

Disability Healthcare Specialists



THE PROJECT

The Mid North Coast Local Health District has partnered with Blue Sky Community Services on the 'Enhancing Inclusion in the Healthcare System' project, funded by the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) under an 'Information, Linkages and Capacity Building' grant.



GOALS

Over three years, this project aims to:



strengthen the skills of health staff in supporting people with disability and improve coordination between health and local NDIS providers



improve the overall hospital experience and health outcomes of people with disability



develop systems which support efficient communication between health staff and local NDIS providers.



THE SPECIALISTS

The project is being delivered by two Disability Healthcare Specialists in the Mid North Coast Local Health District.

Sarah Mongan

"If you can be anything in this world, please be kind. The world needs more of that."



Charity Honeysett

"Weaknesses are just strengths in the wrong environment."



1

Survey

Identify areas of need by measuring the knowledge, understanding and confidence of health staff, as well as any barriers they face working with people with disability or the NDIS.



Experience

Facilitate a Regional Consumer Working Group to advise on strengths-based, person-centered, solutions-focused capacity building and inclusion.



2

Advise

Provide health staff with support to increase their knowledge and skills when caring for people with disability and coordinating with the NDIS.



Educate

Create training and resources for health care staff, enhancing their ability to provide high quality care to people with disability and coordinate with local NDIS providers.



3

Outcomes

Ensure people with disability feel supported, informed, and able to articulate their unique needs, in order to improve their hospital experience and health outcomes.



Save

Explore reasonable adjustments that may be made to better support people with disability, reducing the chances of delayed discharge and/or unplanned re-admission.



Project Summary



Health
Mid North Coast
Local Health District

“ Building confidence in an inclusive healthcare system. ”

The Disability Healthcare Specialists will:

- ▶ demonstrate practice that is strengths based, person centred, solutions focused and capacity building
- ▶ develop a Regional Consumer Working Group to advise on inclusion
- ▶ strengthen existing systems, processes, and work methods for the benefit of patients with disabilities and their carers
- ▶ develop a training program for health staff based on best practice principles, to enhance their ability to communicate with, and provide high quality care to, patients with disability
- ▶ provide formal and informal training and support to health staff to increase their knowledge and understanding of the needs and strengths of people with disability, to achieve greater inclusion, accessibility and outcomes for people with disability.




Health staff will be empowered to:

- ▶ support people with disability in a person-centred, inclusive and strengths-based way
- ▶ recognise the importance of the carer role and include them in the management of care
- ▶ explore reasonable adjustments that may be made to better support the person with disability, and understand why such adjustments are so important
- ▶ increase knowledge of external community and mainstream supports that are available to assist the person with disability, and how to access these
- ▶ access resources and undertake training to increase knowledge and skills to better support people with disability.




Need assistance? Want to know more?

Get in touch with a specialist using the details below.
Please obtain patient and/or family consent prior to making contact.

blue sky
community services

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