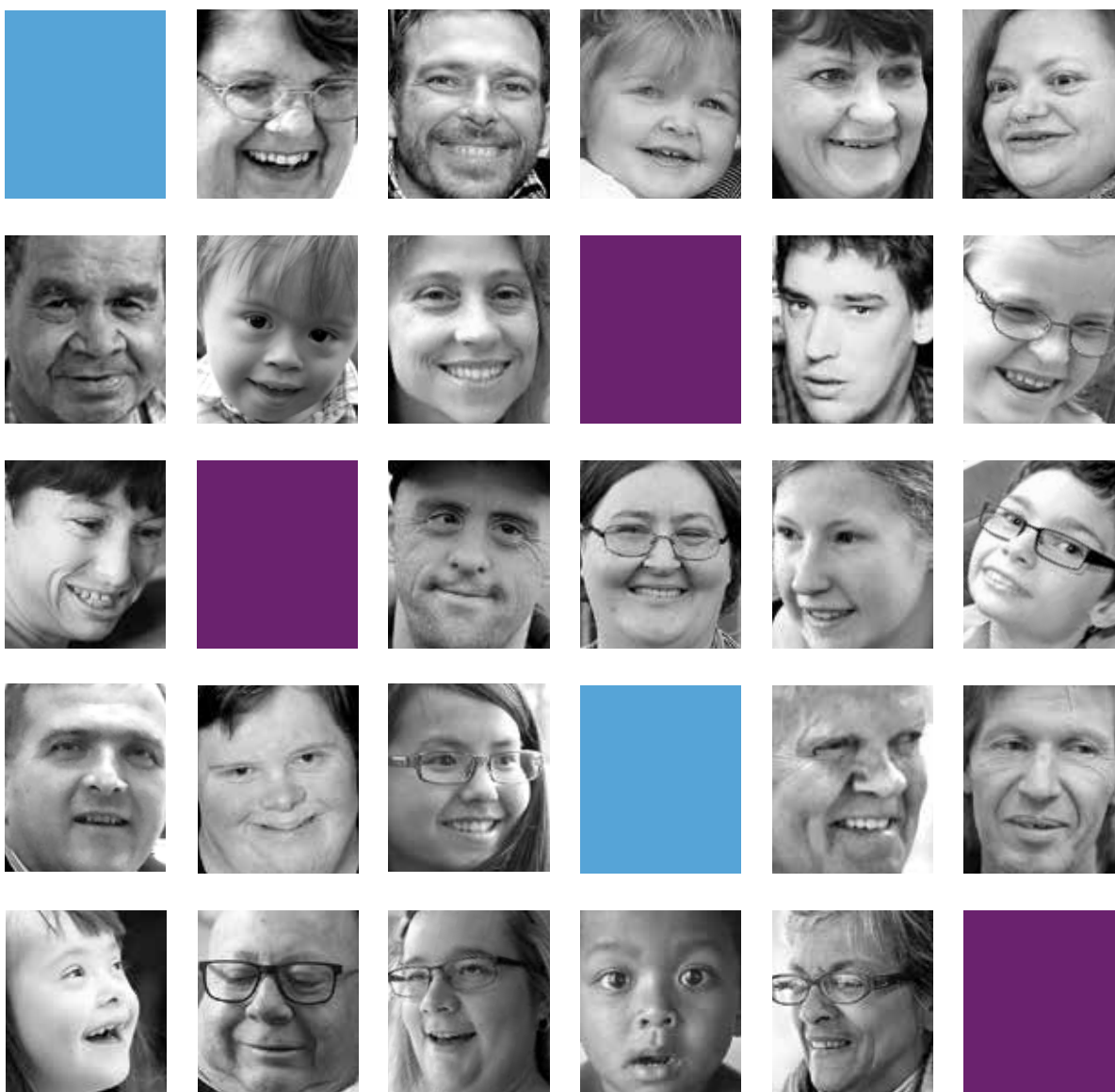




National Disability Insurance Agency 2013-14 **ANNUAL REPORT**

Easy Read Version



National
disabilityinsurance
Agency



About this booklet

What is this booklet for?



This is the NDIA Annual Report for our first year.



