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Commencing our 12th year of publishing

We wish you a great New Year for 2018

Jan – Feb 2018 Volume 12, Issue 67

Erosion of business confidence affecting disability services

Read the full Freedom2Live article at

<https://www.freedom2live.com.au/erosion-of-business-confidence-affecting-disability-services/>

National Disability Services (NDS) report reveals disability service providers under increasing cost and staff pressures. The **State of the Disability Sector Report 2017** also found there was a big gap between National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) demand and the availability of services to meet that demand.

At a NDS meeting to announce the report, CEO, Dr Ken Baker said the report rings an alarm bell because the service sector is not growing at the rate it needs to grow in order to provide support to the number of people coming into the scheme. “That is a big risk because if that gap between supply and demand of services widens there will be many people with disability missing out. And that’s not what we want.”

The survey of 516 service providers found that 82 per cent expected demand would increase for their services but **only 43 per cent expected to be able to satisfy that demand**. And, 58 per cent were planning to expand their services, down from 68 per cent in 2015 while just 34 per cent made a profit of four per cent or greater and **23 per cent reported a loss**. Only 41 per cent rated their financial position as strong or very strong, down from 53 per cent in 2016. The report also found that **75 per cent felt their future was uncertain** while 46 per cent believed the NDIS roll out should slow down and **50 per cent said to continue to provide services they would have to reduce the quality of services to meet NDIS prices**. Not surprisingly, just 6 per cent of respondents thought the government was responding well to the needs of organisations.

As for the **most important action needed** in order to continue to provide services in the year ahead, **establishing NDIS prices that accurately reflect the actual cost of supply was ranked number one**. This clearly reflected what the Productivity Commission said in a report published in October. The commission concluded that the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) had a conflict of interest and price-setting should be removed from the agency and placed with an independent entity, recommending the new NDIS Quality and Safeguard Commission.

Subscribe to the Freedom2Live Newsletter at <https://www.freedom2live.com.au/subscribe/>

State of the Disability Sector Report 2017

Most of the findings in this report are based on the 2017 Annual Market Survey, which saw 516 disability service providers share their experiences. The survey focuses on the 2016-17 financial year, and highlights the key concerns of the sector, as well as what's needed to ensure that disability service providers have the confidence and support to meet growing demand under the NDIS. Access the National Disability Services NDS [FULL REPORT HERE](#).

Featured Conference

Registrations now open

15 – 16 February 2018

National Disability Services NDS NSW 2018 Conference.

Theme: Finding The Way Forward

Hilton Hotel, Sydney.

<https://www.nds.org.au/events-and-training/conferences/nsw-conference-2018>

[Register online (recommended) or Registration Forms attached to this edition]

Major Platinum Sponsor for the 10th year - Global Disability & Health Care Services

Early bird discount registration closes: 29 January 2018

All Registrations close 5pm Friday 9 February 2018

Disability News

Western Australia Joins the NDIS: All States & Territories now on board

The Western Australian Government has finally announced its intention to join the rest of the country in the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**.

25,000 Western Australians with disability who will become participants, as well as the advocates, carers and families who have campaigned strongly to be a part of the Federal Scheme, welcome the announcement.

The WA Rollout expected to be complete in 2020.

Disability Service Providers Losing Confidence in NDIS

Business confidence in the disability services sector has slumped due to problems with the implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), according to a new report.

National Disability Services (NDS) released [The State of the Disability Sector Report 2017](#), which included a survey of 516 service providers.

It found only 58 per cent of service providers were planning to expand services in the year ahead (compared to 68 per cent two years ago), while 57 per cent of providers predicted they would not be able to meet service demand in 2018. This was due in part to the implementation problems with the first 18 months of transition to the NDIS.

Many service providers expressed concern about their financial sustainability, with issues relating to unrealistic pricing, costly red tape, workforce shortages and uncertainty around policy.

The report noted that the National Disability Insurance Agency's (NDIA) decision to require a quotation for every participant living in **Supported Independent Living (SIL)** had added to the transition hurdles.

