

## Windaan Community Statement on NDIS Reform

We know many Aboriginal people with disability, families and carers are feeling unsure about the latest NDIS reforms and what comes next.

Currently, more than 63,000 First Nations people access the NDIS, representing 8.3% of participants nationally.<sup>1</sup> The scheme is an important pathway to support, but too many families still face barriers finding services that are culturally safe, accessible and responsive to their needs.

At Windaan, we understand why changes are being made to strengthen the NDIS for the future. But the proposed reforms are expected to tighten eligibility and reduce the number of NDIS participants by around 160,000,<sup>3</sup> and many families are asking what this means for them, their plan, funding and the supports they rely on day-to-day.

The concern is not just changes to plans or funding. The bigger risk is that people who still need support may feel pushed away from the NDIS altogether. Some may delay asking questions, disengage from the scheme, or assume they are no longer eligible when support may still be available. This is why trusted, culturally safe support matters.

The proposed reforms is also changing what is expected of providers. Registration, quality, and safeguarding requirements are increasing across the sector, and this is an important step toward helping families feel safer and more confident when choosing who they trust with their support.

Windaan has supported Aboriginal families since the early days of the NDIS. We are a registered NDIS provider, and we meet NDIS quality and safeguarding requirements. Windaan is part of a small group meeting these standards, with only around 6% of active providers currently registered.<sup>1,2</sup>

Families should not have to work through these changes alone. Support is available, and Windaan is here to help families ask questions, understand their options, and stay connected to culturally safe support.



**Karen Graham**  
CEO



**Joseph Archibald**  
Executive General Manager, Indigenous Services

## Sources

1. NDIA Quarterly Report to Disability Ministers, Q2 2025-26  
<https://ndis.gov.au/media/8281/download?attachment>
2. NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission, Quarterly Performance Report, Q1 2025-26  
[https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-11/NDIS Commission Quarterly Performance Report Q1\\_2025-26 .pdf](https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/sites/default/files/2025-11/NDIS%20Commission%20Quarterly%20Performance%20Report%20Q1%202025-26.pdf)
3. ABC News, 22 April 2026  
<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2026-04-22/mark-butler-ndis-overhaul-eligibility-test/106592186>