It is to tell you what the

National Disability Insurance Scheme has been doing and to tell the Australian Government how well we are working.

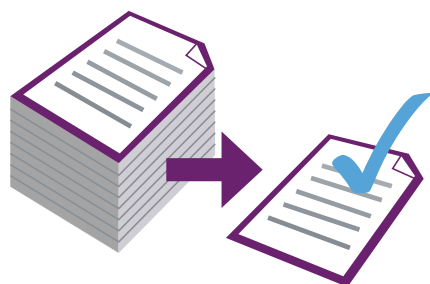
The National Disability Insurance Scheme is also called the NDIS.



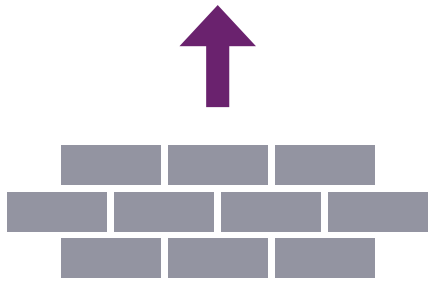
It is run by the

National Disability Insurance Agency.

The National Disability Insurance Agency is also called the NDIA.



This is an easy to read version of a much longer report—the *National Disability Agency 2013-2014 Annual Report*. You can find it on the internet at www.ndis.gov.au.



Why have we written it?

We wrote it because we want you to know that the NDIS is being built like the Government planned and will be there for you in the years to come.



Easy Read

How have we written it?

We have made it easy to read.

Some words are in **bold**.

We explain what the **bold words** mean below where they are written.

We are building and learning



The NDIS is a new way of supporting people with disability.



The NDIS started in July 2013.

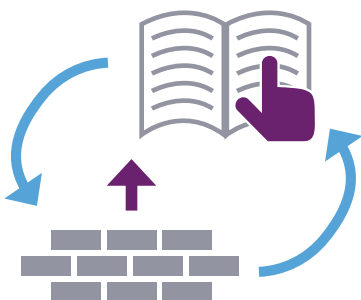
It is now over 1 year old.



It has started small and will take several years to build.



This means we can learn what will make the NDIS stronger and better when it is bigger and can help more Australians with disability.



We call this 'building and learning'.

The NDIS is supporting thousands of people



In our first year, the NDIS made **plans** with 7316 people with disability.

A plan is a list of the things the NDIA has promised to do to help you live an ordinary life and do the things you want to do.



You can talk to the NDIA **planner** and your family and friends when you are choosing what sorts of supports you need.

Planners are the people who help you choose the supports you need. Planners are sometimes called Planning and Support Co-ordinators or PSCs.

Plans can include things like:



- training to become more independent in doing things for yourself, like cooking a meal or catching a bus



- paid support workers



- wheelchairs and other equipment



- communication devices



- assistance with transport



- shower equipment



- equipment to help you get in and out of bed

Plans can include things like:



- technology that has special apps to help organise your budget and daily life



- support to get into courses that interest you and get you a job



- swimming, sport and community activities
- therapies to help you to do more for yourself



- help for your family to keep on supporting you.

Shahni

The NDIS helped Shahni go to TAFE to learn how to be a legal secretary. Now she is looking for a job to earn money for herself and her baby.





Joseph

The NDIS is helping Joseph find an art course so he can live his dream of being an artist and photographer.

The NDIS is giving Joseph support to help him dress, wash and get around his local community. It is making life easier for him and his mother.

We are building a strong NDIS



The NDIA's National Office was opened in Geelong in April 2014 by Prime Minister Tony Abbott.

All our offices are built so that people with disability can easily get into the building and get around the office.

In our first year, 516 people worked at the NDIA.

About 55 of these people have a disability.

The NDIA believes that we can deliver the NDIS better when people with disability work in the Agency too.



We are supporting people all around Australia

We set up 4 **trial sites** in our first year.

