

Disability Support Services e-newsletter

Budget 2011/12

The Government has announced extra funding of \$130 million for disability support services over four years, with around \$32.5m allocated to the 2011-12 financial year.

Below is a summary of how the majority of this funding will be allocated.

Environmental Support Services - Equipment and Modifications

The cost of Equipment and Modifications has increased significantly over recent years. This has historically led to increased waiting times. As well as some changes to eligibility criteria and thresholds (see <http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/disability-news-factsheets#equipmodifications> for more information), a total of \$20m over two years was allocated in the 2010-11 budget to address this waitlist. \$15m was allocated in the 2010-11 financial year and a further \$5m will be allocated this financial year. As well as this \$2.5m will be allocated across all Environmental Support Services from the DSS budget this financial year.

Home and community support services

Home and community support services (HCSS) helps people with activities such as showering, getting dressed, eating, preparing a meal, laundry and house cleaning. Around \$6.6m in further funding has been allocated to HCSS. \$4.8m of this funding will help address increases in the number of people wanting HCSS. The remaining \$1.8m is to support a 1.5% price increase.

Supported Living (SL)

SL is where a support person works with the disabled person to help them learn skills and carry out activities of daily living to increase their independence. Around \$2.25m has been allocated to address the increasing numbers of people wanting to use this service. The remaining \$0.56m will allow us to put a 1.5% price increase in place.

Respite Services

Respite is designed to provide a short-term break for a disabled person's carer or main support person, while also providing the disabled person with a positive and stimulating experience. \$0.84m has been allocated to Respite Services. \$0.56m will allow us to address increases in the number of people using Respite Services and the remaining \$0.28m will help us put a 1.5% price increase in place.

Carer Support

Carer Support is a subsidy funded by the Ministry of Health to help the unpaid full-time carer of a disabled person to take a break from caring for that person. Carer Support Services have been allocated \$0.63m to help manage growth in the number of people using this service.

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2 Budget cont...

Residential Support Services

Residential Services are places where disabled people live together and can receive support for up to 24 hours, if needed. A total of around \$9.5m has been allocated to the following services.

Community Residential Services will receive \$8.85m in this year's budget. \$3.54m will allow us to address any increases in the number of people using Community Residential Services. The remaining \$5.32m will be used to address price pressures. Work is underway to determine how this funding will be applied.

\$0.66m will be allocated to services for young people with a physical disability who reside in rest homes and hospitals. This will allow us to put a price increase of 1.5% in place.

Needs Assessment and Service Coordination (NASC) Management Services

\$0.36m has been allocated for NASC Management Services to ensure their ability to deliver contracted services is maintained and service demand is managed effectively.

Assessment, Treatment and Rehabilitation Services (AT&R)

AT&R services, provided by District Health Boards, are a coordinated multidisciplinary response that is customised to meet the needs of the disabled people to restore their functional ability and enable them to live as independently as possible. \$2.5m has been allocated to address price pressures.

Intellectual Disability (Compulsory Care & Rehabilitation) Act. (IDCCR)/ High & Complex

Disability Support Services funds a number of services to support the administration of the IDCCR Act and provides services for people under compulsory care orders, and people with an intellectual disability who require intensive services. \$1.61m has been allocated in the 2011-12 year to address any increases in demand for services. The remaining \$1.21m will be used to address price pressures.

New Model for supporting disabled people

This model has been developed to improve disabled people's ability to live an everyday life and to give them more control, choice and flexibility over the support they receive. The New Model is currently being demonstrated in the Tauranga/Western Bay of Plenty region. \$1.3m in one-off funding has been allocated to the New Model Demonstration Project including funding for project set-up and management, Local Area Coordinators, self assessment tools and evaluation.

Other services

These are a range of community based services including Rehabilitation Services, Head Injury Services, Child Development Services, specialist support services and Disability Information & Advisory Services (DIAS). \$1.74m has been allocated in the 2011-12 budget to put a 1.5% price increase in place.

Service pressures/development

Around \$0.9m has been set aside to address any service pressures/development that may come up over the year.



From Anne O'Connell Group Manager 3

Since our last newsletter Budget 2011-12 has been announced. Disability Support Services received an additional \$130m over the next four years. A break down of how this money has been allocated across our services over the next financial year is at the front of this newsletter.

The ongoing disruption to services for the people of Christchurch caused by the continuing earthquakes means that we are still working with providers to ensure disabled people are being supported effectively in that region. Providers' continue to respond fantastically and show tremendous resilience in extremely trying conditions and we thank them for their efforts.

