

Media release - Mind Australia

21 August 2025

What about foundational supports for people with a psychosocial disability? The time is now

Mind Australia welcomes Minister for Health, Disability and Ageing Mark Butler's National Press Club address, setting out a plan for the Thriving Kids program. This is an important first step in the development of the proposed system of Foundational Supports for people to access outside the NDIS.

The need for children to get the right support, and for the NDIS to be financially sustainable, is undeniable.

The NDIS Review intended Foundational Supports would meet broad community need outside the NDIS, across disability types. Mind is concerned that the Minister's announcement yesterday means development of supports for people with a psychosocial disability are years away. This is despite the minister reminding us that these have already been agreed to by National Cabinet.

Now is the time to urgently progress this work. At Mind, we hear stories every day that highlight the difficulties that people with psychosocial disability face, be it navigating the NDIS access, the absence of community supports, or a lack of understanding of their needs—or even worse, ongoing stigma and discrimination.

Nicola Ballenden, Mind Australia Executive Director, said: "It is encouraging to hear the Minister's acknowledgement that supports both within and outside of the NDIS are lacking, particularly for adults with psychosocial disability."

"Our sector stands ready to work with the government on making sure there are workable proposals for foundational supports *for all disability types*."

"Because while the problem with kids and the NDIS at the moment is that *too many are getting support through the NDIS*, the problem for people with a psychosocial disability is that, too many people around the country, *aren't getting support at all*."

ENDS

About Mind Australia

Mind Australia is one of the largest providers of community-managed psychosocial services in Australia with a range of residential, mobile outreach, centre-based and online services.

We provide individualised, evidence-based and recovery focussed support to more than 11,000 people experiencing mental health challenges in Australia ever year.

For more information visit www.mindaustralia.org.au

Media contacts:

Mind Australia Senior Media Advisor Keagan Ryan:
Keagan.ryan@mindaustralia.org.au or 0474 000 433