



What We Heard When We Talked to People

**Northern Territory Disability Strategy Action Plan
2026–2029**



This is an Easy Read version of our **What We Heard** report.

The report says what people with disability told us about our next Action Plan under the NT Disability Strategy.



When you see the word **we** in this book it means the Northern Territory Government.

BOLD

Hard words are written in **bold**.



You can ask for help to read this book from a friend, family member, support person or **advocate**.

An advocate is someone who can

- Support you
- Help you have your say



We recognise the **Traditional Owners** of our land, the Northern Territory.



Traditional Owners were the first people to live on and use the land and waters.



We asked people with disability what **actions** need to be included in the new Action Plan 2026–2029.



Actions are things we will do to improve the lives of people with disability.

1. Rights and Choices



We heard we need more resources to help people speak up.

We heard we need to make information easy to read and places easier to use.



We heard we need strong laws to protect people with disability.

This means making new laws and making sure everyone follows them.



We heard when people are in trouble with the law, we must train police to understand and support them better.

This will help people feel safe and get the help they need.



We heard that when people with disability need more support or advocacy it should be available no matter where they live in the Territory.



We also heard that people with disability who are in **jail** need to be checked on to make sure they are safe and treated well.

Jail is a place where people stay if they have not followed the law.



We can do this through the **Community Visitor** Program.

Community visitors are people who visit prisoners with disability to listen and help.

2. Inclusive Communities



We heard that information should be easy for everyone to get.

We want to make sure government websites and alerts are accessible.

This means using designs that everyone can use and understand.



If the information is clear then people can make sure their needs are being met.

We want the community to be aware of and accept all people with disability, including **hidden disability**.



Hidden disability means a disability that is not easily seen by others.



We heard we need to have **campaigns** to teach people and change how they think about people with disability.

Campaigns are times when there is lots of information around.

It could be in newspapers, TV or radio.



We heard we need to support businesses to make it easier for people with disability to access and participate.



We heard we need to help them do this by giving advice and support.

This will help people with disability join in more activities and work.

3. Accessible Communities



We need to build safer and more **accessible** houses and buildings.

Accessible means easy to enter and move around in.



Public places should be easy for everyone to use.

We want to use **universal design** in all new buildings.

This means adding ramps and signs that help everyone, not just people with disability.



We must make public transport safe and accessible.



This also means access to taxis and buses that have wheelchair access.



We heard parking spaces for people with disability are important.

We want more of these spaces and to teach businesses to keep them clear.

This will help them get to the places they need to go.

4. Education and Employment



jobcentreplus
Work Coach

We heard we must make employment and training accessible for people with disability.

This means letting people choose the best way to learn for them.



We heard we need to change how we hire and support people at work in the Northern Territory.

We must teach everyone how to make workplaces better and more accessible.

We must welcome people with disability to the workplace.



We heard businesses should want to hire people with disability.

We can give them reasons to do this, like tax breaks.



We also heard we need better access to accessible transport to get to school or training or work.

5. Health and Wellbeing



We heard that doctors and health workers need to help people with disability get the right support.

We need to train them to write reports that show what people need.

This will help people get the right help faster.

We heard older people with disability need help from different services.



We want to make it easier for them to get this help.

This means working together with different services to make plans that work for everyone.



We heard that health services need more funding and people to deliver their services.

We heard health services need to be available where people live and understand culture.



Culture means:

- Way of life
- How you think or act because of how you grew up
- Your beliefs.

We want the Northern Territory to be a place where everyone feels included.



By changing laws, helping people speak up, and making places easier to use, we can make this happen.

Everyone deserves to feel respected and supported.

More Information



Email

You can email us.

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Phone

You can call us.

08 8999 2809



Website

For more information you can visit our website

<https://dpsc.nt.gov.au/community-programs-support/office-of-disability>



Write

You can write to us.

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