

# CONSUMER & FAMILY CARER NETWORK



The Summer Foundation has decided to re-consider options for all upcoming events in response to the continuing spread of Covid-19. Watch our website for updates: [🌐 summerfoundation.org.au](https://www.summerfoundation.org.au)

We are all waiting for details about the recently announced Commonwealth Government's goal of stopping young people entering aged care by 2022, and finding alternatives to aged care for all young people with disability by 2025. We welcome that announcement, and are keen to make sure the response is comprehensive so quality housing and support options are made available.

We try to provide real opportunities for you as a young person with the lived experience of aged care, or the prospect of having to enter aged care, to have your voice heard.

You can read about two opportunities in this bulletin, where we are seeking your input in key research projects the Summer Foundation is doing.

Tom Worsnop, Executive Manager – Practice

## REVIEWING OUR WEBSITE

The Summer Foundation works hard to develop and regularly update resources and information for people with disabilities to get the right housing and supports when they need it. We understand finding the right information exactly when you need can be tricky, so we are making changes to our website to make this easier.

We listened to feedback from people to explore different

ways of presenting information on the website and came up with a new way to find resources. This feedback mostly came from people who called, emailed and attended workshops.

It has also given us the opportunity to look more broadly at the layout of the website and better understand what people are looking for online.

If you want to give feedback on the website please contact Gina or Monique at the Summer Foundation on **1300 626 560** or email [info@summerfoundation.org.au](mailto:info@summerfoundation.org.au)

## SEEKING YOUNG PEOPLE IN AGED CARE TO PARTICIPATE IN A STUDY ABOUT THE NDIS

The Summer Foundation are completing a study to better understand the experiences and outcomes of young people living in aged care who are participants of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

The project is being conducted with La Trobe University and aims to inform and improve new resources to help NDIS participants navigate their way through the scheme.

We would like the opportunity to meet with you to describe the study, answer any questions you may have and see if you are interested in being involved.

If you are happy for one of our research team members to contact you to provide you with more information about the study and invite you to participate, please let Ella-Rose now via phone on **1300 626 560** or email [ella-rose.minter@summerfoundation.org.au](mailto:ella-rose.minter@summerfoundation.org.au)

## #EVERYSTORYMATTERS

It's not too late for you or a family member to tell the Aged Care Royal Commission your story about being a younger person living in aged care.

The commission is accepting public submissions until the end of April.

The Summer Foundation has already supported 100 people to tell their stories to the Royal Commission. And we can help you.

Go to: [🌐 summerfoundation.org.au/everystorymatters](https://summerfoundation.org.au/everystorymatters) to see our guide to making a submission.

In September last year the Summer Foundation made its own submission and appeared at the Royal Commission's hearings in Melbourne, which focused on young people in aged care.

The information we provided was reflected in the Royal Commission's interim report. The Royal Commission recommended that all younger people stop going into aged care by 2022, and that all younger people already living in aged care be supported to leave by 2025.

The Australian Government has agreed to these targets.

## LOOKING INTO THE CHANGING ROLE OF SUPPORT COORDINATORS

We are running a study to investigate the role of support coordinators and how they can effectively assist people with disability and complex needs who are enrolled in the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). This research is essential because the role of the support coordinator has changed with the implementation of the NDIS, making it challenging to find skilled and experienced support coordinators.

At present, there is still limited understanding of the demands of the role and the skills required for support coordinators, as well as the operating environment in which they work. This is a substantial problem because people with disability need assistance from support coordinators in order to get the most out of the NDIS and in turn make more progress towards their goals.

The insights derived from this research will enable the Summer Foundation to develop resources that will build the capacity of the workforce of support coordinators and assist them to be more effective in their work. This in turn will enable people with disability and complex needs to achieve positive outcomes under the NDIS.

We are inviting individuals to participate if they:

- Are an NDIS participant with complex needs, aged 18-65 years, with disability or an acquired brain injury, who is receiving support via a support coordinator
- Have a family member who is an NDIS participant with complex needs, aged 18-65 years, with disability or an acquired brain injury, who is receiving support via a support coordinator
- Have experience in the role of a support coordinator where they supported a person with complex needs, aged 18-65 years, with disability or an acquired brain injury

The study involves 1 interview that will take up to 1 hour and will be conducted at a date and time that is most suitable for you.

If you think you are eligible and would like some more information about taking part in this study, please contact Lee Cubis on **1300 626 560** or email [lee.cubis@summerfoundation.org.au](mailto:lee.cubis@summerfoundation.org.au)

We would love to hear from you.