

**ANONYMOUS 16994 - New submission from Early Years Strategy - Public Submissions**

I work with a program called Sustaining NSW Families. It supports families who are vulnerable and have anxiety, depression, and often other socio-economic factors. I think the factors that make this program have a real impact on the development of these families and children include

1. Intensive follow-up for first 2 yrs of child life by the same child health nurse.
2. Strength based approach, work to develop the parents skills, coaching, developing the parent child relationship
3. Experienced nurses with allied health staff supporting them. Inc social work. Psychology
4. Allocating more time for caseload

I also work in a health based service in a community setting. I believe the transition from health to NDIS services could be improved. Often children and families can be discharged from Health once they have met access and then wait months for private NDIS services for allied health. It makes a mockery of the importance of these early years. Families who can navigate the system get earlier access. Vulnerable and disadvantaged families or with complex social issues find it more difficult. Private providers can pick and choose. These families might need more help to navigate the system and/or be held in Health for longer. Lack of private providers with disability experience is also an issue.