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NDIS Readiness Bulletin #26

The Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria is the peak policy advocacy body for Victorian ethnic and multicultural organisations.

Our main focus around disability and the NDIS is on increased culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) consumer participation and capacity building.

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter please email your submissions to Hanaa or Toula at ndis@eccv.org.au for consideration

Next material deadline is: Wednesday Feb 27, 5 pm



CONNECTING VICTORIA'S CULTURALLY AND LINGUISTICALLY DIVERSE COMMUNITIES TO THE NDIS

Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria [Find out more](#)

[Find out more!](#)

NEWS FOR CONSUMERS



ECCV is pleased to announce the launch of our new online:

NDIS and Disability Directory - Ethnic Communities'

If you would like to include your organisation here please don't hesitate to email us at

ndis@eccv.org.au

[Click here for the directory](#)

DEADLINE EXTENDED!
ECCV multicultural consumer survey on disability and the NDIS



ECCV is undertaking a **Disability Advocacy Project** to improve disability services for culturally diverse Victorians. **Your feedback is crucial** to help us raise awareness about existing problems with disability services and find solutions to support you better.

Ways to participate:

1. Complete the brief online survey by February 28

[Click here for the survey!](#)

2. ECCV will also conduct interviews and group discussions (interpreters can be organised).

For more information, or to express your interest in participating in an interview or group discussion, please contact:

Robert Gruhn T: (03) 9354 9555 E: rgruhn@eccv.org.au

PLEASE FORWARD THIS SURVEY TO YOUR NETWORKS AND ANYONE WHO MAY BE INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING. THANK YOU!



Planning & implementation

This session has been designed for NDIS Participants & their families/carers to step through: What is an NDIS Planning Conversation; What are some helpful things to think about before an NDIS Planning Conversation and; Once a plan is approved how to bring the plan to life.

Yarram, 26 February, [More information](#)

Sale, 26 February, [More information](#)

Bairnsdale, 27 February, [More information](#)

Lakes Entrance, 27 February, [More information](#)

Orbost, 28 February, [More information](#)

Your NDIS Questions Answered

Do you have NDIS questions? Where are you in your NDIS journey? NDIS staff will be available in your town to sit down with you individually to chat about the NDIS.

Donald, 18 February, [More information](#)

Charlton, 19 February, [More information](#)

Wycheproof, 20 February, [More information](#)

Birchip, 20 February, [More information](#)

Sea Lake, 20 February, [More information](#)

NDIS Information Session

This session has been designed to assist people to understand the 3 new NDIS booklets and provide a broad overview of the NDIS pathway for new participants to the scheme.

Healesville, 20 February, [More information](#)

Doncaster, 21 February, [More information](#)

NDIS Webinar - Let's talk about work

The "Let's talk about work" webinar will deliver information and insights about how NDIS participants can include employment supports in their plans.

21 February, 2- 3 pm, [More information](#)

NDIS Commission coming soon!

The NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission will roll out across Vic, Qld, Tas, ACT and NT from 1 July 2019. The NDIS Commission began operating in NSW and SA on 1 July 2018, WA will transition from 1 July 2020.

NDIS participants have the right to be safe and receive quality services from NDIS providers. The NDIS Commission is an independent agency established to improve the quality and safety of NDIS supports and services.

It ensures a nationally consistent approach to NDIS quality and safeguards. This helps participants access services and supports that promote choice, control and dignity.

The NDIS Commission works to promote safety, quality services, prevent harm, resolve problems and identify areas for improvement.



Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) Improvement

Provision of Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) has improved under new reforms.

The reforms include changes to the SDA Pricing and Payments Framework and the SDA Rules to provide greater surety to providers and investors, support more timely eligibility decisions, and to give participants more choice and control over living arrangements.

The NDIA has also published a new SDA Price Guide for the 2018-19 financial year.

[More information](#)



NDIS information sessions - Southern Melbourne Area

To assist participants to prepare for the planning meeting, Latrobe Community Health Service Local Area Coordinators will be running a series of information sessions and workshops.

City of Greater Dandenong

Thursday 21st February 2019 - 1:30pm – 3:00pm

Venue:

Council Offices, Level 2, 225 Lonsdale St, Dandenong.

