9 Independence and Informed Choice

Policy

ACHIEVE DISABILITY SERVICES PTY LTD is committed to implementing a system to ensure each participant will receive quality services and supports. These services and supports will provide informed choices as well as exercise control to each participant, and maximise their independence relating to the supports provided.

ACHIEVE DISABILITY SERVICES PTY LTD ensures:

- → Active decision-making and individual choice is supported for each participant, including the timely provision of information using the language, mode of communication and terms that the participant is most likely to understand.
- → Each participant's right to the dignity of risk in decision-making is supported. When needed, each participant is supported to make informed choices about the benefits and risks of the options under consideration.
- → Each participant's autonomy is respected, including their right to intimacy and sexual expression.
- → Each participant has sufficient time to consider and review their options and seek advice if required, at any stage of support provision, including assessment, planning, provision, review and exit.
- → Each participant's right to access an advocate (including an independent advocate) of their choosing is supported, as is their right to have the advocate present

Procedure

At ACHIEVE DISABILITY SERVICES PTY LTD, the participant's autonomy to make their individual choices, as well as their right to intimacy and sexual expression, is respected.

'Decision-making Policy' has been developed and documented in the 'Participant Handbook'.

The benefits and risks of the participant's options and decisions will be advised to the participant.

We will allow sufficient time for the participant to consider and review their options and seek advice at any time.

We respect the participant's right to access an advocate. Please refer to the 'Right to access an advocate Policy' in the 'Participant Handbook'.

'Authority to engage an advocate' form will be completed and signed by the Participant to authorise the nominated advocate to speak, act or write on the Participant's behalf to promote, protect and defend the welfare of and justice for the Participant.

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ACHIEVE DISABILITY SERVICES PTY LTD will provide an interpreter if required for communication with the participant and respect to work with participant's interpreter or representatives. Regular communications with participants have been planned and performed in a way that is identified during the initial assessment process and documented in the 'Participant Assessment & Support Plan'.

Participant's right to access and engage an advocate is also referred to in the 'Service Agreement'.

A copy of the 'Service Agreement' and 'Participant Handbook' will be provided to each participant.

Resource

- → National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013
- → National Disability Insurance Scheme (Quality Indicators) Guidelines 2020
- → National Disability Insurance Scheme (Provider Registration and Practice Standards) Rules 2018
- → National Disability Advocacy Program (NDAP)

Related Documents

- → NDIS-PRC-001-Participant Handbook
- → NDIS-PRC-002-Worker Handbook
- → NDIS-FORM-017-Service Agreement
- → NDIS-FORM-023-Participant Assessment & Support Plan
- → NDIS-FORM-018-Authority to engage an advocate

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