

CHOICES Newsletter

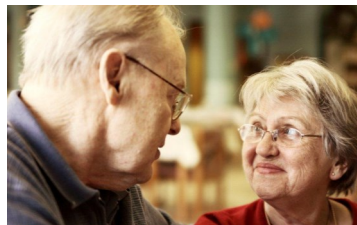
YOUR CHOICES-YOUR WAY

ACT LAUNCH July 1st 2014

Exciting News. The ACT is now officially an NDIS launch site where people will receive choice and control over what their supports are and what they look like.

CatholicCare has now launched the CHOICES website where you can see our menu of services.

If you would like to receive this newsletter by email please email us at:
CHOICES@catholiccare.cg.org.au



Every person will now have the opportunity to reach his or her full potential

Welcome to the July edition of the CHOICES newsletter

Here at CatholicCare we are excited by the launch of the NDIA in the ACT. Our CHOICES team have been busily preparing our services so they are ready to meet your needs and goals on July 1.

All of the services you have traditionally received are still available, but may be known under a different name. For instance personal care is now called Personal Assistance while help with cleaning and cooking is listed under 'Assistance with Household tasks'.

You can now see our menu of services at our CHOICES website:

www.catholiccarechoices.org.au

We understand that the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) has already written a letter to people with information about who may be eligible and when they would be due to enter the NDIS Scheme. We can assure you that your normal services will continue to operate until your eligibility is confirmed and you have transitioned to the NDIS. Once this occurs, you will be able to choose the service provider(s) you want to provide the services and supports you require.

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... Inclusive, Comm
... Solidarity,
... Empowering, I
... Relationships, Respect, Excel
... Rights, Dignity, Individual
... Inclusive, Community, Relat
... Excellence, Quality, Vision, Right
... Stewardship, Inclusive, Comm

Meeting with the NDIA to discuss my current supports and future goals.

Many of you may already have already received a letter from the NDIA advising that the NDIS Scheme is now open in the ACT. The letter provides information about who will be able to access the NDIS and when they will start to participate.

For some people it may be up to two years before they enter the scheme. During this period, peoples' services will continue as normal. This allows time for people to consider what supports they require and find out more information about how the NDIS might benefit them. People will also have time to start identifying what services they will need to provide them with supports and achieve their future goals.

The letter from the NDIA also mentions that people will be receiving separately an **Access Request Form** pack. Not everyone will receive this form straight away as the age when participants are due to enter the NDIS scheme in the ACT will determine when you receive the form. The NDIA will be using the information you provide in the form to consider who is eligible for the NDIS. The NDIA request that people complete and return the form as soon as possible after it has been received.

If you are eligible for the NDIS you will receive information about the NDIS planning process. This will be the starting point for discussions about your 'reasonable and necessary' supports when you eventually meet with your NDIA Plan and Support Coordinator. We would therefore encourage you to start thinking now about what your future would look like if you could choose your supports.

As part of our commitment to support our clients and ensure their transition to the scheme is as smooth as possible, our case managers will be available to provide information and answer any questions. Our case managers will also be contacting you shortly to discuss how we can support you during this time.

If you have not received a letter from the NDIA you can visit the NDIS website. On the 'Home' page you will find the link to **'My Access Checker'** – an online tool to help people with disability understand whether they may be able to access assistance from the NDIS:

www.ndis.gov.au

Information about the NDIS in the ACT can be found at:

www.communityservices.act.gov.au/disability_act