

Re-inventing the wheel for NDIS

The original intention of the NDIS was to eliminate unmet needs (the waiting list for all services), provide entitlement, rather than the traditional charity hand-out services which consider the consumer should feel grateful and never, ever, complain, and place the consumer at the centre of service provision with a service provider culture of real customer service.

Whereas, Julia Gillard's 0.5% on the Medicare levy will provide little more, than a little more of the mess we have now. A real NDIS needs 1.5% on the Medicare levy for people to feel real service entitlement, like we all do with medical services. Even 1.5% is less than \$3 per day – less than a cup of coffee.

Nevertheless, there is significant movement towards re-inventing care policies, standards, guidelines, regulations, safeguards and accreditation of direct care support workers for the NDIS process. The problem is, too much of this work is being based on academic protocol, rather than on achieving and ensuring practical outcomes for those for whom the service is intended.

Most existing care policies, standards and values in Victoria are generally good, extensive and comprehensive. The problem is, the failure to fully and consistently implement these at the service points within their direction, intention and spirit.

We therefore ask those preparing the 'NDIS wheel', to consider how they are going to police their care policies, standards, guidelines, regulations, safeguards and accreditation of direct care support workers.

A practical example of the NDIS without adequate safeguards is where a present state government group home, with six residents, moves from state block funding to NDIS ISP funding.

Overnight, the state funding is withdrawn and replaced by six NDIS ISPs. The staff do not see the transparent change of funding, so the charity hand-out service level associated with the previous block funding continues.

The productivity Commission's only answer to this was, for the family or families to use the ISP money in their pocket to move their member to another service.

With the proposed low funding level for the NDIS, it is going to be interesting to see just how many who desperately need a group home, or similar, will get one - or even reasonable facility based respite under NDIS.

Extra 1: NDIS [Workforce Ready Project](#) – closes May 17, 2013.

Extra 2: [Julia's Weak and Watery NDIS](#)

Extra 3: Parents say, ["Who will care for our children?"](#)

Extra 4: ["We must stop this insanity!"](#)

Extra 5: [NDIS Promotion Video](#)

NOTE: *The Senior*, Victoria , next month, June, will carry an article entitled, "Give a Little", and LISA has a segment in this.

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