

MEDIA RELEASE

Friday December 8th, 2023

MALLEE FAMILY CARE CALLS FOR COLLABORATION AMIDST LANDMARK NDIS REVIEW

Mallee Family Care (MFC), a not-for-profit, place-based community service organisation in the Mallee region, has welcomed the findings of a landmark review of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and highlighted the need for consumer and community sector leadership to ensure the successful implementation of its recommendations.

The final report of the NDIS review was published yesterday, Thursday 7th December, and makes 26 pivotal recommendations, with 139 actions aiming to improve service delivery and ethical practices within the NDIS to develop a unified system of support for people with a disability.

Teresa Jayet, MFC CEO, said, "The recent NDIS review highlights the importance of ethical, clientfocussed and comprehensive care for individuals with disabilities. This reflects our organisations vision and mission, which is focussed on empowering people who are vulnerable and disadvantaged in our communities through services, education, research and advocacy."

"We strongly support the focus of the report on providing foundational supports for people with disabilities. This will help all people receive the support they need to participate fully in the community and promote a more sustainable NDIS service longer term."

"We welcome the response from NDIS Minister, Bill Shorten, to the review's concerns about low quality and profit-driven services from some NDIS care providers. People with disabilities deserve the highest standards of care from organisations who are driven by a commitment to serve their communities."

MFC also welcomes the recommendation requiring registration for NDIS providers. "This should go a long way towards giving NDIS clients the confidence that they are receiving a high-quality service," Ms Jayet said.

Acknowledging the review's recommendations on improving housing options for people with disabilities, Ms Jayet stressed the need for increased affordable, public housing in rural and regional areas.

"The Mallee region, like many rural and regional areas, has significant housing shortages. To be able to give people with disabilities a choice about where they live, we urgently need to increase the availability of public and community housing in regional areas."

"MFC is calling for a collaborative approach between governments, service providers and consumers on the implementation of the NDIS review, and strongly advocate for place-based and



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comprehensive solutions to ensuring people with disabilities can reach their full potential," Ms Jayet said.

ENDS



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