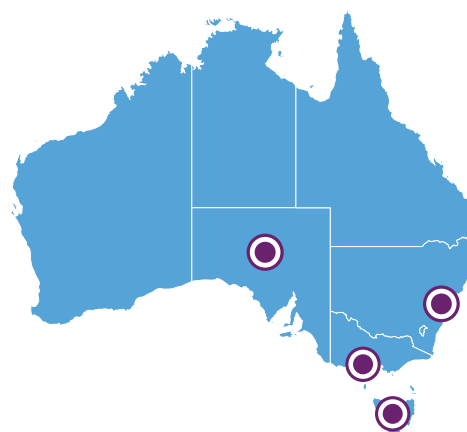
Trial sites are NDIA offices where we try out new ways of supporting people with disability to see what works best.

We learn from our trial sites what will help us get better at our job.

We will open more sites in more places every year.

The sites we opened in our first year are in:

- the Hunter in New South Wales
- the Barwon area in Victoria – which is around Geelong
- Tasmania
- South Australia.





The trial site in Tasmania is for people with disability aged between 15 and 24 years.

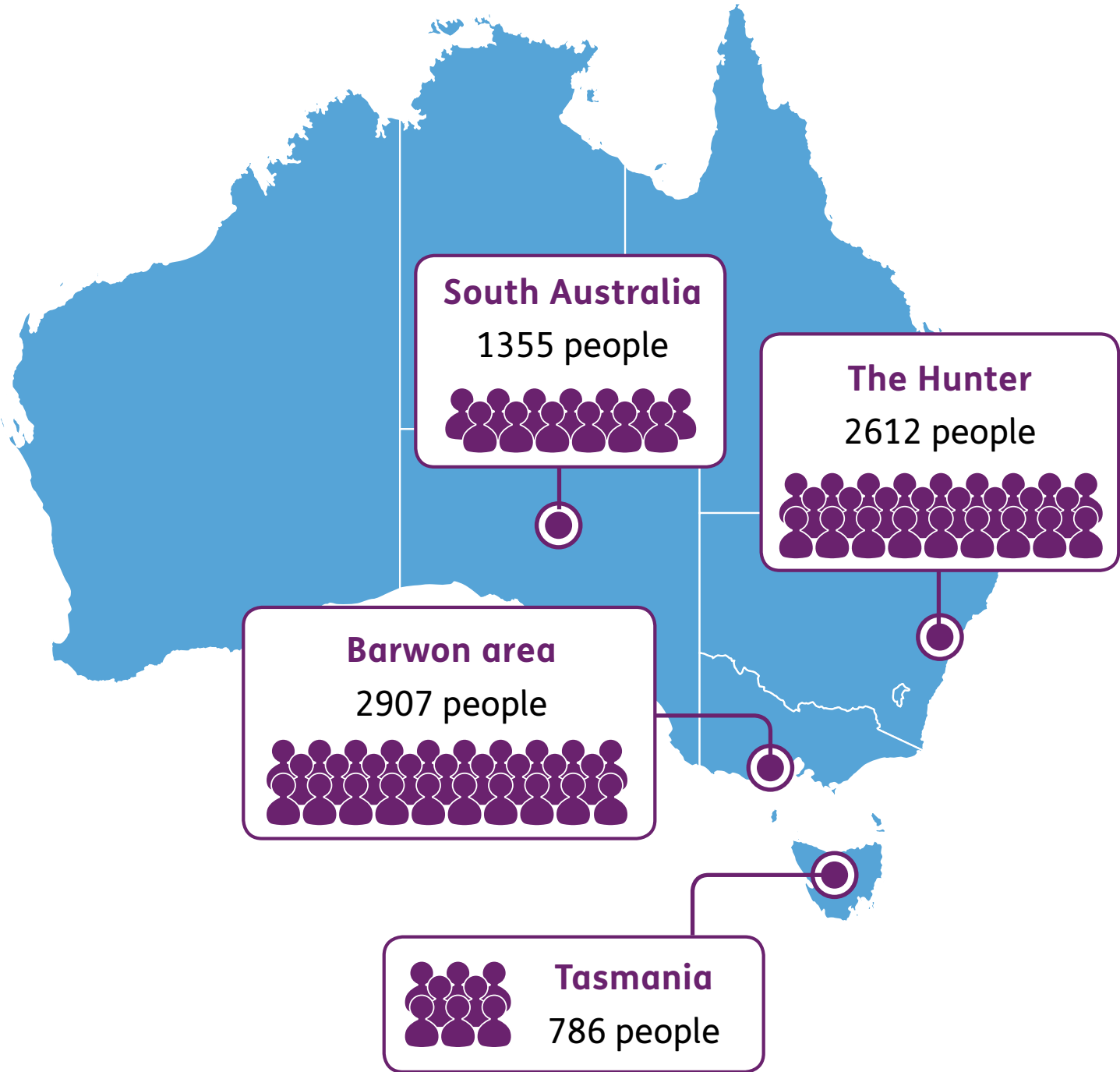


In our first year, the trial site in South Australia is for children aged 0 to 6 years. We are also working with indigenous people who live in very remote parts of South Australia, like the APY Lands.



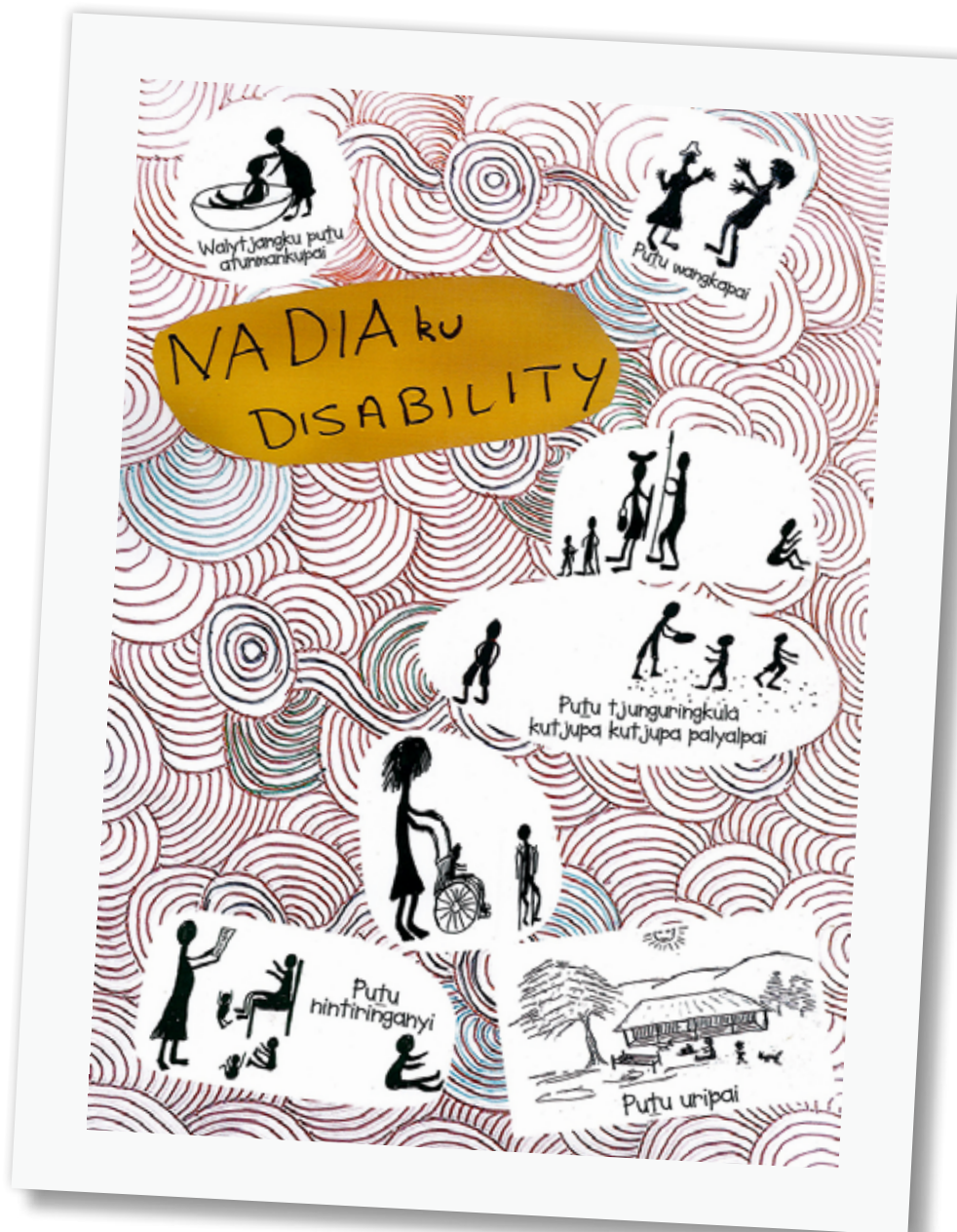
The trial sites in the Hunter and the Barwon area are for people with disability under 65 years of age.

