

# General Supports

Governments are working together to design and deliver additional supports in the community. These are known as Foundational Supports. They are specific supports that are additional to mainstream services and supports accessed through the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

This information sheet is about **General Supports**.

## What might General Supports include?



### Information and advice

**Access to quality information and advice about disability.**

**Information on disability supports available** to people and their families/carers and kin, including help to find and connect with the right supports for their needs.



### Capacity building

**For individuals:** Improved access to peer support groups, support around self-advocacy, rights awareness, decision-making, leadership development, relationship building and life skills development.

**For families and carers:** Peer support, parenting groups and workshops, education and training, building skills in advocacy and rights-awareness, family leadership and development.

**Community:** Building the capability of community organisations (like sporting clubs, arts groups) and at the whole-of-sector or community level to deliver disability-inclusive and accessible services. Projects would focus on providing advice and resources that support equitable access to quality and inclusive community services for people with disability.

## Who are General Supports for?

General Supports will prioritise the support needs of people with disability under 65, however people over 65 will likely benefit from some General Supports (such as information).

The way that information and advice will be delivered as part of General Supports will consider the different needs of the disability community as well as the needs of families/carers and kin.

General Supports will also be tailored to meet the needs of diverse communities. For example, supports to meet the needs of First Nations people with disability and culturally and linguistically diverse people with disability, and the LGBTIQ+SB disabled community. It may also be tailored for particular groups of people, such as people with intellectual disability.

## Why do we need General Supports?

General Supports can:

- provide current and accessible information to better connect people to the right supports for them
- empower families and carers to support their family members with disability
- support individuals to build and sustain social networks and community connections
- support individuals to make decisions and advocate for their needs
- make sure community organisations and non-government services and activities are equipped to respond to the needs of people with disability.

### More information

We are engaging with people about what should be included in General Supports and how they might work.

- To find out more **visit** [engage.dss.gov.au/foundational-supports](https://engage.dss.gov.au/foundational-supports)
- You can also contact [\*\*Foundational.Supports@dss.gov.au\*\*](mailto:Foundational.Supports@dss.gov.au).