“[This decision] has been burdensome for disability service providers. The process requires unnecessary duplication of information already held by the agency and is based on a limited understanding of how shared supported living arrangements work in practice,” the report said.

“The time to agree a quote can extend into months and **some disability service providers have been without payment for extended periods of time. A better system for determining SIL funding must be found.**

Read the full Pro Bono Australia article [here](#).

Have your say - Call for submissions about the NDIS implementation

Joint Standing Committee on the National Disability Insurance Scheme

The Parliament of Australia Joint Standing Committee welcomes submissions and information from participants, their carers and family members, as well as service providers and registered plan management providers on the implementation and operation of the NDIS. The committee wants to understand the process that people with disability go through to become Scheme participants, and how they have received and used their package of supports. The committee is also interested to know how service providers are finding the transition to the new Scheme.

Have your say information [here](#).

How to make a submission

The committee invites individuals and organisations to send in their opinions and proposals in writing (submissions)

- [Preparing a submission to an inquiry](#)

Short Term Accommodation NDIS Pricing

The NDIA have now released an [updated Price Guide](#), which outlines their new pricing for Short Term Accommodation (respite).

Do the new Short Term Accommodation (Respite) prices stack up?

Anyone who previously relied on respite as part of their support model will know that the STA part of the NDIS rollout has been like a dark storm cloud looming over their head. Thankfully, in advance of the full findings of the Independent Pricing Review, the NDIA have increased the prices for STA and made them more reflective of the costs required to deliver the support. **Read the full Disability Services Consulting article [here](#).**

Disability Issues In The Media

[Choice and control to hit home support next](#)

Limited data on the Commonwealth Home Support Program is hindering the sector's understanding of the largest part of the aged care system, sector leaders have told a national aged care conference. Read the full Australian Ageing Agenda article on their web site [here](#).

NDIS hiccups are expected, as with any large-scale social reform.

National rollout of the scheme began last year, but already there have been reports of the NDIS being "plagued with problems". We shouldn't be surprised that such a huge reform process is encountering challenges in the implementation process and these issues don't mean that the NDIS is failing overall. Read the full Conversation article [here](#).

[Aged care quality review backs independent regulator, star rating system](#)

The Carnell and Paterson review has made 10 recommendations aimed at boosting consumer protection, compliance monitoring and transparency. Read the full Australian Ageing Agenda article on their web site [here](#).

Autism and the NDIS: A Matter of Interpretation

Could the National Disability Insurance Scheme be threatened by higher-than-expected diagnoses of autism and developmental delay? Read the full Inside Story article by Mike Steketee [here](#).

[Parliamentary committee launches residential aged care inquiry](#)

A new Commonwealth government inquiry is investigating the quality of care in residential aged care services, instigated this week by federal health minister Greg Hunt. Read the full Australian Ageing Agenda article on their web site [here](#).

Australian Ageing Agenda newsletter free subscription. This is a valuable publication, well researched by a team of professional journalist. Keep up to date in all developments and issues in aged care. Subscribe [here](#)

Featured Organisation

National Disability Services

<http://www.nds.org.au/>

National Disability Services (NDS) is Australia's peak body for non-government disability service organisations. Collectively, our 840 NDS members operate several thousand services for Australians with all types of disability. Members range in size from small support groups to large multi-service organisations.

NDS's purpose is to promote quality service provision and life opportunities for Australians with disability. This is achieved by influencing governments at all levels and providing members with information and advice, networking opportunities and business support.

NDS has a National Secretariat in Canberra and offices in every state and territory. The National Secretariat allows for co-ordination of the respective state and territory bodies at a federal level, while the latter focus on state issues surrounding disability. The organisation as a whole is governed by a national Board which includes the elected Chair from each state/territory, as well as representatives elected directly by members.

1. Membership Categories

National Disability Services has two categories of membership: Organisational and Life.

- Organisational Membership is for not-for-profit organisations in the disability field.
- Life members are individuals elected by a general meeting of NDS.

