6 Great Reasons to become an NDS Member

We know that membership is a financial investment and we’re honoured that more than 1,000 disability service providers around Australia entrust us to represent them – to unify our collective strength and fight for a more inclusive future for people with disability.

NDS represents service providers across Australia in their work to deliver high-quality services for people with disability.

# 1. Advocacy and Influence

Members inform our work every step of the way. NDS has developed strong and productive relationships with governments, their departments and the sector for many years. We work hard to maintain these relationships and develop new ways to expand our policy influence.

We are committed to

* Fighting for prices that reflect costs of service delivery and innovation, particularly for providers in remote and regional areas.
* Building and supporting a disability workforce across Australia and ensuring sustainable employment for people with disability.
* Gathering reliable, high quality sector data and facilitating analysis via our national Sector Development and Research team and partnerships with 11 Australian universities.
* Providing opportunities for members to develop local relationships with NDS staff and contribute to the co-design of policy and contemporary practice.

# 2. Timely Information and Advice

Access to timely and easy-to-understand information and advice is critical with the current pace and complexity of challenges facing the disability sector. NDS is dedicated to providing insights and being your source of reliable information, critical thinking and analysis.

Our services to members

* The NDS Helpdesk provides online, telephone and face to face support for members to ask questions about the NDIS and disability employment.
* Exclusive member-only webinars, podcasts and events tackle complex and relevant topics like the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework, how to market your organisation, analysis of the Federal and State Budgets and more.
* Access to subject matter experts and thought leaders from Tasmania and across Australia.

# 3. Learn and Innovate

Your NDS membership gives you access to a community of specialist disability service providers.

Together we can collaborate, innovate and open doors to new opportunities for professional networks and personal development.

Our services to members

* National, state and regional workshops, conferences and events to provide insight and inform.
* NDS Learn and Develop supports capability building and ongoing training and professional development.
* Practical tools and resources to tackle workforce challenges through our Workforce Hub, carecareers and National Disability Practitioners.

# 4. Collaborate and Improve

NDS members can shape strategy and sector policy as participants in NDS committees and communities of practice. Knowledge sharing and peer to peer engagement provides for individual and organisational development.

Our services to members

* NDS in Tasmania hosts sub-committees and roundtables that provide collective insight into systemic issues. These include Quality and Safeguarding roundtables, Support Coordination networks, DES networks and Allied Health networks. Discussions and action plans support providers to better understand, anticipate and respond to opportunities, challenges and emerging issues.
* Networking events to connect with government, businesses and the sector.
* Peer support and informal benchmarking of organisational performance.
* Knowledge transfer and insight to identify and respond to gaps in your organisation including professional development and training. This has included the Leadership Innovation Network and specialised workshops on topics such as Defensible Documentation for Support Workers and Behaviour Support.

# 5. A National and Local Perspective

Our state team brings strength and understanding of the context in which the disability sector operates in Tasmania. Respectful and robust relationships with local providers support better outcomes for Tasmanian’s with disability.

Our services to members

* Support for regional and remote providers.
* Proven and effective advocacy to state government on disability issues.
* Leadership in creating an inclusive Tasmania through industry representation on key government committees and working groups.

# 6. Business Supports and Services

We are committed to lowering the cost of doing business so you can free up financial resources for what matters most – delivering the best possible service for people with disability.

Our services to members

* Free access to practical services such as a legal helpline and electricity/gas audits.
* Member-only discounts on a range of products and services such as the NDS Quality Portal and office products.
* Low cost and no cost learning and development for staff in a range of positions right across your organisation.

“NDS is a trusted source of information. Membership keeps me informed and updated with the latest things that are happening.”

“I often advocate for others to join NDS for the support and available resources and up to date information available.”

NDS Membership team:

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