Cardinia Shire

Tuesday 19th February 2019 - 10:30am – 12:00pm

Wednesday 20th February 2019 - 7:00pm – 8:30pm

Venue:

Toomah Community Centre

18 Golden Green Street, Pakenham

RSVP and Enquiries:

1800 242 696



FREE NDIS and Mental Health Forum

A place where community members with mental health issues and their family and friends can:

- Consider how to put supports in place once you receive a plan
 - Ask questions and connect with support
- Hear from those with personal experience in setting up or managing an NDIS plan

Presenters from VMIAC and Tandem will join together to present up-to-date information

27 February, [More information](#)

27 March, [More information](#)



Videos about the NDIS in Mandarin & Vietnamese

ADEC has produced 4 videos in Mandarin and Vietnamese on the following topics:

- NDIS Eligibility
- NDIS Pre-planning and planning
- NDIS Plan management and Support Coordination
- NDIS Reviews and appeals

Watch the videos



'The Greek Mythological Boat Show'

SPARC Theater is a company of diverse performers many of whom experience barriers to social and cultural participation.

Join SPARC Theater on a journey of migration, shared culture, transformation and exploration of a dream spatial realm. SPARC asks the question; If we had to leave our home what would we take with us? And what gets left behind?

The fifteen SPARC members are people with an experience of long term psychiatric disability and/or acquired brain impairment living in supported accommodation in the City of Port Phillip.



Victorian Arabic Social Services (VASS)

VASS is a state-wide key service provider that specializes in working with people of Arabic Speaking Backgrounds, of all ages, needs and abilities.

VASS is registered with the NDIS to provide a culturally and linguistically appropriate Social Support Group. VASS plans to further expand its NDIS services. VASS is also funded for other Social Groups for people of Arabic Speaking Backgrounds with disability or their carers (through the HACC PYP program) across the state, and the Access and Support Program. VASS employs bilingual staff across all programs.

[More information](#)

NEWS FOR PROVIDERS

Information, Linkages and Capacity Building (ILC) Funding Opportunities

Strengthening ILC: A national strategy towards 2022

The NDIA has released the 'Strengthening ILC: A national strategy towards 2022'. The strategy outlines four programs that will be progressively implemented from July 2019:

National Information program

Individual Capacity Building

Economic and Community Participation program

Mainstream Capacity Building program

This new strategy aims to move away from high volume and short term grants to a more strategic, multi-year approach. New ILC funding opportunities will be available to organisations during 2019-2020, with horizon to 2021-22.

[More information](#)



How to be disability inclusive – Guide

The Disability Advocacy Resource Unit (DARU) has produced a useful short guide to disability inclusion, focused on five key areas: disability, mental illness, what to say or write, making contact and including everyone.

[Download the guide here!](#)

Interpreters and the NDIS

Recent NDIA data shows that only 1 in 10 NDIS registered providers have registered for free TIS interpreting services.

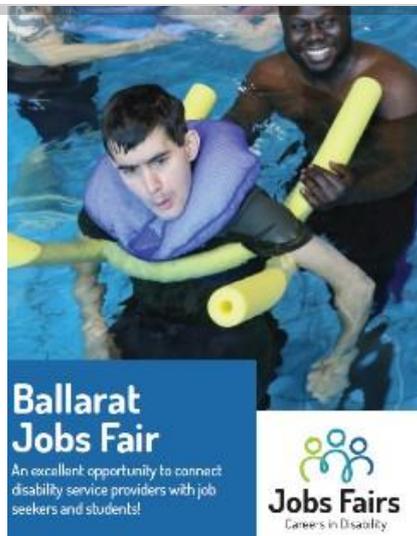
If you are an NDIS provider, you will need to be registered with TIS National for NDIS participants to be able to access TIS National supports with your agency.

To register for TIS National services, you will need to set up a TIS National client code by completing the online registration form available on TIS Online.

[More information](#)

NDIS CALD WORKFORCE READINESS

ECCV is contributing to the promotion of employment opportunities in the NDIS/disability space among people from culturally and linguistically diverse communities (CALD).



National Disability Service (NDS) REGIONAL JOB FAIRS

Careers in the Disability Sector - Don't Miss Out!

Bendigo – 28th February – Bendigo TAFE, [More information](#)

Ballarat – 13th March – Federation TAFE & University, [More information](#)



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

[Inclusion Melbourne Inc](#) is a non-profit disability service provider in Victoria, Australia. Inclusion Melbourne provides day service activities to adults with intellectual disabilities.

Inclusion Melbourne is currently looking for [Hebrew](#) and [Greek-speaking Allied health professionals](#) and specifically occupational therapists and physiologists.

Contact: 9509 4266 or E: Admin@inclusion.melbourne

[More information](#)

NDIS Project Team



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