Benefits and Entitlements of NDS membership

2. Subscriber Categories

National Disability Services has two categories of subscribers: Organisational Associate and Individual Associate

- Organisational Associate is for for-profit and government organisations with an interest in disability issues.
- Individual Associate is for individuals with an interest in disability issues. However, it is not available to members or staff of organisations eligible to be Organisational members of NDS, but who have not taken up such membership.

Benefits and Entitlements of Associates and Individuals

Don't forget to register NOW for the NDS NSW Conference

15 – 16 February 2018

National Disability Services NDS NSW 2018 Conference.

Hilton Hotel, Sydney.

***Major Platinum Sponsor - Global Disability & Health Care Services
for the 10th year***

<https://www.nds.org.au/events-and-training/conferences/nsw-conference-2018>

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Disability News

Federal Ministerial Resuffle for 2018 - Key Positions

- The Hon. Dan Tehan MP, Minister for Social Services;
- The Hon. Christian Porter MP, Attorney-General;
- The Hon. Michael Keenan MP, Minister for Human Services; and
- The Hon. Dr David Gillespie MP, Assistant Minister for Children and Families.
- The Hon. Jane Prentice MP, Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services

Disability News

Choice, Control and the NDIS

This **Centre of Research Excellence in Disability and Health** project explored the degree to which the NDIS is achieving its aims and objectives from the perspective of people with disability using these services.

This project explored the degree to which the NDIS is achieving its aims and objectives from the perspective of people with disability using these services. Introduced in 2013, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the most significant reform of disability services in Australia in a generation. The scheme aims to increase both the funding available for disability services and the control that people living with disabilities have over the design and delivery of their care. It does this, in part, by handing greater control over care budgets to people with disabilities and their families so that services might be designed and delivered in a way that better meets their needs. The research process involved community researchers with disabilities working with university-based experts which improved the quality of the project and our ability to collect and analyse evidence effectively.

[Download a copy of the report](#) (PDF)

Disability News

[Indigenous people, mental health, cognitive disability and the criminal justice system](#)

The brief by [Ruth McCausland](#), [Elizabeth McEntyre](#), [Eileen Baldry](#) provides an analysis of available data on the prevalence rates of Indigenous people with mental health disorders and cognitive disability in Australia and outlines the challenges in obtaining accurate data. The brief considers issues facing these groups of Indigenous people in their contact with police, in courts, in custody and post-release, highlighting the lack of appropriate diversionary programs at all stages of this contact. Drawn from available research and evaluations, this brief concludes with key principles and strategies for policy and programming reform in this area. Access at Analysis & Policy Observatory [here](#).

Inaugural NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commissioner Appointed

The Turnbull government has appointed an inaugural commissioner to lead the National Disability Insurance Scheme. The Minister for Social Services Christian Porter, announced Graeme Head as the commissioner on Monday. Graeme Head is the inaugural NSW Public Service Commissioner and has held several senior public sector leadership roles at both state and federal levels, including as director-general of the NSW Department of Commerce and deputy secretary of the Commonwealth Department of Health and Ageing.

The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission was announced in the 2017-18 federal budget with an initial allocation of \$209 million over four years. Legislation to establish the commission recently passed through Parliament and it will begin operations in New South Wales and South Australia in July 2018 and in the other states in July 2019, except for Western Australia which starts July 2020. Read the full Pro Bono Australia article [here](#).

Diabetes & Intellectual Disability Research

Living with Type 1 Diabetes and Intellectual Disability

Your chance to contribute to this area of research

Researchers from Western Sydney, Sydney and Curtin Universities, are running a study exploring the experiences of young adults living with type 1 diabetes and intellectual disability. It is hoped that this study will assist in improving diabetes self-care and social and economic inclusion for young adults.

We are currently looking for:

- young adults aged 18-30 years
- with type 1 diabetes
- who have intellectual disability
- living in NSW or WA

The study involves the use of a mobile phone app for 1 week, wearing an activity tracker (both provided) and an informal discussion (interview).

