**Support for Decision Making consultation submission**

**Name:** Individual 39 (QLD)

**Date and time submitted:** 8/2/2021 9:19:00 AM

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

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

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

Which ever from the list above the participant has access too.

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

Be up to date and consistent with information of using the participants funding. Be able to mentor in a step by step guide to clarify what can be funded. Too many are scared of spending as they fear getting it wrong. While others have no such risk aversion and expect everything is ok. With a physical and personalised case manager for those that desire it, would improve decision making.

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: Yes

Mentoring for ndis as a whole, not just about decision support. Mentors build confidence and drive motivation to do whats correct while supporting the decision maker to chose for themselves.

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: Yes

Have skills and qualifications in Mentoring with specific training by ndis on the scheme.

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: Yes

Understand and be able to interpret the NDIS Act, so as to understand the Guidelines.

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?**

Support Coordinator and Plan Manager discussed the issue and came back to me with how and why it was possible and also funded. With this knowledge I was then able to decide if I would be spending funds appropriately.

**What could have been better?**

If they knew the Act and Guidelines instead of relying on me to show them what and why I considered the choice appropriate and that they should not interfere with my choice.

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

* Practice: Yes
* Peer Support Networks: Yes
* Information and Resources: Yes
* Guidance Tools: Yes
* 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:** Yes, Although intelligence hasnt been affected, loss of cognitive function can require that the same info be presented in several ways so that the participant can grasp what is being communicated. A single statement worded xyz should also be reworded as ABC and not only be in formal, confusing or at times too simplistic detail. The Easy Read notifications dont provide the detail a person with cognitive dysfunction needs while the other format fails to give enough variance in explaining the issue (learning styles).

**A psychosocial disability:** No

**A disability that impacts their ability to communicate:** No

**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?**

As for Capacity Building /Therapist are abusing their position both in access request assessments and in capacity building funded by ndia . Ndis should consider changing the Price Guide max hourly rate to suit the Monash Model, so that those in city/suburbs are not overcharged. And as originally intended offering incentives for supports to be provided to those in rural/remote areas.

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

A Mentor, a trusted someone with knowledge to over-ride the lies and bullying threats and put their emergency plan into action on request. Put out guides to help participants have emergency supports/plans (plan of action documented) ready, so they can escape the abuse.

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

Individual situations must be considered.

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

Relationship counselling. Relationships with family/friends, informal supports, support workers.

And building business/management skills - interviewing techniques, hiring/firing, writing/sourcing Service Agreements.

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

No response recorded