

Northern Territory Disability Strategy

Our Action Plan for 2022–2025

Our work between 2022–2023

Easy Read version



How to use this report



The Northern Territory Government wrote this report.

When you see the word 'we', it means the Northern Territory Government.



We wrote this information in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Bold

Not bold

We wrote some important words in **bold**.

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



We explain what these bold words mean.

There is a list of these words on page 28.



This is an Easy Read summary of another report.

This means it only includes some of the ideas.



You can find the other report on our website.

tfhc.nt.gov.au/social-inclusion-and-interpreting-services/office-of-disability/disability-strategy



You can ask for help to read this report.

A friend, family member or support person may be able to help you.



This is a long document.



You don't need to read it all at once.

You can take your time.



We recognise the traditional owners of the land we live on.

They were the first peoples to live on and use the:



- land



- waters.



This report includes photos of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

It may include images of people who have passed away.



What's in this report?

About this report	6
Outcome 1 – Rights and choices	8
Outcome 2 – Inclusive communities	12
Outcome 3 – Accessible communities	15
Outcome 4 – Working and earning money	18
Outcome 5 – Health and wellbeing	21
How we will make sure our Strategy works well	24
More information	26
Word list	28

About this report



We want to make the Northern Territory more **accessible**.



When the Northern Territory is accessible, it's easy to:

- find and use things
- travel around.



We also want to make the Northern Territory more **inclusive**.



When the community is inclusive, everyone can:

- take part
- feel like they belong.





We have created a **strategy** to guide the work we do.

A strategy is a plan with ideas about making life better for people.



It is called the Northern Territory Disability Strategy 2022-2032.

In this report, we just call it our Strategy.



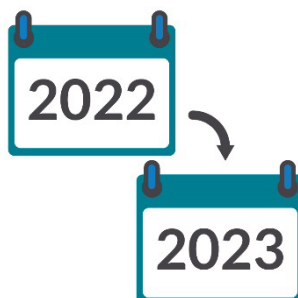
Our Strategy has 5 **outcomes** we want to achieve from 2022 to 2032.

Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people with disability.



We also created an Action Plan to explain how we will achieve these outcomes.

In this report, we just call it our Plan.



This report lists the goals from our Plan that we have worked on between 2022 and 2023.

Outcome 1 – Rights and choices



We want everyone to respect and protect the **rights** of people with disability.



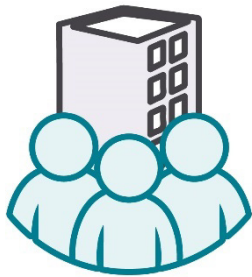
Rights are rules about how everybody should be treated:

- fairly
- equally
- with respect.



We also want everyone to respect and protect the choices of people with disability.

Our work so far



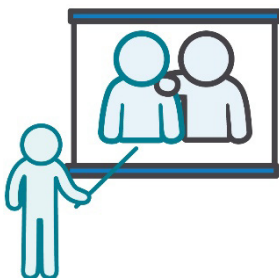
We worked with other organisations to support people who experience **domestic and family violence**.



Domestic and family violence is when someone close to you hurts you.

This could be:

- someone you have or had a relationship with
- a member of your family.



For example, we have run training sessions to teach people about how to support someone who has experienced domestic and family violence.





We have started to plan how we will **review** the Disability Services Act 1993.

In this report, we just call it the Act.

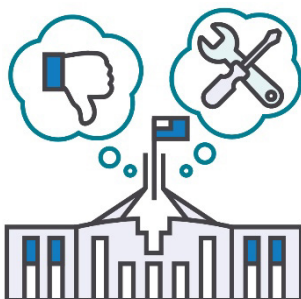


When you review something, you check to see what:

- works well
- needs to be better.



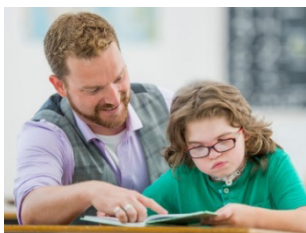
Our review will look at ideas from the Disability Royal Commission.