For more information contact Anne Marks

Email: <mailto:anne.marks@westernsydney.edu.au> Phone: 0245 701599

Or visit our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Type1diabetesID/>

This project is supported by a research grant from the Endeavour Foundation Endowment Challenge Fund.

Disability Support Workers & Mental Health Registered Nurses. Work the shifts and roster you want. Agency work gives you control of your life. **Why not join our Global team now.** Contact Global for an appointment.

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http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/work_with_global.html

Disability News

Barriers to Accessing Mental Health Services Research

The Graduate School of Health at University of Technology Sydney is inviting parents whose children have an intellectual disability to participate in a brief survey to see whether or not parents have experienced any barriers to accessing mental health services. Survey responses are anonymous, and participants can enter a draw for a \$50 Coles Myer voucher.

https://utshealth.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_em9PDZkP68ajFjL

Disability News

NDIA CEO looks to the future of the NDIS

NDIA CEO Rob De Luca outlines his strategy moving forward with the NDIS. Speaking at the **National Disability Services CEO Meeting** in Sydney recently, De Luca admitted that the biggest challenge for the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) was prioritising important issues and delivering outcomes. **“The NDIA recognises there are many parties involved in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and we need to work collaboratively to make a difference. We alone cannot make it successful.”**

The NDIA is also working on strategies to support a competitive market with an **independent pricing review due at the end of 2017**. De Luca said once the report is released the NDIA will work through the recommendations with providers to implement any necessary changes.

“From my perspective and from the agency’s perspective we must work within a much more open dialogue with **greater transparency on information** as there are many systems, process and cultural changes to work through that will take time,” De Luca said.

Read the full Freedom2Live article [here](#).

Disability News

Disability Sector Calls on States to Value Advocacy as Federal Govt Announces \$5M Funding

The disability sector has welcomed the announcement of more than \$5 million of federal funding for advocacy work, and called on the states and territories to look to the federal government’s example.

Minister for Social Services Christian Porter and Assistant Minister for Social Services and Disability Services Jane Prentice announced the government would provide disability representative organisations with funding of \$5.3 million to continue their advocacy work. It

marks an increase of \$875,000 and will ensure advocacy services for disability will continue to be funded until 30 June 2020. Read the full Pro Bono article at [here](#).

Books & Publications

End of Life and People with Intellectual Disability: JARID Special Issue

The Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities (JARID) special issue is co-edited by **Professor Roger Stancliffe** (University of Sydney), **Dr Michele Wiese** (Western Sydney University) and **Professor Sue Read** (Keele University, UK) (JARID's November, 2017 issue) on the topic of *End of life and people with intellectual disability* <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jar.2017.30.issue-6/issuetoc>

The issue was strongly supported internationally. It consists of 15 research papers, a consensus statement, and an editorial, with contributions from five countries: Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, UK and the USA. The papers cover topics as diverse as palliative care (including paediatric palliative care), supported decision making, bereavement, advance care planning, grief, staff training, assessment, health services access, and advanced dementia.

[End of life and people with intellectual disability \(pages 977–981\)](#)

Roger J Stancliffe, Michele Y Wiese and Sue Read, Editorial. Version of Record online: 31 JUL 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/jar.12383, [Abstract](#) , [Article](#) , [PDF\(241K\)](#) , [References](#)

Some of the articles on this topic:-

[People with intellectual disabilities at the end of their lives: The case for specialist care? \(pages 1138–1150\)](#)

Rachel Forrester-Jones, Jennifer K. Beecham, Magali Barnoux, David Oliver, Elyse Couch and Claire Bates

Version of Record online: 5 SEP 2017 | DOI: 10.1111/jar.12412, [Abstract](#) , [Article](#) , [PDF\(483K\)](#) , [References](#)

[Intellectual Disabilities and Decision Making at End of Life: A Literature Review \(pages 982–994\)](#)

Abbie Kirkendall, Kristen Linton and Saritha Farris Version of Record online: | DOI: 10.1111/jar.12270 [Abstract](#) , [Article](#) , [PDF\(219K\)](#) , [References](#)

