



National Disability  
Research Partnership

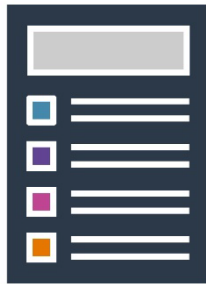
# Our research agenda

**How we will support disability research**

Easy Read version



# How to use this agenda



An **agenda** is a list of things to do or talk about.



The National Disability Research Partnership (NDRP) wrote this agenda.

When you see the word 'we', it means the NDRP.



We wrote this agenda in an easy to read way.

We use pictures to explain some ideas.

**Bold**

We wrote some important words in **bold**.

Not bold

This means the letters are thicker and darker.



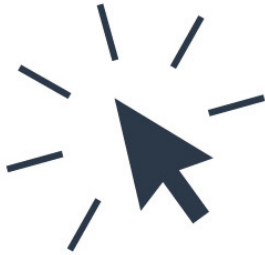
We explain what these words mean.

There is a list of these words on page **49**.



This is an Easy Read summary of another agenda.

This means it only includes the most important ideas.



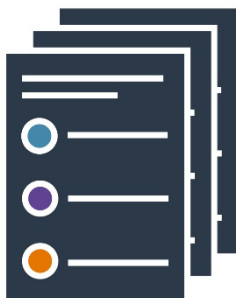
You can find the other agenda on our website.

[www.ndrp.org.au/researchagenda](http://www.ndrp.org.au/researchagenda)



You can ask for help to read this agenda.

A friend, family member or support person might be able to help you.



This document is quite long.



You don't need to read it all at once.

You can take your time.

## What's in this agenda?

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## About this agenda



The National Disability Research Partnership is an organisation that works to support disability research.

We call it the NDRP.

The NDRP will offer **funding** for research done:



- by people with disability



- with people with disability.



Funding is money that helps people do research.

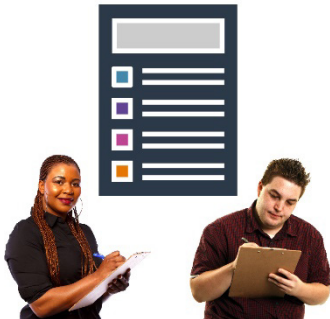
From 2021 to 2023 we worked with:



- people with disability



- organisations who speak up for people with disability.



Together we made this agenda.



This agenda will guide disability research over the next 10 years or more.

## What research people with disability told us they want

12

People with disability told us there are 12 areas of research that are most important.

We've included them in this agenda.



**1.** Supporting the rights of people with disability



**2.** Safety of people with disability



**3.** Health and wellbeing



**4.** Housing for people with disability



## 5. Accessible and inclusive communities



## 6. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)



## 7. Supporting people with disability at home and in the community



## 8. Community attitudes



## 9. Employment of people with disability





## **10.** Education of people with disability



## **11.** Education and learning for adults with disability



## **12.** Supporting young people with disability going into employment



Each research area includes ideas about research we might give you funding for.

We explain each research area in more detail from page **15**.

# How you can use this agenda

**For people with disability and the organisations that support them**



You can use this agenda to support your work to speak up for people with disability.



You can work with researchers to plan projects that follow the NDRP's research areas.

## For researchers

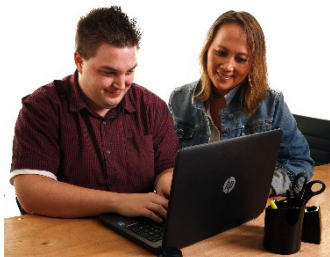


You can use the research areas in this agenda to guide your next project.

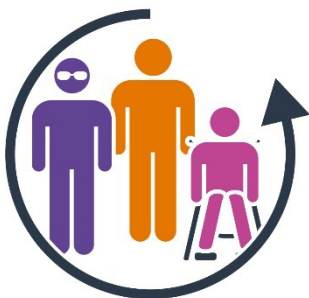
You can apply for funding from the NDRP if your research:



- is **inclusive**

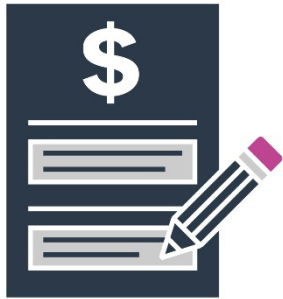


- gives people with disability the chance to lead.



When something is inclusive, everyone:

- can take part
- feels like they belong.



You will be able to apply for funding at least once a year.



You can create projects for researchers with disability that follow the research areas in this agenda.



This includes projects that give them the chance to:

- get experience early in their **career**
- study at the highest levels.



Your career is the path you take in your work throughout your life.