On 6 May I was fortunate to be able to attend the launch of Be. Institute and its two inaugural programmes - Be. Accessible and Be. Leadership. It was a great event at a beautiful location, the Auckland Museum. The night was a great success and I look forward to following their progress. More information about what the Be. Programmes are all about is later in the newsletter.

Our financial year ends on June 30 and we have made a lot of progress over the last year. Some highlights have been developing and beginning to implement a New Model for supporting disabled people. Over the last year a demonstration site was selected - Western Bay of Plenty/Tauranga, the project was launched with a powhiri, a Local Working Group has been set up and a National Reference Group is now in place. We hope to

have Local Area Coordinators in place soon.

Individualised Funding has expanded with 13 Host Providers now in place and over 800 disabled people now using this funding method. A recent survey showed that 98% of those surveyed are satisfied with IF as a way of managing their disability support services.

October saw the launch of Faiva Ora - National Pacific Disability Plan by the Minister for Disability Issues, Hon Tariana Turia at Parliament. A resource on Ministry funded disability support services was developed alongside the Plan and translated into five Pacific languages as well as English. A booklet highlighting possible careers in the disability sector was also released at this time.

Consultation on Ki Te Ao Marama, the Strategic Disability Plan for Maori is underway, the aim is to have a final draft document ready by mid December. The Ministry is working closely with a Leadership Group it has established to continue to map out the next stages of the process including wider consultation with the sector. Regular updates on progress will be included in our future newsletters

Although we are well into June now the weather in Wellington has been relatively mild. Despite this a number of colds and flu's are going round. I hope you managed to get your flu injection, and remain well throughout winter.

Anne

The views and opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ministry of Health. While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter, the Ministry of Health is not responsible for any omissions, inaccuracies or changes that may have taken place after publication.

4 New model for supporting disabled people

New Model Demonstration Project - Western Bay of Plenty/Tauranga

The programme team is spending significant time working collaboratively with a number of disabled people and representatives of disability support groups, both locally in the Western Bay of Plenty and nationally.

Applications for the Local Area Coordination (LAC) roles of Coordinators and Supervisor within the demonstration area of Western Bay of Plenty/Tauranga are currently being considered by a selection panel which includes disabled people representation from the Local Working Group and Ministry staff. The selection process is due to be concluded by the end of June.

The National Reference Group was formed in April and has subsequently met over two days during May. The meeting involved substantive discussions on the model itself, with the group providing valuable feedback on current work, as well as identifying areas for their strategic input.

An option to self assess is now available for people being referred to the local NASC in the demonstration. The Local Working Group continues to discuss with the Ministry ways of allocating funding and the expansion of Individualised Funding (IF) in the demonstration.

The draft report on baseline research in Western Bay of Plenty into disabled people's experience of current disability services and systems has been completed and requests for proposals for the wider term developmental evaluation have been offered to organisations who were previously shortlisted.

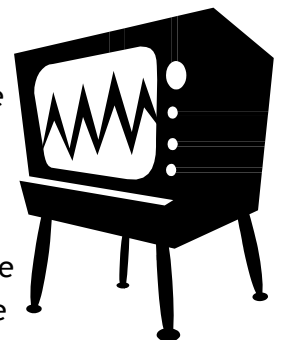
Keeping Up to Date:

Updates and links which may be of interest are being added to the Ministry's website at:

<http://www.moh.govt.nz/moh.nsf/indexmh/disability-keyprojects-model>.

Changes to television signals

Changes are occurring to television broadcasting and herald an end to the old analogue television signal that New Zealanders have experienced since 1960. Around seven out of ten households in New Zealand are digital—if you use Freeview, Sky or Telstraclear services, you are already watching digital television. To watch digital television you don't need a new television, but you will need a set-top box (most new televisions have these built-in) and UHF aerial or satellite dish. Nationally, nine Community Advisors are available for staff training, information and support. Further information can be found at www.goingdigital.co.nz or 0800 838 800.



Environmental Support Services Equipment and Modification Services (EMS)

Prioritisation Tool - The new tool to help with the prioritisation of applications for equipment and modifications is now being trialled in 3 District Health Board regions (Counties Manukau, MidCentral and Southern). Synergia Ltd has recently been selected to undertake a formal evaluation of the Prioritisation Tool.