[Direct care workers' experiences of grief and needs for support \(pages 995–1006\)](#)

Jennifer A. Gray and Jinsook Kim Version of Record online: | DOI: 10.1111/jar.12339 [Abstract](#) , [Article](#) , [PDF\(444K\)](#) , [References](#)

[The experiences of staff who support people with intellectual disability on issues about death, dying and bereavement: A metasynthesis \(pages 1007–1021\)](#)

Ailsa J. Lord, Stephen Field and Ian C. Smith Version of Record online: | DOI: 10.1111/jar.12376 [Abstract](#) , [Article](#) , [PDF\(465K\)](#) , [References](#)

[Making Sense of Bereavement in People with Profound Intellectual and Multiple Disabilities: Carer Perspectives \(pages 1035–1044\)](#)

Hannah Young, James Hogg and Brenda Garrard Version of Record online: | DOI: 10.1111/jar.12285 [Abstract](#) , [Article](#) , [PDF\(137K\)](#) , [References](#)

[Providing end-of-life care in disability community living services: An organizational capacity-building model using a public health approach \(pages 1125–1137\)](#)

Andrea Grindrod and Bruce Rumbold, Version of Record online: | DOI: 10.1111/jar.12372 [Abstract](#) , [Article](#) , [PDF\(433K\)](#) , [References](#)

See the Special edition online for more articles on this important topic.

Policies & Guidelines

Living The Life I Want: A Guide to Planning

The Intellectual Disability Behaviour Support program at UNSW Sydney has just released a new planning guide for use by/with people with cognitive disability and complex support needs. Development of the guide was funded by NSW Family and Community Services. The guide is called: “Living the life I want: a guide to planning” and is available for free download using the following link:

<https://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/research/intellectual-disability-behaviour-support-program/support-planning/>

There are three versions for download:

- A full version with fold out body outlines
- An A4 version without fold outs (easier for printing)
- An A4 black and white version (for those who don't wish to print in colour).

[A new palliative approach for residential aged care](#)

A joint research team from Calvary and Australian Catholic University has developed a **simple checklist to routinely review the palliative needs** of aged care residents. See the full article at Australian Ageing Agenda [here](#).

Accessible Mental Health Services for People with an Intellectual Disability: A Guide for Providers.

The Guide is a national framework of understanding and action for frontline mental health service providers with respect to people with an intellectual disability. It provides an overview of intellectual disability mental health, why accessible services are important, the principles that should guide service delivery, practical strategies for inclusive and accessible services, and the implications for the service system. The Guide was developed in consultation with key national stakeholders, and was funded by the Australian Government

Department of Health. The Guide will assist health services in providing equitable access, a skilled workforce and appropriate treatment to people with an intellectual disability and a mental disorder. University of NSW, Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry (3DN) resource at <https://3dn.unsw.edu.au/the-guide>

[Coroner recommends care workers document changes in residents' health](#)

A Queensland coroner has recommended that personal care workers and assistants in nursing be required to enter any variation in a resident's condition in the progress notes, following the health-related death of an 86-year-old aged care resident. Read the full Australian Ageing Agenda article on their web site [here](#).

Directories Online

Disability Access Worldwide Maps - check out your local area

Call for participation: Rate the accessibility of places in your own community for the 2018 UN Flagship Report on disability and development

Accessibility apps crowd source and share information about accessibility in public places and are thus useful tools to assist persons with disabilities and in providing an overview of accessibility. Promoting accessibility is mandate by the UN covered in the articles 9.1(b), 9.2(b), (f), (g), (h) of CRPD and in SDG targets 4.a, 11.2 and 11.7. The UN Flagship Report on Disability and Development | 2018 - *Realizing the SDGs by, for and with persons with disabilities*, which will be released in 2018, will explore the information available in these apps to provide guidance on accessibility policy making.

Participate in this effort by rating the public places in your own community at:

<http://www.axsmap.com/search/?what=Everything&where=Sydney%2C+New+South+Wales%2C+Australia>, <https://wheelmap.org/map#/?zoom=9> and <https://www.jaccede.com/en/>.

