**Support for Decision Making consultation submission**

**Name:** Individual 77 (VIC)

**Date and time submitted:** 6/22/2021 2:04:00 PM

**How do you identify:**

* A NDIS participant: Yes
* A family member, friend or carer of a NDIS participant: No
* A NDIS nominee: No
* A legally appointed guardian: No
* A disability support worker: No
* A health or allied health worker: No
* A community member: No
* Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander: No
* Culturally and linguistically diverse: No
* From a rural or remote area: No
* A person with an intellectual disability: No
* A person with a cognitive impairment: No
* A person with a communication disability: No
* A person with a psychosocial disability: No
* Other: No

1. **How can we help people with disability make decisions for themselves?**

* Resources: Yes
* Information: Yes
* Decision Guides: No
* Having a person help: No
* Other: Yes

Easy english documents

1. **Who are the best people to help you (or a person with a disability) to make decisions?**

* Family: Yes
* Friends: Yes
* Peer Support Networks: Yes
* Mentors: Yes
* Coordinators: No
* LAC: Yes
* NDIA Partners: No
* Advocates: No
* Service Providers: No
* Other: No

1. **What should they do to help with decision-making?**

advocate for me, and speak on my behalf if needed.

1. **How can they get better at helping?**

* Getting to know the participant well: Yes
* Doing some training on decision support: Yes
* By having resources and information about providing decision support: Yes
* Other: No

1. **How can we make sure the right people are helping?**

* They are chosen by the NDIS Participant as a decision supporter: Yes
* They value the rights of people to make decisions with support: Yes
* They are a registered provider: No
* They enable the participant to take risks: No
* Other: No

1. **What should decision supporters know about so they can better help people with disability make decisions?**

* Guidelines for decision supporters: Yes
* Scenarios or Examples: Yes
* Information Sessions: Yes
* Support Networks: Yes
* Other: No

1. **Can you tell us about a time when someone helped you (or a person with disability) to make a big decision?**

Yes

**What worked well?**

A hearing person who is an Auslan user, she has been involved in the deaf community since she was little, and she knew exactly what to do about the Disability unit who did not want to give me my access to workshops, so my friend fought on my behalf, she has all the disability work experiences having worked in deaf and disability unit years ago.

**What could have been better?**

I cant think what could be better, except the delegates at NDIS who need to be removed from NDIS as they decided the wrong things for me and have implicated me with my NDIS, because they did not read the reports at all or my history I provided. They took me off self management so I need them removed for making that decision and ignoring my review reports.

1. **What is the best way to support people with disability to make decisions about their NDIS plan?**

* Practice: No
* Peer Support Networks: Yes
* Information and Resources: Yes
* Guidance Tools: No
* Not Sure: No
* Other: No

1. **Are there different things to consider for people with different disabilities or cultural backgrounds?**

**An intellectual disability:** No

**A disability that impacts how they think, a cognitive impairment:** No

**A psychosocial disability:** No

**A disability that impacts their ability to communicate:** Yes, As a Deaf person, we are severely limited because of audist people who think they know what is best for us. They do not try to communicate with me properly and they seem to think as a Deaf person I will one day hear, which I never will. I am 42 and been Deaf since birth. They once did not book an interpreter for a meeting with me. They must consider our Deaf needs, that we need a lot of support, workshops, special counselling with a counsellor that respects our Deafness. I have one and NDIS refuse to support that, and they refuse to understand why I want and need that counsellor who is also overseas but accessible online. I want to see the removal of the need for an ABN, as we should have the right to access supports that are right for us and they are not necessarily in Australia. I think we have that right to access that online.

**From a CALD community:** No

**From an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community:** No

**From the LGBTIQA community:** No

1. **How can we help reduce conflict of interest?**

Yes that is a hard one, I'm not sure how to answer that one but I think if it happens, I would report them for something like charging too much money than the usual rates for a service I know the usual rates for.

1. **How can we help reduce undue influence?**

That is scary and would make me very angry, I would report them for threatening me. This has happened once already with a plan manager, so I pulled out of the service with them and went to a new plan manager. Again, another reason why I need to be self managed.

1. **What are your concerns (if any) around people with disability being more involved in making decisions for themselves?**

I don't have any concerns, as I believe people with disability know exactly what they need and they should have the right to speak for themselves and gain access to their supports that they want and need.

1. **What else could we do to help people with disability to make decisions for themselves? Is there anything missing?**

Yes, ultimately the report reading needs to be done. Delegates at NDIS did not read any of my review reports at all and repeatedly denied my right to self management on wrong basis, which I then realised they had ignored all reports sent to them including my history such as proof of being born with cleft palate. They deemed me not to fit the criteria for dental work because it was not disability related when in actual, my dental work is disability related!!! They did not believe me that I was born with a cleft palate so I got all my info from FOI finally and sent to them, and they ignored that! So that part needs to be changed, they need to be removed from NDIS or retrained to read reports and not make the wrong decisions.

1. **Do you have any feedback on our proposed actions in Appendix C of the paper?**

Nil