



Ray Williams MP
Minister for Multiculturalism
Minister for Disability Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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LINKING PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY TO THE COMMUNITY

Minister for Disability Services, Ray Williams today announced more than \$40 million for Ability Links, a program helping people with disability connect to the community.

Mr Williams said ensuring people with disability are supported in the early stages of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is a priority for the NSW Government.

“This Government takes its responsibility of supporting some of the most vulnerable members of our society seriously and will continue to fund Ability Links over the next year,” Mr Williams said.

“Ability Links is a fantastic program, empowering people with disability, their families and carers to achieve their goals and build their future.”

“Staff, known as Linkers, work with people with disability to connect them to a number of opportunities including employment, volunteering and education.”

Under the program, there will be 295 Linker positions across NSW including 74 Aboriginal-specific Linkers.

Bankstown local, Abraham Darouchie, has Neuromuscular Dystrophy and joined the Ability Links program as a result of social isolation.

“Ability Links has allowed me to gain new social networks, connect with the community and use my skills to advocate on behalf of people with disability,” Mr Darouchie said.

“With the help of my Linker, I have not only been able to build my own confidence, but have put myself in a position where I can help and mentor others.”

Since 2013, thousands of people with disability, their families and carers have benefitted from the program, providing more than 129,000 service connections and more than 1 million community connections.

Under the NSW Liberals & Nationals Government, more than 86,000 people with disability have successfully transitioned to the NDIS.

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