These apps were developed by non-profit organizations, and the last two apps are available in languages other than English.

Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show with Ross M Fear (Your Editor of the Global Gazette)

Proudly sponsored by Global Disability & Health Care Services

Tuesday night 9 to 12 pm for all Australian blues, roots, jazz, folk and contemporary music. Weekly studio guests. Blues, Folk and Jazz Gig Guide and music.

Internet Radio Streaming worldwide online at www.alive905.com.au [follow the Listen Live links]

Over 350 Australian artistes have been featured studio guests on the Alive 90.5 fm Australian Spectrum Show.

The studio guests coming up include: = Christ Turner & the Blues Pirates, Glenn A Baker, Mississippi Blues River Cruise, Bonnie K & The Bonafides, Simon Kinny-Lewis, Jack Pledge, Mitch Granger, Chris O, William Tibben, Victor Matinez Akustica, Gwynn Ashton, Jim Wiechman, Hussy Hicks, Adam Jones, Orcaband, Diana Anaid, Martin Cilia, North Melbourne Surf Club Band, Urban Gypsies and many more in 2018.

Join our 12,000+ Facebook Likes or follow our studio guest announcements at <https://www.facebook.com/Australian.Spectrum.Show.Alive90.5fm>

Disability News

Wellbeing Record

The [Wellbeing record](#) is a resource that can be used to record the wellbeing of a person with intellectual disability and any changes that occur. It is designed to be used to help health professionals understand what wellbeing looks like for the person, and understand any changes.

University of NSW Department of Developmental Disability Neuropsychiatry resource
<https://3dn.unsw.edu.au/wellbeing-record>

Grant & Fund Raising News

ACNC guidance on working with fundraising agencies

"Ensuring fundraising practices are fair, transparent and well governed is a crucial aspect of managing a charity. As such, the ACNC sees good fundraising practice as a core governance responsibility of a charity's responsible persons (its board, committee, or governing body). Fundraising is often the public face of a charity. The way a charity conducts fundraising can have a significant effect on a charity's work and its reputation."

"Where a charity decides to work with a professional fundraising agency, the responsible persons of the charity carry the ultimate responsibility for any actions taken in the charity's name." ACNC Commissioner Susan Pascoe AM. See the full information at http://acnc.gov.au/ACNC/FTS/Working_with_fundraising_agencies.aspx

[Grants in Australia: annual research findings for Australian grantseekers and grantmakers](#)

This Our Community research study, drawing on the views of more than 1200 grantseekers, reveals a huge amount of effort is being wasted on abandoned grant applications, large organisations are increasingly scooping up the small grants too, and pressure is building on local government to shell out more. More information at [Australian Policy Online](#).

Mental Health Australia Welcomes Funding Announcement

Minister for Health Greg Hunt has announced an increase in core funding to Mental Health Australia, allocating more than \$53 million to fund some 47 research projects. Mental Health Australia Chair, Jennifer Westacott, said the increase to core funding will provide Mental Health Australia with further certainty, and the ability to continue to support our members and advocate for a long term vision for mental health in Australia.

Research & Demographic Reports

Access to health services by Australians with disability

People with disability use a range of mainstream health services-such as GPs, medical specialists and dentists. Some experience difficulties in accessing these services, such as unacceptable or lengthy waiting times, cost, inaccessibility of buildings, and discrimination by health professionals. Download web report: [Access to health services by Australians with disability](#)

Psychosocial Disability

Psychosocial disability can have an impact on a person's ability to participate fully in daily living and opportunities like education, employment, and social and cultural activities. For the first time in 2015 the Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers (SDAC) collected information about people with psychosocial disability. In 2015, 4.5% of Australians (1,045,900 people) reported having psychosocial disability, with similar rates for males and females (4.3% compared with 4.7%). Of all people with any

type of disability, almost one-quarter (24.4%) had a psychosocial disability. See the Australian Bureau of Statistics [findings here](#).