Hearing Aid Services Manager

Following a formal tender process, Accessable has been selected as the new national provider for the management of hearing aid services. This new hearing aid service, which replaces the existing contracts the Ministry holds with both Enable New Zealand and Accessable, will start on 1 July 2011 for all Ministry funded and subsidised hearing aids.. Planning is well underway to ensure that the transition from four different contracts to a single provider is managed effectively.

Assessor Accreditation

The revised accreditation framework was introduced on 1 March 2011. The new website <http://disabilityservices.hiirc.org.nz/> is fully operational, although work to improve its layout and resources is continually underway. New and transitioning EMS Assessors can use the site to find out what is required to become an Approved or Credentialed Assessor.

Child and Youth

Speech Language Therapy (SLT)

The Ministries of Health and Education continue to work with speech language therapists across health and education services to include speech language therapy into the revised Therapy

and Equipment Protocols. Along side this work the Ministries are also carrying out a planned review of the revised Operational Protocols with a focus on refining its current content rather than making significant changes (other than the introduction of speech language therapy).

Intersectoral Work

Child Youth & Family - We continue to work closely with Child Youth and Family to implement the Guideline on Roles and Responsibilities for Supporting Children and Young People under the Children, Young Persons, and Their Families Act 1989. Current work includes the establishment of a panel to review S141 out-of-home applications, and the development of the Terms of Reference and processes to ensure smooth resolution when local services are unable to agree a pathway to support a child or young person in a timely manner.

MSD - We are working with the Ministry of Social Development on a project to improve transition for youth when leaving school.

Respite

A Request for Proposals process is underway for the establishment of flexible family respite services for people eligible for disability support services in the Nelson/Marlborough Region. The service is to provide both planned and emergency (and crisis) respite for primary carers/family/whanau that care for family members with disabilities. The trial if successful could potentially be replicated in other parts of the country. A review of all respite services is scheduled to begin in the next few months.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

6 Projects update cont...

Work Programme

Most of the funding the government allocated to implement the ASD Guideline has now been applied to the work programme. The implementation and development programme is now almost complete, and the ongoing funding of approximately \$5million per year to improve ASD services for people in New Zealand is baseline.

The programmes underway are:

- ASD Coordination function
- ASD specific parent education programmes
- Respite
- Auckland Communication and Behaviour Support Service and Family/Whanau Outreach
- ASD website to improve access to early diagnosis and training of specialist in diagnosis.

Workforce

National Training Coordination Service (NTC) / Training Grants - These grants are for the front line workers to achieve NZQA certificates and diplomas on the Ministry of Health approved list. The grants were open for applications from 15 Feb -31 March 2011. The key focus areas for this round of funding were ethics and values, behavioural support, and health and safety.

Leadership Development Scheme - provides funding to develop leadership skills for middle managers, supervisors, and team leaders, working within Ministry-funded disability support services. The grant opened on 1 April and closed on 31 May 2011.

Consumer Leadership and Training Fund

provides funding to develop leadership skills to consumers who work and/or access Ministry-funded disability support services. Applications for grants opened from 1 April 2011 and closed on 31 May 2011.

NASC Graduate Diploma - An open tender process is currently underway to identify a contractor to undertake the evaluation of the Graduate Diploma in Education.

Carer's Strategy

We recently contracted Twenty Pages Limited to do a stock take and review of the two outstanding actions for the Ministry under the Carers Strategy Five Year Action Plan. This involves an extensive review, gap assessment and service improvement work on informal carers training programmes and identifying how the Ministry can support providers that recruit and train relief carers.

Pacific

Faiva Ora - Disability Support Services (DSS) Pasifika Plan

The DSS Pacific Information Guide is now available in five Pacific languages and English. A report outlining findings from the assessment undertaken by Le Va to determine approaches and strategies which Ministry of Health funded disability support services have in place to respond to the needs of Pacific disabled peoples and their families has been completed.

Lu'i Ola work plan 2010/11 implementation

Lu'i Ola Disability Day was held on 25 March 2011 in Mangere, South Auckland. This day was attended by over 400 people which included local government officials, Pacific disabled peoples,

and Pacific community representatives. The aim of the day was to celebrate successful Pacific disabled peoples and to challenge negative community entrenched views on disability. A strategic planning workshop has been held to plan how Lu'i Ola can be transitioned from a Government-led initiative to a community-led group. It was agreed at the workshop that Lu'i Ola can be supported through the National Plan. A transition plan is currently being developed which will outline how and what Lu'i Ola activities will be supported under the National Plan.

