**Support for Decision Making consultation submission**

**Name:** Individual 22 (QLD)

**Date and time submitted:** 8/27/2021 2:47:00 AM

**How do you identify:**

* A NDIS participant: No
* A family member, friend or carer of a NDIS participant: Yes
* A NDIS nominee: No
* A legally appointed guardian: No
* A disability support worker: No
* A health or allied health worker: No
* A community member: No
* Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander: No
* Culturally and linguistically diverse: No
* From a rural or remote area: No
* A person with an intellectual disability: No
* A person with a cognitive impairment: No
* A person with a communication disability: No
* A person with a psychosocial disability: No
* Other: No

1. **How can we help people with disability make decisions for themselves?**

* Resources: Yes
* Information: No
* Decision Guides: No
* Having a person help: No
* Other: No

1. **Who are the best people to help you (or a person with a disability) to make decisions?**

* Family: Yes
* Friends: No
* Peer Support Networks: No
* Mentors: No
* Coordinators: No
* LAC: No
* NDIA Partners: No
* Advocates: No
* Service Providers: No
* Other: No

1. **What should they do to help with decision-making?**

I have read your consultation paper, and while it contains some very well defined sensible comment, I am appalled that in regard to people with disabilities making informed decisions, that the parents has been subrogated to an extent that they are not considered to have any influence in this respect. Unbelievable...... Parents in the majority cases are the most trusted supporters of people with disabilities. It is the parents who are required to pick up the pieces of poor decisions particularly made by others (such as the NDIA) in direct contradiction to well informed direct wishes of the individual.

1. **How can they get better at helping?**

* Getting to know the participant well: Yes
* Doing some training on decision support: No
* By having resources and information about providing decision support: Yes
* Other: No

1. **How can we make sure the right people are helping?**

* They are chosen by the NDIS Participant as a decision supporter: Yes
* They value the rights of people to make decisions with support: No
* They are a registered provider: No
* They enable the participant to take risks: No
* Other: No

1. **What should decision supporters know about so they can better help people with disability make decisions?**

* Guidelines for decision supporters: No
* Scenarios or Examples: Yes
* Information Sessions: Yes
* Support Networks: No
* Other: No

1. **Can you tell us about a time when someone helped you (or a person with disability) to make a big decision?**

Not applicable

**What worked well?**

No answer recorded

**What could have been better?**

No answer recorded

1. **What is the best way to support people with disability to make decisions about their NDIS plan?**

* Practice: No
* Peer Support Networks: No
* Information and Resources: Yes
* Guidance Tools: No
* Not Sure: No
* Other: No

1. **Are there different things to consider for people with different disabilities or cultural backgrounds?**

**An intellectual disability:** Yes, The model of one size fits all just doesn't work.

Consideration needs to be made for the varying and different type of disabilities in respect to how they think and react.

**A disability that impacts how they think, a cognitive impairment:** Yes, The perceived negativism around any form of change by individuals is an impediment. They generally have a heighten dislike of any change. Irrespective of the degree of disability, this is a key issue in encouraging positive moves that will result in achieving higher levels of independence.

**A psychosocial disability:** No

**A disability that impacts their ability to communicate:** No

**From a CALD community:** No

**From an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Community:** No

**From the LGBTIQA community:** No

1. **How can we help reduce conflict of interest?**

By the NDIA following their own set guidelines and the provisions of the NDIS act.

Maybe if they were willing to communicate with those directly involved with the individual such as the parents and service providers, we would all end with far better positive outcomes.

1. **How can we help reduce undue influence?**

By the NDIA following their own set guidelines and the provisions of the NDIS act.

Putting these individuals in a stressful and high anxiety situation as a result of NDIA decisions which totally ignore reports from professional and service providers is extremely concerning.

1. **What are your concerns (if any) around people with disability being more involved in making decisions for themselves?**

I fully support the person with a disability making informed decisions. What I don't support is these individuals being permitted to make decisions that can seriously affect their health, safety or security.

1. **What else could we do to help people with disability to make decisions for themselves? Is there anything missing?**

Not sure - apart from the fact the NDIA doesn't listen or communicate.

1. **Do you have any feedback on our proposed actions in Appendix C of the paper?**

Again you have chosen to try and disenfranchise parents who are where the individual with a disability has no contradictory view, the natural "nominee" by right.