[The Australian community trends report: national research study 2017](#)

This McCrindle Research study offers insights to help Australia's not-for-profit leaders continue to create ripples of change that over time will build the capacity of communities locally, nationally and indeed globally. See details and link at Analysis & Policy Observatory [here](#).

Pathways to permanent residential aged care in Australia: a Pathways in Aged Care (PiAC) analysis of people's aged care program use before first entry to permanent residential aged care in 2013-14

Some 61,300 people first entered permanent residential aged care (PRAC) in 2013-14. While they used over 1,000 different combinations of other aged care in the preceding years, the most common pathway (used by 1 in 4 people) was through Home and Community Care (HACC). Many pathways showed a similar pattern of moving 'up' to progressively higher levels of support.

Download report: [Pathways to permanent residential aged care in Australia: a Pathways in Aged Care \(PiAC\) analysis of people's aged care program use before first entry to permanent residential aged care in 2013-14](#)

Scholarships

[Gregory & Dolores Farrell Scholarships for 2018 – Applications Now Open](#)

The closing date for applications for 2018 is: Monday 5th February, 2018.

The Gregory & Dolores Farrell Scholarships **for students who use a wheelchair for mobility undertaking tertiary education in NSW** will again be administered by the SpineCare Foundation in 2018. **Students who are completing year 12 at the end of 2017** will be eligible to apply if they plan on attending university in 2018. Students who are part of the way through a tertiary course are also eligible to apply. If you require any further information, please contact Deanna Mooney on: deanna.mooney@northcott.com.au or 9890 0959.

Featured Course

Epilepsy Essentials Online Training

Epilepsy Action Australia's Online training allows staff to gain a comprehensive understanding of epilepsy, and the ability to recognise and respond to seizures - all from their computer!

The Epilepsy Essentials Online Course is interactive, flexible and informative. The course takes one hour and includes information about epilepsy and seizures, including descriptions of the common types of seizure activity, seizure first aid and management strategies. Topics addressed in training include:

- Facts about epilepsy
- Types of seizures

- Living with epilepsy
- Seizure safety and first aid

[Enroll now](#), or contact us for more details:

T: 1300 37 45 37

E: education@epilepsy.org.au

W: <http://www.epilepsy.org.au/online-academy/>

ONLINE EDUCATION DIRECTORY

Online professional development is an easy way to access further education – especially valuable for shift workers – so we have researched some options and put them on our web site at

http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/online_education.html

Education Resources

Intellectual Disability Mental Health Core Competency Framework: A Manual for Mental Health Professionals

The Intellectual Disability Mental Health Core Competency Framework: A Manual for Mental Health Professionals describes the specific skills and attributes required by mental health professionals for the provision of quality services to people with an intellectual disability. It outlines the necessary approaches to clinical practice when working with people with an intellectual disability and identifies the core competencies that mental health professionals require to work in this area. The Framework also includes a self-assessment tool to help professionals determine their current skill set and guides readers to resources that support professional development in intellectual disability mental health. The Framework was developed in consultation with key stakeholders, and was funded by Mental Health-Children and Young People, NSW Ministry of Health. **Access the Manual [here](#).**

An Introduction to Intellectual Disability - Intellectual Disability Rights Service Training Resource

- What is intellectual disability? Definitions of disability, different views of disability
- Recognising intellectual disability from other conditions
- Appropriate language, disability etiquette, communication tips, writing in easy english
- Disability Standards and Discrimination

Please click on the link to download complete document- [An Introduction to Intellectual Disability](#)

Positions Vacant at Global Disability & Health Care Services

Disability Support Workers - Disability & /or Mental Health &/or Youth Work *Free phone: 1800 009 292*. Global is a leading staff agency offering a variety of shifts to care workers throughout the greater Sydney region, Central Coast, Illawarra, Southern Highlands and Blue Mountains. Currently we are seeking experienced support workers to work with people who have a disability. Plenty of shifts available. Weekly pay. Choose your own days

