Disability Support Services

Ministry of Health
New Zealand
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Disability Support Services

Who is funded through DSS?

The Ministry’s DSS client group consists of people who:
· are usually aged under 65
AND
· have a physical, intellectual, or sensory disability or a combination of these, which is likely to:
  ✔ remain even after provision of equipment, treatment and rehabilitation
  ✔ continue for at least six months, and
  ✔ result in a need for on-going support.
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Our clients

• Approx 32,000 receive regular, ongoing support
• Another 70,000 per year receive one off support (equipment)
• More males (56%) than females (44%)
• 16% Maori, 6% Pacific, 5% Asian, 69% Other
• 38% of clients are under the age of 19
• 8% are over the age of 65
• Principal disabilities include intellectual (46%), physical (27%), ASD (16%), sensory (4%)
What sorts of services do we fund and how much do we spend each year?
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Current budget NZ$1.2 billion

- Residential Care: 45%
- Community Care: 23%
- Environmental Support: 11%
- High and Complex: 7%
- Other: 14%
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Community Care

• Personal Cares – eg showering, dressing
• Household Management – eg meal preparation, cleaning, laundry
• Funded Family Care – for resident family of adults with a disability
• Carer Support/Respite – for full time carers to take a break from their caring responsibilities
• Supported living – managing a budget, shopping, transport around the community
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Residential Care

Includes

• Community residential (group homes, usually of 4 clients, often ID)
• Rest homes (for physically disabled people needing clinical (nursing) supports)
• Hospitals (for high needs clients)
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Environmental Support

Includes:

• All people with a long term disability who need equipment (including over 65’s)
• Housing and vehicle modifications
• Hearing aids
• Spectacle subsidy
• Communication aids
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Cochlear Implants

- Delivered by Northern and Southern Cochlear Implant Trusts
- Contract for 16 newborns, 30 children and 40 adults each year
- Each implant costs $50k, bilaterals $80k
- Processers replaced every 6-8 years costing $10k
- No waiting list for children – some adults waiting over 2 years.
- Additional adult volumes purchased this year – 60
Assessment, Treatment and Rehabilitation

Contracts with hospitals include:

• Inpatient beds
• Outpatient appointments
• Home visits

Usually inter-disciplinary teams including a rehabilitation doctor, nurses and allied health.

Hospitals in NZ deliver 104 rehab beds every day, 687 outpatient appts per week and 351 home visits per week.
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Child Development Teams

• Usually based in hospitals
• Multi-disciplinary allied health services – physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech language therapist, psychologist
• Provide specialist assessment and intervention services
• Targeted at, but not limited to, pre-schoolers
• Focus on early intervention to help children reach their potential
• Currently under review to see if we can do it better/differently.
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Behaviour Support Services

- Behaviour Support looks to address challenging behaviours for people with a disability
- One national provider
- Mainly psychologists
- Improves people’s quality of life by supporting them to be part of their community
- Try to intervene early as behaviours are developing
- Measures outcomes for each person which gives us the ability to measure the impact of the service.
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Needs Assessment Service Coordination (NASC) agencies

- Identify needs, eligibility to DSS funded services, and outline available supports
- 15 NASCs across the country by region
- Undertake needs assessments
- Coordinate services which includes providing information about options, co-ordinating services within a support plan, and allocating funding
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Why do we fund disability services in NZ?
Why?

Social Policy Select Committee Inquiry 2008
Enabling Good Lives – we want to support people with a disability to have an ordinary, good life in the same way that other New Zealanders do.
UN Convention on the Rights of People with a Disability 2008
Disabled people are demanding a good life!
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Enabling Good Lives (EGL)

The principles of EGL:

» Self-determination
» Beginning early
» Person-centred
» Mainstream first
» Ordinary Life Outcomes
» Mana enhancing
» Easy to use
» Relationship building
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Self Determination

“Disabled people are in control of their lives”
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Beginning Early

“Invest early in families to support them to be aspirational for their disabled child, to build community and natural supports and to support disabled children to become independent”
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Person Centred

“Disabled people have supports that are tailored to their individual needs and goals, and that take a whole life approach”
“Disabled people are supported to access mainstream services before specialist disability services if that’s what they choose”
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Ordinary Life Outcomes

“Disabled people are supported to live an everyday life in everyday places; and are regarded as citizens with opportunities for learning, employment, having a home and family, and social participation - like others at similar stages of life.”
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Mana Enhancing

“The abilities and contributions of disabled people and their families are recognised and respected”
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Easy to Use

“Disabled people have supports that are simple to use and flexible”
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Relationship Building

“Relationships between disabled people, their family and community are built and strengthened”
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What next? – Disability System Transformation
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Thank you 🧑‍📝

Any questions?