

Become A Champion for Change

As you know, MND Australia is calling on members to join the campaign for a National Disability Insurance Scheme through our national MND Week Call to Action.

We have joined the campaign because we believe this scheme has the potential to transform the lives of Australians with a disability and their families including those with a diagnosis of motor neurone disease.

But the scheme won't become a reality without significant grass roots support. We need to get out and convince politicians of all persuasions, as well as the broader community, of the absolute necessity of this scheme.

We are therefore asking all staff of services that support people living with MND to get behind the campaign.

There are a number of ways you can participate.

- Display the petition and coversheet, available for download www.mndaust.asn.au/mnd-week/, at your site. Please sign it and encourage clients, family members, friends and visitors to do so.
- Email your local MP. Tell them you work at an organisation that supports people living with MND and their families. Tell them about the difficulties encountered daily by people and their families. Explain to them why you think a National Disability Insurance Scheme will make a difference in their lives. Remember to respect client confidentiality – speak in general terms and don't mention anyone by name.
- Spread the word amongst your family and friends. People beyond the disability sector need to understand how important and relevant this scheme is to everyone. After all, we all know that disability can affect anyone, anytime. Here are three suggestions:
 1. Visit www.ndis.org.au and request an email which can be sent to everyone on your email list
 2. Visit www.mndaust.asn.au/mnd-week/ and download the Call to Action letter template and send or email to your local politicians and key ministers
 3. Are you a Facebook user? Then visit www.facebook.com/NationalDisabilityInsuranceScheme and become a fan. Spread the word amongst your Facebook friends and stay in touch with all the latest news from the campaign.

To find out more about the scheme or other ways that you can participate visit www.ndis.org.au. If you have any ideas about ways MND Associations could be further involved, please feel free to make suggestions. We are looking for creative and innovative ways to spread the word and build support.

This is a scheme that could change the future of people with a disability and those diagnosed with MND in Australia. I urge you to get on board and be part of a campaign for change.

Carol Birks
National executive Director

