12 October 2017

Community organisations are being invited to partner with the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to deliver Local Area Coordination (LAC) and/or Early Childhood Early Intervention (ECEI) services in a number of service areas across the Northern Territory, Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales.

The NDIA's Partners in the Community Program engages suitable organisations to work with the NDIA to help deliver the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) in local communities across Australia as the Scheme rolls out.

Assistant Minister for Disability Services, Jane Prentice, said the Partners in the Community Program was about harnessing existing community connections and local knowledge to deliver a national Scheme at a local level.

"There are many organisations with deep community roots with a wealth of knowledge and expertise who would be well placed to help us deliver this life changing social reform," Mrs Prentice said.

"We are keen for these organisations to apply to be part of the Partners in the Community Program and work with the NDIA to support service areas in the Northern Territory, Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales which are scheduled to transition to the NDIS in 2018."

Round three of the Partners in the Community Program is seeking partners in the following services areas:

Jurisdiction	**Service Area**	**LAC/ECEI**
Northern Territory	• Darwin Urban	LAC and ECEI
Queensland	• Beenleigh • Brisbane North/Brisbane South • Caboolture/Strathpine • Cairns • Maroochydore • Maryborough • Robina	LAC and ECEI

Victoria	• Brimbank Melton • Goulburn • Mallee • Outer Gippsland • Southern Melbourne • Western Melbourne	LAC and ECEI
New South Wales	• Central Coast • Far West • Hunter New England • Illawarra Shoalhaven • Mid North Coast • Murrumbidgee • Nepean Blue Mountains • Northern NSW • Northern Sydney • South Eastern Sydney • South Western Sydney • Southern NSW • Sydney • Western NSW • Western Sydney	ECEI

LAC services focus on participant capacity building, including plan development, implementation and review. ECEI services deliver outcomes for children and their families through best-practice and family-centred approaches.

The NDIS will provide 460,000 Australians under the age of 65 with a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to live an ordinary life.

The third Partners in the Community grant round is now open and will close at 2pm AEDT, Wednesday 22 November, 2017. An industry briefing webcast about the Partners in the Community Program will be available in late October. The panel will discuss key information about the program and the application process.

Information about the upcoming webcast and NDIS Partners in the Community Program is available on the NDIS website.

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