



Disability Services Commission

Sector e-Bulletin

October 2014

Welcome to the October 2014 edition of the Sector e-Bulletin. This newsletter has been created by the Disability Services Commission to keep you informed about disability sector reforms, projects and other relevant information.

In this issue

WA NDIS My Way Lower South West trial gets off to smooth start.....	2
Quality System transition update.....	3
Groups exercise choice.....	3
Community contributions to be celebrated during Disability Awareness Week	4
Apply for Community Inclusion and Participation grants	5
Jon and Barry Brealey Trust invite	5
Subscribing to the Sector e-Bulletin	6
Future submissions and contributions.....	6



WA NDIS My Way Lower South West trial gets off to smooth start

The WA NDIS My Way trial in the Lower South West is nearing the three-month mark and initial feedback from individuals, families, carers and the disability sector indicates that the trial started smoothly.

As of 11 September, 512 people have been found eligible for WA NDIS My Way and 484 people have a completed individual plan.

Due to the positive and constructive engagement between local mental health services and the My Way team, 16 individuals with psychosocial disability have now engaged with WA NDIS My Way. Three of these people are registered and have developed their individual plan.

The regional My Way team is now fully established and comprises technical and funding officers, an allied health consultant and a My Way Coordinator with mental health expertise.

The Disability Services Commission is working closely with non-government service providers to ensure staffing levels reflect the demand for services. This enables people with disability to have more choices about their local supports and services, a key objective of WA NDIS My Way.

Stanton's International, the independent evaluator for the NDIS trial in Western Australia, has now begun the assessment process, and the resulting evaluation will provide further direction for disability reform initiatives in WA.

For more, go to the [Commission's website](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au) www.disability.wa.gov.au > [WA NDIS My Way](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/wa-ndis-my-way) > or <http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/wa-ndis-my-way/wa-ndis-my-way/> .



Quality System transition update

As reported in the previous edition of the Sector e-Bulletin, the Disability Services Commission's enhanced Quality System started on 1 July 2014.

To keep the sector up-to date during this period of transition, training and implementation, a regular feature will be included in each Sector e-Bulletin until the end of the financial year.

Here's a snapshot of the latest information:

- The first round of quality assessments is underway.
- Training modules are expected to be finalised by late October.
- Between now and the end of the Quality System transition period on 31 December 2014, it is expected that service providers will review their policies and procedures to ensure alignment with the new National Standards for Disability

Services. This will be a requirement once the transition period has ended.

- The annual self-assessment, previously issued in August each year, will be issued in April from now on and will include reporting on complaints handling. Further information about this will be provided in due course.

For more information, visit the [Commission's website](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au) www.disability.wa.gov.au > [Service Providers > Quality System](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/disability-service-providers/quality-system/) or <http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/disability-service-providers/quality-system/> or [email: quality@dsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:quality@dsc.wa.gov.au) .

Groups exercise choice

People living at four Disability Services Commission group homes have chosen their future service providers and are moving forward with their transition out of Commission services.

These people are part of the first group to start their transition planning, having

started discussions with the Commission's Transition Team in January.

After undertaking a considered decision-making process, including talking to several service providers about what models of support would best suit their



needs, people at all four houses decided to continue to live together in their respective homes, supported by their chosen organisations.

“The people undertaking the transition have exercised choice and control over their future support arrangements,” Commission Strategic Services Director Fleur Hill said.

“Work has now started on the final aspects of transition, with individuals and their families regularly meeting with the Transition Team, other Commission staff and their new providers to ensure their support needs will be met.”

Ms Hill reiterated that the transition process would take as long as needed to enable people and their families to consider their options and make informed choices about future supports and services.

For details, visit the [Commission's website](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au) www.disability.wa.gov.au > [Reform](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/reform1/ref) > [Accommodation services transition](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/reform1/ref) or [http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/reform1/ref/accommodation-services-transition/](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/reform1/ref) or phone (08) 9426 9200 or [email: dsc@dsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:dsc@dsc.wa.gov.au) .

