

Planning for a better life under the NDIS:

A research project based in Central Western NSW and Central Australia with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people with disability



Artist: Billy Kenda, Bindi Mwerre Anthure Artists, Alice Springs, Northern Territory

Project aims

The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) aims to support people with disability to obtain the supports they require to live an independent life.

Planning is an important part of getting NDIS support. This project will help us to understand how Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people with a disability living in rural and remote communities experience working with Local Area Coordinators (LACs), Community Connectors (Connectors), National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Planners, and Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) agencies to get NDIS plans that suit their, and their families, needs.

The findings will help inform better ways to support peoples with disabilities to engage with the NDIS planning process in rural and remote communities.

What the project involves

The Research Team will interview people with disability, LACs, NDIS Planners, and Community Connectors, and ECEI agencies who are based Central Australia and Central Western NSW.

Why is this project important

This study is the first NDIS focused project to explore how people in rural and remote communities engage with LACs, NDIS planners, and Community Connectors, and ECEI agencies during planning. The project will also identify the workforce needs of LACs, Community Connectors, NDIS Planners, and ECEI agencies.

Guiding the project

The project has an Implementation Group, consisting of professionals in the disability workforce, and an Advisory Group, consisting of people with disability and carers. These two groups guide the Research Team to ensure the project reflects local community ways of doing research.

How you can get more information or be involved

If you are interested in sharing your experience about project please contact us on:

Sarah-Jane Greenaway, Research Assistant
Orange Local Aboriginal Land Council,
Sarahjane.Greenaway@olalc.com.au or 02 6361 4742

Nettie Flaherty, Research Assistant Centre for Remote Health Alice Springs,
nettie.flaherty@flinders.edu.au or 08-89514778

John Gilroy, Chief Investigator The University of Sydney, john.gilroy@Sydney.edu.au or 0427238776

Funded by the Australian Research Council (ARC).

