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INQUIRY INTO PLANNING OPTIONS AND SERVICES FOR PEOPLE AGEING WITH A DISABILITY

Extract: Action Plan From NDS Ageing with a Disability Interface Barriers Report (National Disability Services, 2009)



Action Plan

The following table addresses the key strategic priorities for action identified by NDS Victoria. The suggested short and longer term actions are drawn from the findings of the Stakeholder Forum and ideas put forward during the Consultation processes. The Reference Panel and the Project Group also had input into the development of ideas to address the various barriers identified. The order of the barriers within the table does not reflect their priority or importance. Please note, some strategies may overlap or reinforce each other; some practice barriers are evidence of policy impediments.

Priority	Short Term Action (Up to 2 years)	Longer Term Action (2-5 years)
Differences in policy State/Territory and Commonwealth levels	Work with the Australian Department of Health and Ageing (Victorian office) and DHS, Disability Services to develop cross-program pathways that model the support requirements of people with disabilities of all ages throughout their lifetime	Put 'ageing in place' on the national agenda through the development of the National Disability Strategy
Differing State/Territory and Commonwealth service planning paradigms	Collaboration between Disability Service providers and Aged Care Services to develop consistent verifiable tools to measure changes in the needs of individuals with a disability also experiencing the impacts of age-related conditions	Shape the development of a shared population based planning approach across Disability Services, HACC and Aged Care Programs
	Assess whether this improves access to resources (implement local initiatives where possible)	
Failure of Governments to adequately articulate and resource policy commitment to 'ageing in place' for people with disability	Develop clear policy/procedure guidelines for staff in Disability Services to facilitate a professional and systematic approach to the making of complaints in relation to health services, ACAS, DHS and other programs when barriers to 'ageing in place' are encountered	Clearly articulate an 'ageing in place' philosophy to Governments using well developed promotional materials



Priority	Short Term Action (Up to 2 years)	Longer Term Action (2-5 years)		
Interface and access barriers across community programs	Actively engage with DHS to promote access to Community Palliative Care Services for people with disabilities	Foster a collaborative approach between Disability Service providers and Aged Care services to research/develop consistent and verifiable tools to measure changes in the		
	Encourage the development of post work options for people with disabilities	needs of individuals with a disability who are also experiencing the impacts of age-related conditions		
	Promote the current availability of HACC Nursing and Allied Health Services to people with disabilities living in supported accommodation and to people with disabilities receiving community-based supports			
	Encourage the development of pilot initiatives to increase access to medical care and health promotion programs for people with disabilities			
Inconsistent access to Aged and Community Assessment Services	Promote the utilisation of the existing DHS protocol for shared assessments between ACAS and Disability providers ensuring linkages to effective complaint processes	Encourage ongoing development and evaluation of shared assessment protocols involving input from Disability Service Providers and ACAS		
	Foster partnership arrangements at local and regional level between Disability Service providers, ACAS and Aged Care services			
Inadequate levels of staffing and expertise in disability accommodation services	Raise awareness of pathways to 'ageing in place' by highlighting examples of practice that support 'ageing in place' and promoting strategies that realise this for people	Encourage ongoing development and evaluation of shared assessment protocols involving input from Disability Service providers and ACAS		
	with disability Foster a shared approach to 'ageing in place' in both Aged Care and Disability Service sectors by reaching agreement as to the essential tenets of what 'ageing in	Explore the use of standardized assessment tools/protocols to assist Disability Service providers to record and monitor changing needs as a basis to press for appropriate staff resources to meet increasing needs		
	place' means in practice, through e.g. forums Work with Disability Services to establish specialist nurse consultant services	Continue efforts to combine aged and disability training		



Priority	Short Term Action (Up to 2 years)	Longer Term Action (2-5 years)		
Lack of responsiveness to individuals and their carers who	Support the preparation and dissemination of clear and accessible information packs for families who have a person with disability who is ageing	Actively participate in projects which emphasise personal choice including the Action Plan for a Fairer Victoria. Successfully achieved, such projects would reduce the		
wish to continue with home-based options	Promote effective demonstrated models of 'ageing in place' service models and person-centred planning procedures with a strong focus on 'advanced service planning' within disability services at agency level	impacts of barriers to 'ageing in place' through the benefits of a more inclusive society		
	Promote effective models of transition planning for older carers to support their own ageing and long-term support requirements of the person for whom they care			
Limited availability of suitable affordable housing infrastructure	Encourage Disability Service providers to collaborate with local community groups and retirement living/aged care developers in projects linked to the National Rental Affordability Scheme	Maintain 'supported housing' as a high priority in the development of long term planning through continued engagement with the Victorian housing provider and disability accommodation network		
	NDS to collaborate with the social welfare sector in the Universal Housing Regulation Campaign	Facilitate the development and construction of new independent living accommodation infrastructure for people with disabilities of all ages, with NDS National office working in the working in the Federal arena to increase options for people with disability		