This map shows how many people with disability were in the trials in our first year



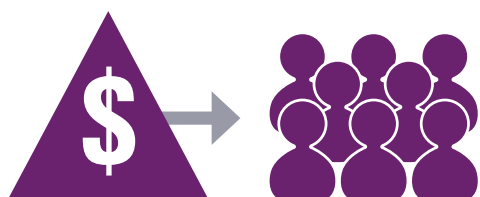
Helping Indigenous Australians with disability

We are helping Indigenous Australians in the APY Lands in South Australia by explaining what the NDIS does in their own languages and using their culture.

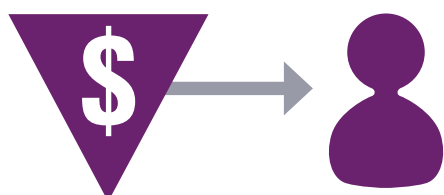


Nadiaku Disability: Drawing by Margaret Smith and Valerie Foster,
NPY Women's Council , 2014

The NDIS is working very well



The NDIS cost Australia about \$130.9 million in its first year. This is less than we expected and saved the government money.



Most **Support Packages** are also costing less. We thought they would cost \$35 000 for every person each year, but they only cost \$34 600.

A Support Package is the money that the NDIA puts aside to spend on carrying out your plan.



Time taken

We are making sure people become part of the NDIS faster. Last year it took 30 days, now it takes 13 days.



We are spending most of our money on people with disability. \$93 out of every \$100 we spend pays for support packages.



People with disability who have used the NDIS are happy with the way it is working. They told us they liked working on their plan and the support they could choose was good.

Getting everyone ready for the NDIS

The Government has given the NDIS money to help people get ready for the NDIS.

This money is called the **Sector Development Fund**.

The Sector Development Fund will be used to help you understand the NDIS, and help **registered providers** to give you better support.

Registered providers are the organisations that support people with disability. The NDIS has 1350 registered providers.

This year we spent \$4.5 million through the Sector Development Fund.

The NDIS will get even better next year

In our second year we have already opened new trial sites in:

- Perth Hills in Western Australia
- the Barkly area in the Northern Territory
- Canberra.





We have learnt that making sure you get more information is important. We have started new ways to get more information to you:



- more Pre-planning Sessions so you know what types of help there are to choose from and which ones are best for you. Pre-planning Sessions will be meetings with planners and your family and friends to talk about what you want to do and what support you need to do this



- a new planning workbook that will ask what you want to do and get you to think about what support will help you do it.



We will start building a new computer system that will make it easier for you to contact us and control your budget and the support you get.



We will be telling more people about the NDIS so they know why we are here.

We will be doing more for Indigenous people and people who come from families that do not speak English as their first language.



We are listening to what you want through a committee called the **Independent Advisory Council.**

The Independent Advisory Council is made up of people with disability, carers and service providers who make sure the NDIA understands what people with disability want from the NDIS.

We want to hear from you about what we can do better and how we can provide you with a really good service.

Why we are building the NDIS

We are building it for 3 main reasons:

1. to make sure everyone with disability gets what they need
2. to help people with disability do more things and lead the lives they want
3. to get all Australians looking out for people with disability.

We are helping people with disability become part of their communities.

We are helping them catch public transport, learn to drive, finish school, do courses and get jobs

Thomas

Thomas has written a book.

He runs his own business teaching people about what it is like to have disability and how people can help.

The NDIS is giving him support so he can run his business better.



We are giving information to people, organisations and businesses about how they can include people with disability in what they do.

We want sports clubs, scouts and girl guides, community centres and other groups to welcome people with disability and make them members.

We want employers to give people with disability training, work experience and jobs.



Chloe

Chloe's NDIS plan includes support that helped her get her driver's license and work experience at her local supermarket.





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