Maori Disability Plan - Ki Te Ao Marama

Consultation on Ki Te Ao Marama, the Strategic Disability Plan for Maori is underway, the aim is to have a final draft document ready by mid December. The Ministry is working closely with a Leadership Group it has established to continue to map out the next stages of the process including wider consultation with the sector.

Individualised Funding

Individualised Funding Scheme numbers continue to grow. Feedback from a recent survey of over 200 clients indicates:

- 84% of those surveyed on IF say they are making progress towards goals
- 94% consider the way in which their care was delivered is flexible
- 98% are satisfied with IF as a means to manage disability support services.

The nature of positive feedback received from those using IF includes:

- better access to communities of choice
- supports are more flexible
- access to mainstream education
- more age-appropriate community participation.

The Ministry recently issued an RFP to evaluate the implementation of the scheme (to date).

Community Living Options Programme

The Review of Residential Services has been renamed the Community Living Options Programme to reflect the feedback received throughout the initial consultation that the scope of the work needs to be wider than just residential support services. The Programme is focusing on disability support services to better meet the needs of people with relatively high support needs. The Ministry of Health is in the process of planning and undertaking consumer and provider consultation on this basic description.

Supported Living Project

The Ministry of Health has worked with representatives of supported living providers and NASCs over the last 18 months to develop Supported Living Operational Guidelines.

In conjunction with these Guidelines, it has been recognised that across the country there are a variety of documents used, and that standardising these documents would be beneficial in reducing variation in terms of how information is gathered and used. A template has been circulated to providers for comment.

The Guidelines are signed off and will be formally introduced through a contract variation within the next 2 months, but have been circulated to providers to review and consider any impact they may have on your practice ahead of the introduction.

Friday 6 May saw the launch of a nationwide disability enterprise aimed at changing how people and companies think and feel about disabled people and the role they can play as contributors to and leaders of our society.

The Be. Institute, jointly founded by Auckland DHB, Auckland University of Technology and the Auckland Council, aims to improve the accessibility of the physical environment, enable better access to information, promote the inclusion and leadership of disabled people in employment and the community, and change social attitudes and behaviours.

The Be. Institute looks at the needs of what it calls the “Access Customer”. This could include older people, parents with strollers, people with a hearing or vision impairment, people with a mental health impairment as well as people who use wheelchairs.

The first two initiatives that were launched are Be. Leadership and Be. Accessible.

The Be. Leadership programme is the first leadership programme in New Zealand dedicated to developing disabled leaders of the future. The programme invites 20 emerging leaders to participate in a 12-month journey on which they will be challenged, inspired and supported to become the best leader they can possibly be.

100% accessible society for all New Zealanders.

The launch of the Be. Accessible programme is timely. From a long-term perspective as we focus on rebuilding our second-largest city, Be. Accessible, aims to improve the accessibility of the physical environment. Secondly the Be. Test Match project will be rolled out to the 12 New Zealand cities hosting Rugby World Cup 2011. Be. Assessors will visit key locations in each of the 12 cities and assess stadia, fan zones, i-SITES and other relevant locations such as hotels for physical access, website accessibility, customer service and accessibility of marketing material.

Minnie Baragwanath, Chief Executive Be. Institute, says, “In launching the Be. Institute we are mindful of the importance of recognising what is already being done. We have made great progress as a nation - however, there is more we need to do to create a 100% accessible country. New Zealanders are by nature inclusive and socially aware, and we are seeking to build on this through specific practices in our two programmes. Our view is that if we get it right for disabled people, we get it right for all people.”

For more information go to <http://www.beaccessible.org.nz/>



Almitra bound for Special Olympics



Almitra Langton has been selected for the 13th Special Olympics World Summer Games next year.

She is one of 36 athletes that will represent New Zealand in Athens from 25 June to 4 July and will be competing as a swimmer.

Although Almitra has an intellectual disability and is a client of the IHC, she lives a fairly independent life in Naenae with her partner of nine years.

Almitra's also paints at the IDEA Services Art Base, Alpha Studio in Wellington. For

the past 12 years her work has been widely exhibited, won awards, and sold on a regular basis. It is also being sold as cards and calendars to help raise the \$5000 cost of the trip.

The team left New Zealand on 13 June and will spend five days at a training camp in Loutraki, approximately 100 kilometres from Athens.

Representing New Zealand is a huge accomplishment for the athletes on the team. Through Special Olympics sport, they have a chance to participate more fully in the community.

Addn: Almitra won Gold in the Backstroke.

Contacts

Disability Support Services is part of the National Health Board. The National Health Board is a business unit of the Ministry of Health.



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