Community contributions to be celebrated during Disability Awareness Week

Western Australia will celebrate Disability Awareness Week from 1–7 December 2014.

Disability Awareness Week aims to recognise individuals and community groups that have made a contribution to the Count Me In vision that “All people live in welcoming communities that facilitate citizenship, friendship, mutual support and a fair go for everyone”.

This year, Disability Awareness Week will have a new format. Instead of the Count Me In Awards, the Commission is looking at an alternative way to foster community inclusion and change through supporting people to work together at a local level.

This will enable people to demonstrate the Count Me In vision in a way that is meaningful for their community.

The Commission is offering 40 grants of \$250 each to support local events and activities. The grants are open to community groups, organisations and individuals who want to host an inclusive event or activity that promotes the Count Me In vision during Disability Awareness Week.



Application forms and further information are now available at the [Commission's website www.disability.wa.gov.au](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au) > [About us](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/about-us) > [Disability Awareness Week 2014](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/about-us) or [http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/about-](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/about-us)

[us/1/about-us/disability-awareness-week-2014/count-me-in-event-grants/](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/about-us/1/about-us/disability-awareness-week-2014/count-me-in-event-grants/) .

The deadline for applications is 4pm Friday, 17 October.

Apply for Community Inclusion and Participation grants

The Disability Services Commission, in partnership with VisAbility Inc, will administer the latest round of Community Inclusion and Participation grants in coming months.

The grants of up to \$50,000 will support initiatives that promote inclusion in the community for people with disability. Innovative programs, activities or projects will be strongly supported.

Incorporated, not-for-profit organisations and associations based in Western Australia and local government authorities are eligible to apply.

Grant application forms must be submitted by 5pm on 21 November 2014. All applications will be assessed by a panel.

Applicants are strongly advised to attend a briefing session at the Theatrette, VisAbility, 61 Kitchener Avenue, Victoria Park on 7 October at 10am. For more information about the grants or to secure a booking at the briefing session, phone 9311 8202 or visit [the Commission's website at http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/templates/Netcat/Composer/Pages/DscStandard.aspx?id=5107](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/templates/Netcat/Composer/Pages/DscStandard.aspx?id=5107) .

Jon and Barry Brealey Trust invite

Agencies operating in Western Australia for the benefit of people with disability are invited to apply for grants of up to \$30,000 from the Jon and Barry Brealey Trust.

The Trust honours the sons of Bert and Ailsa Brealey, who have made the funding possible.

Priority will be given to projects that add value to the lives of people with disability or research that aims to find the cause of, and bring about a reduction in, the number of people born with or who acquire a disability.

Applications must be submitted before 30 November 2014.



Applicants must use an application form from The Trust. The funding is not recurrent.

Box 2518 Mt Claremont 6010 or [email: jabtrust@bigpond.com](mailto:jabtrust@bigpond.com) .

Forms can be obtained from The Trustees of the Jon and Barry Brealey Trust, PO

Subscribing to the Sector e-Bulletin

The Sector e-Bulletin can be forwarded on to other parties.

To subscribe to this publication, [email: communications@dsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:communications@dsc.wa.gov.au) .

Past editions can be found at the [Commission's website](http://www.disability.wa.gov.au)

http://www.disability.wa.gov.au/sector_e-bulletin/ .

Future submissions and contributions

If you have relevant information to share with the disability sector, including resources and links relating to individualised services and supports, please [email: communications@dsc.wa.gov.au](mailto:communications@dsc.wa.gov.au) .

Neither the Disability Services Commission (the Commission) nor the State of Western Australia (the State) shall be responsible for the reliability, usefulness or the accuracy of the content of this publication.

Neither the Commission nor the State shall be liable, in negligence or howsoever, for any loss, damage or liability incurred by anyone relying on the content.

The Commission may review, edit or exclude any submitted material which is sought to be included as content.

No content can be reproduced without the prior written permission of the Commission.

Contributions and feedback from agencies are welcome.