

What is a LAC?



We are now starting to see lots more of our clients having their NDIS Planning meeting and receiving their NDIS Plans.

A planner may be from the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) or they may be a Local Area Coordinator (LAC) undertaking the Planning conversation. If it is an LAC, they will either be from one of the three NDIS partner agencies:

- Feros Care – covering the Northern regions of Adelaide, Barossa and Light council areas
- BapCare – covering the Eastern and Western suburbs of Adelaide, Yorke and Mid North peninsula
- Mission Australia – covering the Southern Suburbs, Limestone Coast, Murray Mallee, Fleurieu and Kangaroo Island, Eyre Western Peninsula and far north SA.

LAC's undertake a very similar role to the NDIA Planner. They can assist participants with:

- Understanding what the NDIS is about
- Accessing the NDIS
- Undertaking the planning conversation

- Interpreting plans and assisting participants to action their plan with their chosen providers
- Linking with other community and mainstream services, such as sports clubs, local theatres, special interest groups
- Assistance with the review process (internal review) if the participant is unhappy with their plan and budgets (funding)
- Reviewing a participant's plan by undertaking another planning conversation within three months of it's end date.

It is important to remember that:

- Plans do not automatically 'roll over'
- Participants need to prepare for their second plan. Funding is allocated for each plan based on the expressed needs and supports of the participant. Therefore, it is still very important for participants to review their current situation and first plan (e.g. Were there enough supports and funding, equipment/ Were all of their services funded?)

- Reassess their goals for the upcoming 12-month period
- LACs do not provide case management or act as an advocate and cannot approve an NDIS plan. They are sent to the NDIA for approval.

If you would like more information, please call Linda Macmillan, PQSA Projects Coordinator on (08) 8355 3500 or email lindam@pqsa.asn.au

