Disability Equipment Program has been designed to provide eligible customers with specialised equipment to access the standard telephone service. If you have a disability and are unable to access the standard telephone handset, Telstra's Disability Equipment Program may have a product to suit your needs. Products provided under Telstra's Disability Equipment Program and listed on these pages can be rented for the same annual rental charge as a standard telephone handset.

- [Who can apply?](#)
- Download the [Disability Equipment Program](#) brochure (PDF, 2.4MB)

Research & Demographic Reports

Specialist Supported Living Services – Post Implementation Review Summary Report,

for NSW Department of Family and Community Services, Ageing Disability and Home Care, SPRC Report 17/13, Social Policy Research Centre, Sydney. By Karen R. Fisher, Sandra Gendera, Friederike Gadow, Deborah Lutz, Rosemary Kayess, Ariella Meltzer, Sally Robinson (2013),

https://www.sprc.unsw.edu.au/media/SPRCFile/PIR_public_Report_26_8_13.pdf

The geographic distribution of Indigenous disability

The rate of disability in the Indigenous population is substantially higher than for the Australian population as a whole. Despite the relatively high rates of disability experienced by the Indigenous population, there is surprisingly little research which provides basic descriptive information on where those Indigenous Australians with a disability live and what their demographic characteristics are. This paper attempts to fill this knowledge gap by providing an overview of the geographic distribution of disability in the Indigenous population. [The geographic distribution of Indigenous disability](#)

[Antipsychotics and the Risk of Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in Children and Youth](#)

William V. Bobo, MD, William O. Cooper, MD, C. Michael Stein, MB, et al.

JAMA Psychiatry. 2013;70(10):1067 doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2013.2053 Objective: To compare the risk of type 2 diabetes in children and youth 6 to 24 years of age for recent initiators of antipsychotic drugs vs propensity score-matched controls who had recently initiated another psychotropic medication. Conclusion: Children and youth prescribed antipsychotics had an increased risk of type 2 diabetes that increased with cumulative dose. See [Abstract](#) and link to article.

Residential aged care and aged care packages in the community 2011-12

The Residential aged care and aged care packages in the community 2011-12 web pages, tables and cubes provide detailed statistical information on residential aged care facilities and community care services and the recipients of residential aged care, Extended Aged Care at Home (EACH), Extended Aged Care at Home Dementia (EACHD) and Community Aged Care Packages (CACPs) during 2011-12. This package of information replaces the two series of reports Residential aged care in Australia and Aged care packages in the community. AIHW catalogue number (WEB 022). This is a web only product. Printed copies are not available. View the [media release](#) and [web product](#) online.

Australian hospital statistics 2012-13: elective surgery waiting times

In 2012-13:

- about 673,000 patients were admitted to Australian public hospitals from elective surgery waiting lists
- 50% of patients were admitted for their surgery within 36 days of being placed on the waiting list and 90% were admitted within 265 days. AIHW catalogue number (HSE 140). View the [media release](#) and download the [full report](#) for free online.

Featured Course

EPILEPSY ACTION ONLINE ACADEMY

- General awareness courses for people with epilepsy and their families.
- Courses for school children
- Accredited courses for GPs and Health Professionals
- Emergency Medication Training
- Resources and tools including Seizure Management Plan template, My Epilepsy Diary, Fact Sheets, Memory game and more.

www.epilepsy.org.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

Education Resources

An introduction to human rights in disability services - a training program for disability support workers in NSW

This free [online training program](#) is designed for all NSW disability support workers. It explores what human rights are and how staff can apply them in day-to-day practice.

The course comprises five 20-minute interactive online training modules. They can be completed all at once or at different times, individually, in pairs or as a team.

A competency tool is also available on the Person Centred Approaches Program (PCAP) [webpage](#) to help organisations carry on the conversation.

Maybo Conflict Management online Training

Personal Safety, Conflict and Challenging Behaviour eLearning

Maybo have a range of eLearning programmes suitable for staff in a wide range of roles and sectors. Available modules include:

- Recognise and reduce risk
- Understand human behaviour
- Positive interactions and choices
- Defuse, calm and resolve
- Personal safety awareness

Additional specialist modules will be available very soon and will include:

- Supporting people with intellectual disabilities
- Caring for older adults
- Working with children and young people
- Lone working
- Supporting people with mental health needs
- Clinically related challenging behaviour in healthcare settings

<http://www.maybo.com.au/unravel>

Positions Vacant

Residential Care Workers - Disability &/or Mental Health Care (Agency Casual Work)

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We are a leading casual 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 care 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. 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

