



Information sheet

Disability ACT:

Sector Development and Support

Sector Development and Support (SDS) funds disability sector organisations to deliver services to people with disabilities in the ACT.

SDS works in partnership with those organisations to improve the quality of life of people with disabilities within the ACT community.

SDS supports individuals and families through:

- the provision of individual funding;
- supporting development of new initiatives in the disability sector; and
- collecting data from sector organisations to inform future planning

What ranges of services does SDS fund?

All services funded by Disability ACT fall within the Commonwealth State Territories Disability Agreement. Under this agreement Disability ACT funds;

- Accommodation support services;
- Community support services;
- Community access services;
- Respite;
- Advocacy;
- Information; and
- Print Disability services.

SDS allocates funds to Service Providers through a Service Agreement. Service Agreements cover a range of requirements including what services are to be delivered, to whom and in what quantity. Within the parameters of these Agreements, Service Providers make decisions about how to best utilise funds to meet the needs of the people they are funded to assist.

What is individual funding?

Disability ACT recognises that people with disabilities and their families are often best placed to make decisions about their needs, priorities and lifestyle options. To facilitate those decisions individual funding, or an Individual Support Package (ISP) is allocated to an individual rather than to a Service Provider.





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ISPs are held by an auspicing organisation (sometimes called a broker) who works with the individual to plan how best to use their funds. Individuals can choose which organisation holds their funds and may switch organisations if they wish.

What new initiatives does SDS support?

Eight initiatives funded through the 2002 innovation grants round are in progress. Initiatives developed from this round include a community living pilot, seminars, and a project that will assist people with disabilities to take an increased role in public life. Specific projects we have funded include:

A small Family Governed service is being piloted with families.

A Consumers In Control project is being piloted for individuals wishing to explore how they can directly manage their ISP funds.

A Digital Divide Project, which distributed funding to people with disabilities to support access to Information Technology.

Facilitation of local International Day of Disability events, in partnership with community members.

The 2004 innovation grants round was advertised on the 14th of August, details may be found at www.dhcs.act.gov.au

How to contact us

Disability ACT is located on level 2 of 12 Moore St in the City and accessible parking and toilets are available. Our mailing address is GPO BOX 158, Canberra City, ACT, 2601. Further information in relation to SDS and other Disability ACT services is available on 62071086.

