NDIS AT A GLANCE

People with multiple sclerosis are receiving greater access to funded supports under the NDIS. Full scheme rollout will benefit people affected by multiples sclerosis, compared to the current system which is not tailored to individual needs, choice and control.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

When determining eligibility the NDIS considers:

- your age
- your disability or significant impairments
- whether significant impairment is permanent or likely to be permanent
- whether you would benefit from early intervention.

To be eligible you must:

- be under 65 years of age
- be a resident of Australia.
- have an impairment or condition that is likely to be permanent (lifelong) and that stops you from doing everyday things by yourself.

The funded supports in an NDIS Plan will be reasonable and necessary and relate to your disability or functional impairment. These supports will help to maintain and strengthen your ability to access mainstream and community supports. An NDIS plan will also consider how to strengthen your informal supports.

For more information, see the NDIS checklist at www.ndis.gov.au or call NDIS on 1800 800 110.

THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES ARE OF PEOPLE WHO ARE NOW NDIS PARTICIPANTS AND RECEIVE FUNDED SERVICES:

Every story and NDIS plan is unique and relates to someone’s individual circumstances. An NDIS plan also takes into consideration someone’s informal support network and services delivered through community and mainstream supports. These examples show how NDIS funded supports are strengthening each individual’s ability to be part of their local community and participate socially and economically.

- Alice is in her late thirties; she has two children and works part time but she is badly affected by fatigue. She is receiving domestic help, allowing her to continue to work and participate more fully in her children’s lives.

- Maria is in her late fifties and her husband works full time. Maria uses a wheelchair and needs assistance with personal care. Maria and her husband have strengthened their relationship as husband and wife, now that his caring role has been relieved by the level of supports she is receiving.

- Julia identified a weakening of the muscle strength in her lower legs, resulting in a loss of confidence in her ability to walk without tripping. Julia received six physiotherapy sessions to work on an individualised plan to build her strength, she is back to walking and keeping fit and healthy.

- Brian runs his own family business and is a husband and father of two young children, one of whom has significant
special needs. He is impacted by fatigue, particularly mental fatigue and also experiences weakness on one side of his body. Brian is now in receipt of supports allowing him to continue to work, maintain his well-being and care for his children.

- **Pamela** is in her late fifties and lives alone, her goals are to remain at home and maintain her independence. The supports she is receiving are ensuring that she can achieve these goals.

- **Janet** is a 64 year old widow, she is badly affected by fatigue, uses a wheelchair and has poor eyesight. Janet’s 38 year old son James is her carer. The supports and services Janet has in place have increased her independence and lessened her reliance on James who is now able to work more hours.

- **Martha** is in her mid-forties, works and owns the home she lives in with her elderly mother. The NDIS is supporting Martha with house cleaning on a weekly basis and a fortnightly garden service allowing her to continue working, remain independent, contribute to her local community and have the security of her own home.

- **Simon** lives with his wife and has two adult sons, he was diagnosed with MS twenty years ago. Simon uses a wheelchair to mobilise, uses a hoist to transfer and relies heavily on his wife to help him with day to day activities. Since receiving supports from the NDIA things have been a lot easier for them both.

- **Samantha** is very involved with her family and community, she uses a wheelchair to mobilise and relies on family members to maintain their home. The supports and services she is receiving are ensuring she can stay in the family home, maintain her links to the community and continue to look after her grandchildren.

- **Lee** wants to remaining independent and employed. The supports and services she is receiving are enabling her to maintain her employment and independence and she has confidence that if her condition changes, she will be able to access more supports.