Registered Nurses & Endorsed Enrolled Nurses specialised in disability, mental health and general (casual agency work)

Email: 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. **Excellent pay rates. Weekly pays.** Why not forward your resume to 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

30 January 2014

Enrolled Nurses' Conference. The Sebel, Surry Hills, Sydney. Ausmed. <http://www.ausmed.com.au/course/enrolled-nurses-conference-sydney-2014-program#nswseminar>

1 - 2 February 2014

15th Joint Annual Conference of Indian Epilepsy Association & Indian Epilepsy Society. ECON 2014. Kolkata, India. <http://www.econ2014.org.in/default.aspx>

3 - 4 February 2014

Providing Palliative Care for Older Australians Conference. Cambridge Hotel, Sydney. Ausmed.
<http://www.ausmed.com.au/course/palliative-care-for-the-older-person-program#nswseminar>

5 February 2014

Having A Say Conference. Geelong Victoria. <http://www.valid.org.au/conference/default.htm>

5 February 2014

Intellectual Disability and Dementia Workshop. North Ryde, Sydney, NSW. <http://www.fightdementia.org.au/new-south-wales/education--training-in-nsw.aspx>

10 – 11 February 2014

NDS NSW State Conference. Hilton, Sydney. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1378273159>

13 - 14 February 2014

Issues in Sexuality & Disability. Newcastle. Family Planning NSW. http://www.fpsw.org.au/211103_5.html

17- 21 February 2014

My Choice Matters Workshop. Sydney Inner West, NSW. <http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/what-s-on.html>

18 February 2014

International Asperger's Day. <http://www.asperger.asn.au/>

19 – 20 February 2014

Physical Disability and Dementia Workshop. Burwood, Sydney, NSW. <http://www.fightdementia.org.au/new-south-wales/education--training-in-nsw.aspx>

19 – 22 February 2014

Learning Disabilities Association 51stth Annual International Conference. Anaheim, CA, USA.
<http://www.ldanatl.org/conference/index.asp>

20– 21 February 2014

5th Annual National Dementia Congress. Novotel on Collins Melbourne.
<http://www.healthcareconferences.com.au/healthcare-conferences/healthcare/national-dementia-congress>

20– 22 February 2014

3rd International UCI Epilepsy Research Centre Symposium. Hyatt Newporter Hotel, Newport Beach, CA, USA.
<http://www.epilepsyresearch.uci.edu/>

23 February 2014

NDS South Australia Conference. Hilton, Adelaide. <http://www.nds.org.au/events/1379651332>

23 - 25 February 2014

Tri-State Conference & Expo: Aged Care – Breaking Free. Albury, NSW. <http://vic.lasa.asn.au/event/tristate2014/>

24 - 25 February 2014

Caring For People With Chronic Mental Illness. Cambridge Hotel, Sydney. Ausmed.
<http://www.ausmed.com.au/course/caring-for-people-with-chronic-mental-illness-2014-program#nswseminar>

24 - 28 February 2014

My Choice Matters Workshop. Southern Sydney, NSW. <http://www.mychoicematters.org.au/what-s-on.html>

28 February – 1 March 2014

Youth Mental Health Symposium. Pullman King George Square, Brisbane. <http://www.ranzcp.org/ymh2014>

1 March 2014

International Wheelchair Day. <http://internationalwheelchairclub.com/international-wheelchair-day/>

1 March 2014

Neuroscience Conference. Wollongong. Joanne.mcloughlin@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au

3 – 4 March 2014

Child Online Safety and Protection Conference. Sydney Harbour Marriott Hotel.
<http://www.informa.com.au/conferences/government-policy-conference/child-online-safety-and-protection-conference>

8 March 2014

International Women's Day <http://www.unwomen.org/>

12 – 13 March 2014

Issues in Sexuality & Disability. Ashfield, NSW. Family Planning NSW. http://www.fpnsw.org.au/211103_5.html

17 – 18 March 2014

5th Annual National Disability Summit 2014. Rydges, Melbourne.

<http://www.healthcareconferences.com.au/healthcare-conferences/healthcare/national-disability-summit>

21 March 2014

World Down Syndrome Day <http://www.worlddownsyndromeday.org>

25 – 26 March 2014

Implementing Consumer Directed Care. The Menzies, Sydney. <http://cdcsummit.com/overview/>

26 March 2014

Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness. Epilepsy Australia.

http://www.epilepsyaustralia.net/purple_day/purple_day.aspx

31 March – 3 April 2014

International Conference on Low Vision. Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre. <http://vision2014.org/>

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