

XDKR Statement of Request for Participant Supports:

Support Requested: Social Work

Identified (diagnosed) Disabilities:

Physical Disability

- Sciatic Nerve Damage
- Foot Drop
- Sacroiliac Joint and Facet Joint Impairment

Sensory Disability

- Vision Impairment

Psychosocial Disability

- Borderline Personality Disorder with Suicidal Ideation
- Attachment Disorders
- Generalised Anxiety Disorder
- Persistent Depressive Disorder
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Agoraphobia

Cognitive Disability

- Neurogenic Dysfluency (stuttering)
- Aphasia - Anomia

Neurological Disability

- Severe Obstructive Sleep Apnoea
 - Hypersomnolence
 - Traumatic Brain Injury
 - Chronic Pain Disorder
 - Hypertension
 - Migraines
 - Urinary and Faecal Incontinence
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NDIS Act 2013 Section 34(1)(a) The support will assist the participant to pursue the goals, objectives and aspirations included in the participants statement of goals and aspirations.

Participant's comments: The social work support will assist XDKR in pursuing her goals of living an independent life and fulfilling her responsibilities as a mother effectively. In its primary capacity for facilitation of supports and for advocacy, social work is ultimately needed to bring all XDKRs therapies and supports together. The task of undertaking an array of therapies, hand in hand with managing a household (with children receiving NDIS support) should not be expected to fall upon any one person. XDKR especially is not trained in the administrative techniques and procedures necessary to implement a holistic, person-centred approach to managing her life. XDKR requires, agency, empowerment, and ability to run her life. A dedicated social worker has the time, energy, and expertise to manage this aspect of XDKRs disabilities, which are, honestly, quite unmanageable.

References:

(b) Will the support assist the participant to engage in activities, to facilitate the participant's social and economic participation?

Participant's comments: Yes, the social work support will assist XDKR in managing her daily activities more effectively, thereby facilitating her social and economic participation. A social worker can mediate on behalf of XDKR and liaise with allied health professionals and other stakeholders, applying a uniform voice and approach to XDKRs requests.

References:

Will the support represent value for money in that the costs of the support are reasonable, relative to both the benefits achieved and the cost of alternative support?

Participant's comments: Yes, the cost of providing social work support is significantly less than the potential long-term costs associated with not providing this support, such as increased healthcare costs and decreased quality of life for XDKR. As with other requested supports, it can be argued without too much verbal gymnastics that social work, with its emphasis on advocacy and

empowerment, is an ideal instrument for XDKR to manage the difficulties she faces. A social worker is trained to go in and bat for their client, and XDKR needs someone to go in and bat for her. It is an unfortunate fact of life that people like XDKR are overlooked, not taken seriously, or even infantilised by fully abled members of society. This will not change anytime soon but having a professional advocate like a social worker making applications, arrangements and making a case for XDKR will streamline the process of attaining supports and keeping them.

The NDIS is a bureaucratic behemoth. Much of its expenditure goes to “back of house” things such as administration, record keeping, and all the associated minutiae which forms a major aspect of what is still at its core an insurance agency. Insurance agencies are not particularly wont to pay those claiming payout. The absolute minefield placed before NDIS applicants and participants in terms of getting through red tape is too much for any person to be able to take. Imagine the savings if all this mess, disorder, confusion was streamlined using professional, passionate, and motivated advocates like a social worker for XDKR and her family. How much worry would it remove? How much would it free them up to deal with therapies or capacity building and re-enablement?

References: N/A

(d) Will the support be likely to be effective and beneficial for the participant, considering current best practices?

Participant’s comments: Yes, the support will be beneficial for XDKR as it will provide her with the necessary assistance to navigate her daily life, provide emotional support, and connect her with community resources. In the context of viewing XDKR’s case as a balance sheet, an insurance company would do itself a favour to provide funding for interventions and guidance which will ultimately lead XDKR to greater involvement in her and her children’s lives. It’s like putting on a safe bet for the future.

In addition, social workers make the greatest portion of the mental health workforce. A professional social worker is trained to detect and help XDKR and her family with their considerable mental health burden and is ideally placed to get them the support they need.

References:

[Find Social Workers near me](#) | [Disability Support Guide](#)

(e) Will the funding or provision of the support account for what it is reasonable to expect families, carers, informal networks, and the community to provide?

Participant's comments: Yes, the funding for social work support will account for what it is reasonable to expect families, carers, informal networks, and the community to provide. This is to say that a dedicated social worker can achieve as much as most of XDKRs formal support combined.

References:

[What are The NDIS Social Worker Roles? - \(helptoyou.com.au\)](http://helptoyou.com.au)

(f) Will the support be most appropriately funded or provided through the National Disability Insurance Scheme, and is not more appropriately funded or provided through other general systems of service delivery or support services offered by a person, agency or body, or systems of service delivery or support services offered?

(i) as part of a universal service obligation; or

(ii) in accordance with reasonable adjustments required under a law dealing with discrimination based on disability.

Participant's comments: Yes, the support will be most appropriately funded through the NDIS as it is not more appropriately funded or provided through other general systems of service delivery or support services.

As a member of a vulnerable group XDKR is entitled to the same protections as the rest of us and must not be excluded from or discriminated against in pursuing help. Social work is typically provided by the following sectors of the Australian Public Service: healthcare, Department of Social Services, education, veteran's affairs, Dept of Communities and Justice and the Dept of Home Affairs in addition to the NDIS. With perhaps the exception of Home Affairs, who deal with refugees and asylum seekers and Veteran Affairs, XDKR and her family intersect with all these departments in some way. A NDIS social worker can provide enormous benefit, levelling the playing field for XDKR and help her in her interactions with these other government services.

References:

[Navigating the World of Allied Health Assistants in the NDIS - \(helptoyou.com.au\)](http://helptoyou.com.au)
