

MDSI is a registered, not-for-profit charity that offers practical help and support services to the disadvantaged and marginalised. MDSI seeks to ensure that our organisation and our services are relevant and accessible. Based on an integrated service delivery system MDSI’s programs are specifically tailored through five broad service areas: children, youth, family, aged and disabilities.

MDSI is:

* Client focused
* Supports the development of people’s skills by furthering their potential
* Promotes the equitable distribution of resources and access to services
* Values and promotes recognition of diversity
* Embraces the values of community
* Delivers high quality service

Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative responses is:

1. **Do you believe the current Framework encompasses your vision of advocacy in the NDIS environment? Of not, what changed are required?**

Inclusive approach in the NDIS has to be a twin-track approach in accessing all the mainstream disability programmes and also programmes specifically targeting people with disabilities.

Mainstream disability has to work in identifying and overcoming the barriers in society that people with disabilities encounter, eg. attitude, key performances indicators in the competitive work environment, accessibility, communication, specific required resources for the person with disability, legislation and including the person with disabilities into all aspects of development.

Disability specific in supporting and empowering people with disabilities, carers, families and supporting agencies to enable them **to participate in an equal basis with others such as education, social activities.**

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1. **Are the outcomes of the Framework still relevant or should different ones to be included? If so, what should be included?**

Strengthening disability inclusion must include community education, community disability awareness and public awareness of inclusivity on all aspects of life.

* Provide advice, support and training to the community in an inclusive environment
* Provide disability awareness training every sphere of life such as school and work environment
* People with disabilities attempting to gain employment in an environment of limited vacancies and competitive environment have faced barriers to be economically productive. An affirmative action has to in place so that people with disabilities have access and equity to gaining employment.