



#best **NDIS**

ASU MAKING THE NDIS
THE BEST IT CAN BE

TOOLKIT

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS PROTECT QUALITY SERVICES



THE LATEST ON THE NDIS CAMPAIGN

Welcome to the fourth delegate toolkit for the NDIS campaign, our Union's campaign for workers in the disability sector!

The NDIS is a positive change for people with a disability, and we want to ensure that we make the most of the changes for workers in the sector, too.

WHAT'S IN THIS TOOLKIT?

- Best NDIS: Campaign update and where to next
- A word from a worker
- Professional standards and the ACCDP

ABOUT THE NDIS CAMPAIGN

The NDIS campaign is our Union's campaign for workers in the disability sector. It was designed and endorsed by members across the disability sector during our national NDIS Delegates' Summit on 1 September 2015.

The purpose of the campaign is to educate members on the changes that the NDIS will bring and the outcomes we're seeking in four key areas:

1. A decent safety net of pay and conditions to attract, retain and value the workforce.
2. Secure jobs at the centre of service delivery.
3. Professional standards to ensure the highest possible quality care and support.
4. Workforce engagement to make sure workers are part of the change.

“ A quality, professional & sustainable workforce is essential to achieving the goal of delivering real choice and control for people with disabilities and respecting their rights. ”



THE BEST NDIS CAMPAIGN UPDATE

OUR PUSH FOR PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Together we're calling on employers and industry to deliver a system that provides choice and control for people with disabilities while maintaining and improving upon the conditions of workers across the sector.

To date we've rolled out three of the four pillars of our campaign:

PILLAR 1: safeguarding our hard fought for pay equity / equal pay wages

PILLAR 2: ensuring job security is not eroded under a new system

PILLAR 3: making sure workers are consulted and engaged on the issues that affect them at work

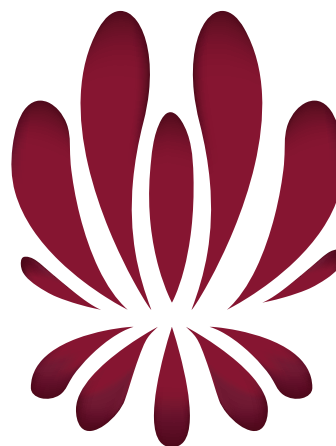
The **FOURTH PILLAR** of our campaign centres on professional standards for the disability and community sector.

Decisions are being made constantly about the meaning, purpose and requirements of community and disability practice. Numerous stakeholders influence minimum standards for employment and for the delivery of services in our sector.

Teachers and nurses worked together over several decades in their respective unions to ensure that the workers in those professions shape the standards required for their work. It is time that we too, as disability workers, took more

control over the decisions that are made about the nature of our work and our profession.

The **Australian College of Community and Disability Practitioners (ACCDP)** is led by disability workers and practitioners. Through the College, we will establish professional standards and career paths which will help retain and attract workers to the sector so the NDIS is the best it can be.

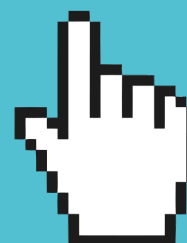


ACCDP

CONTACT YOUR BRANCH FOR UP TO
DATE INFO ON THE CAMPAIGN

KEEP IN TOUCH

WEBSITE www.asu.asn.au/sacs/ndis
FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/ASUsacsdisability
TWITTER twitter.com/ASUnion
HASHTAG #bestNDIS
EMAIL bestNDIS@asu.asn.au



A WORD FROM A WORKER

Hi everyone, I'm Diane and I work as a Family Support Worker for UnitingCare Community in Cairns. I've been a member of our Union for 20 years.

My role is to provide support for at risk and vulnerable families through advocacy, practical and emotional support, referrals and links to other community services to strengthen and develop healthy relationships and improve family and child health, welfare and wellbeing.

The social and community services sector needs to be able to articulate the skills and experience required and ensure the work carried out is valued and recognised.

During my 20 years working in the sector I have seen many changes and I am thrilled that we are close to establishing a set of standards for our work to ensure quality of care and that the sector remains sustainable and safe.

It is important that professional standards of work undertaken by community and disability practitioners are developed by the practitioners themselves because only then will it reflect the breadth and complexity of the work undertaken.

Making sure the voices of practitioners can be heard allows us to be part of the decision making process.

With the NDIS now rolling out, the creation of professional standards across the sector will only serve to benefit the clients we support by providing a cohesive framework matching our passion as workers to meaningful skill sets so that people with disability get the most out of the choice and control the NDIS will provide to them.

When I recently received my ACCDP Membership Card, I immediately felt proud that the work I have been doing for over 20 years has been recognised and valued.



I am looking forward to having my say in the development of the draft standards and being kept informed via the Magazine. This is a very auspicious time in the Community Services sector.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR DISABILITY WORKERS

The ACCDP is the only professional body in the social and community sector led by practitioners in the field.

It is an opportunity for working people to take more control over the decisions being made about our profession.

As the NDIS rolls out across the nation, the ACCDP will provide the vehicle for workers in the disability sector to have a say on how our work is defined and the standards and skills required.

SURVEY

The College has released a survey to inform our advocacy with key industry stakeholders as the NDIS rolls out.

We need your help to distribute it to as many of your colleagues as possible.

Survey responses are due back in early 2017: www.surveymonkey.com/r/ACCDP

