

DISABILITY SPEAKS, SA
“NDIS Remains Unchanged”
March 21st, 2013

The sobering reality about NDIS remains unchanged despite legislative progression this week.
Reality is NDIS

- Is unfunded
- Eligibility is unknown
- Level of service is unknown

And the draft rules do not give wide ranging choice and flexibility to consumers (more about that next week!)

“Let’s be realistic – there is not going to be any money for the NDIS. Abbott knows that.

The Gillard government believes it can afford to continue with the unfunded promise of an NDIS. If they win the election it because of it then it will become another broken promise. If they lose then they can blame the Coalition. It is a win-win situation for them and a lose-lose for the Coalition”.

“The suggestion re Medicare taking on NDIS is great as they already have the infrastructure and the trained personnel to tackle most issues and it would simply make Medicare a bit larger rather than creating a whole new bureaucracy starting from scratch which would require larger personnel with higher cost. Making it a subsidiary of Medicare would also make raising the revenue somewhat justifiable to raise Medicare levy”.

“Why, if Julia has not had the ticker to come clean and answer the questions you have put, is not your article headed ‘DISINGENUOUS JULIA and ABBOTT? I am not a political creature, although I am a person confined to a wheelchair and I have no interest in the politics of the NDIS – I am over 65 and find the whole age discrimination situation disgusting. I have always maintained that whoever is in Government, nothing will ever come of this, the trials are just being undertaken to keep the disability community on side with the present government!”

“I have always asked – why could not the NDIS be brought in as a department of Medicare – the administration is all set up, we all have Medicare cards which identify us, and Medicare has details of everybody, and whether they receive a disability pension or not. It should be simple to initiate a data bank of those who would be eligible for the additional assistance that the NDIS is purported to be going to give this section of the population. The system would need more Medicare personnel and money put into the scheme, and perhaps an over-riding appeal system to decide any cases as to whether a person is eligible to access the ‘goodies’ which will be available through what I would call ‘The NDIS section of Medicare”

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