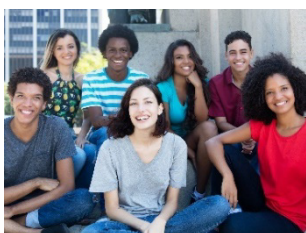
A **royal commission** is how the government looks into a big problem.

It helps us find out what:

- went wrong
- we can fix.

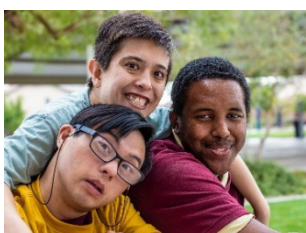


We supported 58 students to talk to their schools about how they can better support students with disability.



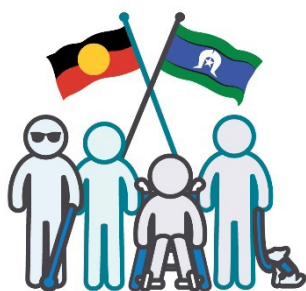
We have a group for young people to share their advice about issues in the Northern Territory.

This group is called the Youth Round Table.



It includes young people:

- with disability
- from different backgrounds.



We kept working with the First Nations community to support people with disability to take part in the **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)**.



The NDIS provides services and support to people with disability.



Outcome 2 – Inclusive communities

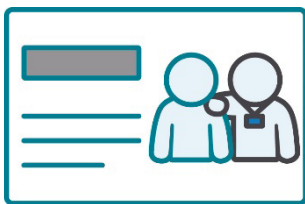


We want people with disability to be included in our community.

Our work so far



Integrated disAbility Action is an organisation who speak up about the rights of people with disability

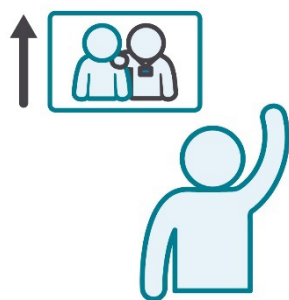


They are working to share information to the community about **Companion Cards**.

A Companion Card lets some people with disability take a support worker to an event or activity for free.



For example, people with disability who need support from their support worker to go to an event.



13.5% more people in the Northern Territory had a Companion Card this past year.



We held and planned different accessible events in our community.



For example, we supported events to celebrate International Day of People with Disability.



We are working to increase the number of arts programs in our community.



We are also working to support more artists with disability to find work.





In 2022, City of Darwin improved a playground in Jingili.

They won an award for its accessible design.



We supported 174 **guardians** to make decisions for other adults.



A guardian is a person who acts and makes decisions for another adult.

A guardian might be:

- a family member
- a friend.



We held 21 training programs to help guardians make decisions.

Outcome 3 – Accessible communities



We want people with disability to be able to find and use what they need in the community.

This includes:



- places



- information



- services.

Our work so far



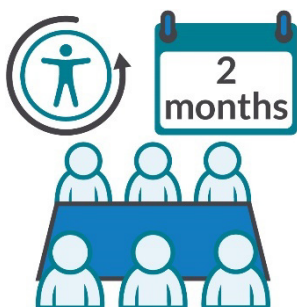
We built 30 new homes that support what people with disability need.

And we built these homes in areas far away from cities and towns.



We also made plans to build more **specialist disability accommodation (SDA)** in the Northern Territory.

SDA is housing for people with disability who need extra support most of the time.



We meet with City of Darwin every 2 months to talk about ways to make spaces more:

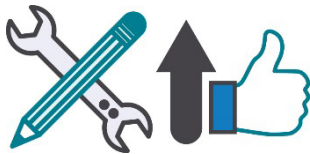
- accessible
- inclusive.



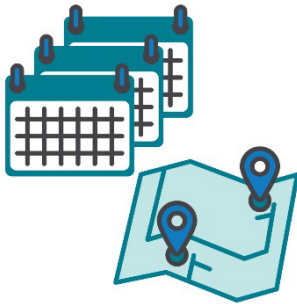
We started a project to increase the number of people using NDIS supports in areas far away from cities and town.



Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.

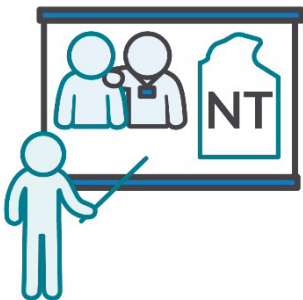


We are working to improve the skills of providers in the Northern Territory.

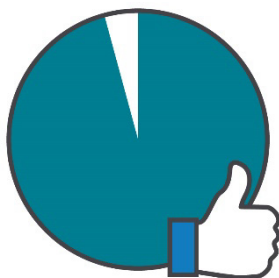


This includes making sure providers can:

- be around for a long time
- deliver their services in new places.



For example, we trained providers about how to best deliver services in the Northern Territory.



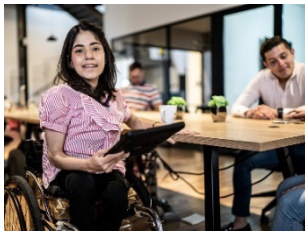
96% of providers who did the training said it was good.

Outcome 4 – Working and earning money

We want people with disability to be able to:



- learn new skills



- find and keep a job.



We also want to create more chances for people with disability to work.

Our work so far



We finished 10 projects that help schools to be more inclusive.

This included new ways for schools to support students with disability.

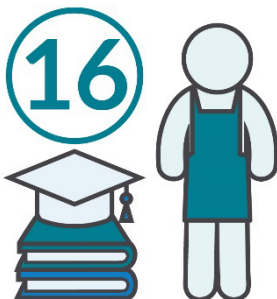


Charles Darwin University train their staff to better understand disability.

Their staff must take part in this training every 2 years.



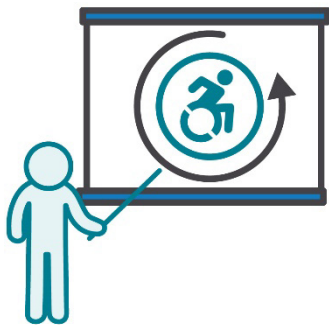
YouthWorX NT is an organisation that supports people with disability to find work after school.



They supported 16 students to build new skills and start work.



We are supporting more people with disability to work with us.



We ran training for our staff about how to be inclusive of people with disability.

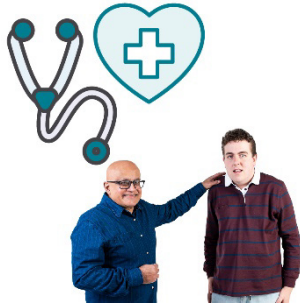


We want our staff to have the skills to:

- support people with disability
- make the places where we work inclusive.



Outcome 5 – Health and wellbeing



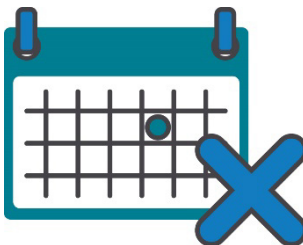
We want to support people with disability with their health and wellbeing.

Our work so far

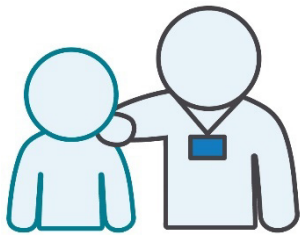


We have a new way to support families and children with disability get the services they need.

This includes health clinics you can visit at any time during the day.



Families don't need to make an appointment to visit these clinics.



We also hired more staff to help children take part in the NDIS as early as they can.

This includes First Nations children.



We offer a program at health care centres for children under 5 years old.

This program helps us check how we can best support each child's health and wellbeing.



We support the Families as First Teachers program in 34 places far away from cities and towns.



This is a program that teaches families the skills they need to support their children early in their life.





30 out of 34 of these places used the Ages and Stages Questionnaire – Talking about Raising Aboriginal Kids.



This is a list of questions that support what First Nations families need.



