



Registered NDIS Provider

# LOCAL AREA COORDINATION

Helping you understand the NDIS

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## WHAT IS THE NDIS?

The National Disability Insurance Scheme is a major social reform offering a new way of providing support and services for people living with disability or significant impairment under the age of 65. As a registered NDIS provider we have a wide range of support services to help navigate and get the most out of the scheme, enabling people to achieve their goals

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## WHAT IS LOCAL AREA COORDINATION?

Local Area Coordination (LAC) is delivered by the *National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) Partners in the Community*. Local Area Coordinators (LACs) are a main point of contact for the NDIS. They help people understand and access the NDIS, work with participants to develop and use their NDIS plan and connect people with disability to supports, services, activities in their community and other government services. LACs also work in communities to help them become more accessible and inclusive for all people with disability.

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## WHAT TO EXPECT

- Your Local Area Coordinator is usually the person who works with you to create your first NDIS plan, **you have the right to choose** where and when this conversation takes place, it could be face to face or over the phone, whichever suits you best. You are also entitled to have a family member, friend or support person at this meeting.
- Your LAC will discuss your symptoms and how they affect your ability to manage everyday tasks, the supports you already have in place, any unmet need you may have as well as your goals.
- Your LAC will **not** provide case management or act as an advocate and they cannot approve an NDIS plan - that is the role of the NDIA.
- Once your plan is approved your LAC will help you to understand your plan if you do not have Support Coordination or Support Connection funds in your plan.
- Your LAC will help you choose and connect with service providers if you do not have Support Coordination or Support Connection funds in your plan.
- Your LAC will help you find mainstream and community services that help you achieve your goals if you do not have Support Coordination or Support Connection funds in your plan.
- Your LAC will review your plan with you (a plan will generally be in place for 12 months) to make sure it is meeting your needs and helping you to reach your goals.
- Your LAC is there to help you complete the necessary forms if the funded supports in your plan do not meet your needs or if you have had a change of circumstances and need a change to the level of supports you are receiving.
- **Remember** to keep a record of your LAC's name and contact details in case you have any questions about your plan or how to put services in place.
- If you have any questions about Local Area Coordination, Support Coordination or the NDIS you can call **MS Connect** on 1800 042 138.