& shift availability. Must have previous experience in a similar role. Police Check Certificate & Working With Children Clearance Certificate, Drivers License and First Aid Certificate required. Ability to communicate effectively with people who have a disability is essential. Must be able to work as part of a team. For more information call 1800 009 292 or forward your resume along with contact details of two referees to:

Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com

Registered Nurses & Endorsed Enrolled Nurses specialised in mental health, forensic mental health and general *Free phone: 1800 009 292.* Global is one of the market leaders in the public, private mental health, disability, and general health fields. Global can offer you plenty of shifts in private and public hospitals, disability, mental health services, dual diagnosis and disability special care areas. An agency founded and run by Registered Nurses, we can assist you in finding work in a variety of locations. Choose the hours and shifts to suit your lifestyle. Must be registered to practice in Australia. Police Check Certificate & Working With Children Clearance Certificate, Up-to-date immunisation health card. Drivers License and First Aid Certificate required. **Excellent pay rates. Weekly pays.** Why not forward your resume to Employment@GlobalCareStaff.com or phone to speak to one of our friendly consultants who can help you make that great career move. Free phone: 1800 009 292.

See Current Positions Vacant at <http://www.globalcarestaff.com/plugins/job.cgi>

Conference Calendar

See a more comprehensive listing of conferences at our web site
http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

1 - 3 February 2018

Global Conference on Integrated Care. Singapore. [Registration here.](#)

4 - 6 February 2018

LASA Tri-State Conference. Albury, NSW. [Information](#)

12 - 13 February 2018

Working with Anxiety Disorders. Sydney. ACWA-CCWT. [Enrol.](#)

15 – 16 February 2018

National Disability Services NDS NSW 2018 Conference.
Hilton Hotel, Sydney.

<https://www.nds.org.au/events-and-training/conferences/nsw-conference-2018>

[Register online (recommended) or Registration Forms attached to this edition]

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Early bird discount registration closes: 29 January 2018

All Registrations close 5pm Friday 9 February 2018

19 - 20 February 2018

5th National Elder Abuse Conference. Sydney. <http://www.togethertomakingchange.org.au>

21 - 23 February 2018

2nd National Indigenous Mental Health & Wellbeing Forum. Perth. [Registration here.](#)

22 - 23 February 2018

The Mental Health Services Forum: Trauma Matters. Sydney, NSW. [Information](#)

28 February 2018

Global Conference Guide.

http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

1 March 2018

International Wheelchair Day. [website](#)

1 - 2 March 2018

Best Practice / Next Practice: Working with families when a parent has a mental illness. Melbourne, Vic. [Information.](#)

1 - 31 March 2018

National Epilepsy Awareness Month. Epilepsy Australia. [website](#)

1 - 2 March 2018

Medico-Legal Congress. Sydney. [website](#)

5 - 6 March 2018

NDS Queensland Conference. Brisbane. [Details here.](#)

6 - 7 March 2018

Quality in Aged Care Conference. Sydney. [website](#)

7 March 2018

Disability Justice Program: Navigating the Criminal Justice System. Sydney. ACWA-CCWT. [Enrol.](#)

7 - 8 March 2018

Mental Health Strategies for First Responders Conference. Melbourne, Vic. [website](#)

7 - 9 March 2018

FIA Annual Fund Raising Conference. Sydney. [Information.](#)

12- 18 March 2018

Brain Awareness Week. [website](#)

14 - 16 March 2018

National Australian Early Development Census Conference. Melbourne, Vic.
[Information..](#)

21 March 2018

World Down Syndrome Day. <http://www.un.org/en/events/downsyndromeday/>

26 March 2018

Go Purple – Epilepsy Awareness Day.

<http://www.epilepsy.org.au/purple-day>

25 -26 May 2018

Sydney Disability Expo.

Sydney Olympic Park, Southee Complex.

<https://www.sydneydisabilityexpo.com.au/>

Many more Conferences and Workshops listed online at

http://www.globalcarestaff.com/page/conference_calendar.html

To list your conferences on our Global Conference Calendar

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– email details to GlobalGazetteDisability@gmail.com

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