We made a new way to record information about people's health.



This will help us find and use information across the Northern Territory.



How we will make sure our Strategy works well



The Northern Territory Disability Advisory Committee will support us to check how well our Strategy works.

In this report we call them the Committee.



The Committee are a group of people who give us advice about issues that are important to people with disability.



They discuss the work our community has done to support our Strategy.



The Northern Territory Government meet 4 times a year to discuss how things are going with our Plan.



We will keep track of businesses who share their work to be more inclusive.



For example, Darwin Waterfront Corporation have put a Mobi-Mat at the beach.

The Mobi-Mat will make the beach more accessible for wheelchairs.

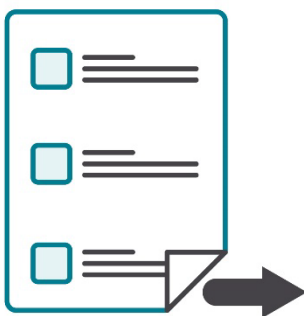


We will keep sharing the work we are doing to support our Strategy.



You can get updates on the work we do by email.

Or you can visit our website.



You can find our contact information on the next page.

More information



For more information, you can visit our website.

tfhc.nt.gov.au/social-inclusion-and-interpreting-services/office-of-disability



You can call us.

08 8999 2809



You can email us.

OfficeofDisability.TFHC@nt.gov.au



You can write to us.

Office of Disability
Territory Families, Housing and Communities
GPO Box 37037
Winnellie, NT 0820



If you have hearing or speech loss, you can call TTY.

133 677

Or you can contact The National Relay Service.



You can use the Speak and Listen service.

1300 555 727

You can use the SMS service.

0423 677 767



If you speak a language other than English, you can call the Interpreting and Translating Service.

08 8999 8506

or

1800 676 254



You can also call the Aboriginal Interpreter Service.

1800 334 944

Word list

This list explains what the **bold** words in this report mean.



Accessible

When the Northern Territory is accessible, it's easy to:

- find and use things
- travel around.



Companion Card

A Companion Card lets some people with disability take a support worker to an event or activity for free.



Domestic and family violence

Domestic and family violence is when someone close to you hurts you.

This could be:

- someone you have or had a relationship with
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Guardian



A guardian is a person who acts and makes decisions for another adult.

A guardian might be:

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- a friend.



Inclusive

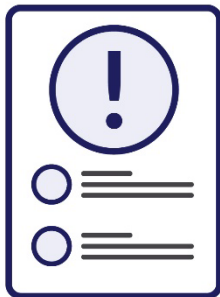
When the community is inclusive, everyone can:

- take part
- feel like they belong.



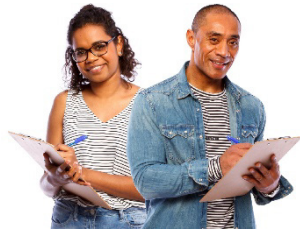
National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides services and support to people with disability.



Outcomes

Outcomes are the important results we want to get for people with disability.



Providers

Providers support people with disability by delivering a service.



Review

When you review something, you check to see what:

- works well
- needs to be better.

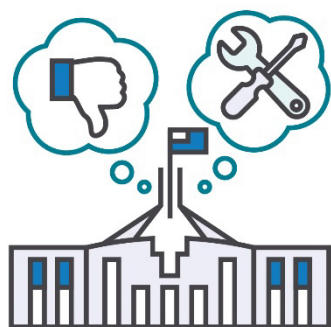


Rights

Rights are rules about how everybody should be treated:

- fairly
- equally
- with respect.

Royal commission



A royal commission is how the government looks into a big problem.

It helps us find out what:

- went wrong
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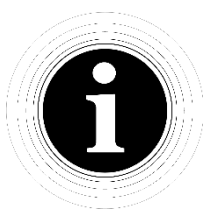
Specialist disability accommodation (SDA)

SDA is housing for people with disability who need extra support most of the time.



Strategy

A strategy is a plan with ideas about making life better for people.



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