## For governments and people who make policies



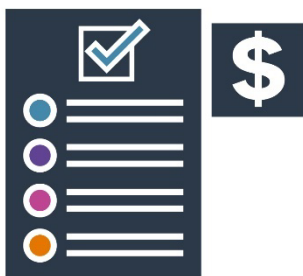
A **policy** is:

- a plan for how to do things
- where rules come from.

You can use the research areas in this agenda to guide:

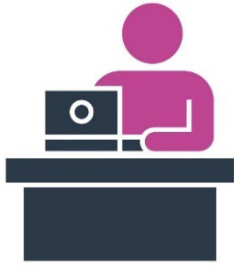


- disability research programs



- policies about how to offer funding for research.

You can work with:



- researchers



- organisations who speak up for people with disability.

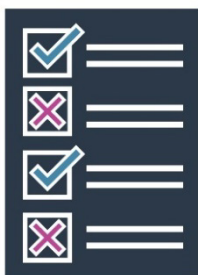


You can work together to plan projects that follow the research areas in this agenda.

## For people who give funding to researchers



You can choose to give funding to research programs that follow the research areas in this agenda.



You can create rules for funding research that includes people with disability.

## Part 1: Our research areas



This agenda explains our 12 research areas.

Each research area includes ideas about research we might give you funding for.



We will only give funding for research in these research areas.



We explain each area on the pages below.

### 1. Supporting the rights of people with disability

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**Rights** are rules about how people must treat someone:

- fairly
- equally.

Your research can look at what people can do to:



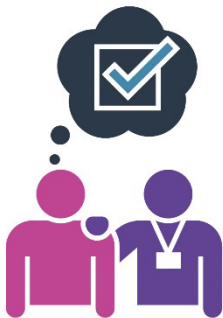
- improve how Australia supports the rights of people with disability



- support people with disability to make their own decisions.



You can do research about what types of **supported decision-making** work best.



Supported decision-making is when someone helps a person make important decisions about their life and how they will live.



Your research can look at ways to support people with disability to speak up for themselves.



## 2. Safety of people with disability

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You can do research about what support services can do to make sure people with disability feel:

- safe in the community
- safe in their homes.

This includes:



- disability services



- **domestic and family violence** services.

Domestic and family violence is when someone close to you hurts you.



This could be:

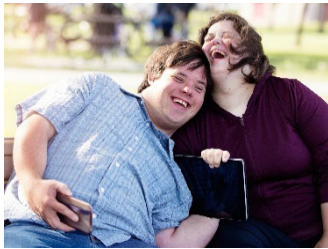
- a member of your family.
- someone you have or had a relationship with.

Your relationship with someone is how you are connected to them.

Your research can look at how people can better support children and young people with disability to:



- enjoy positive relationships – how you are connected to someone



- develop their **sexuality**.



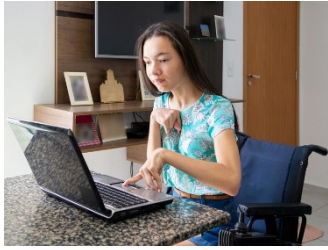
A person's sexuality is who they:

- love
- are attracted to.

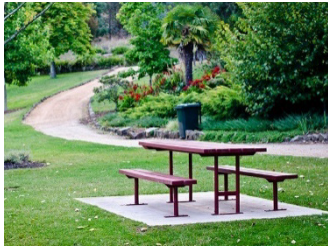


You can do research about what people need to do to make places safe for people with disability.

This includes places:



- online



- in the community



- where people with disability can meet others.



Your research can look at the experiences of people with disability in the **justice system**.

Our justice system includes:



- prisons
- the courts
- police
- the law.

Research about this should look at how people can use these experiences to:



- stop **discrimination** – when someone treats a person unfairly because of a part of who they are



- get rid of **barriers**.



A barrier is something that stops a person from doing something they:

- need to do
- want to do.



### 3. Health and wellbeing

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Your research can look at what health professionals can do to improve the way they give care to people with disability.



Research about this should look at how health care professionals can improve their:

- skills
- **attitudes.**



A person's attitude is what they:

- think
- feel
- believe.



You can do research about how to better support people with disability to make decisions about their own health.

This includes decisions about supports a person might need towards the end of their life.



Your research can look at what health services can learn from the experiences of people with disability during COVID-19.



Research about this should focus on how health services can improve their care.



Your research can look at how to improve **mental health** services for people with disability.



A person's mental health is about how they:

- think and feel about themselves
- deal with things in their life
- manage their feelings.

This includes:



- young people with disability



- people with **intellectual disability**.

An intellectual disability affects how a person:



- learns new things
- solves problems
- communicates
- does things on their own.

## 4. Housing for people with disability

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You can do research on the barriers people with disability face to find housing that:



- does not cost too much money



- supports people with disability the ways they need.



Research about this should focus on how to stop these barriers from affecting people with disability.

Your research can look at how to offer better supports to people with disability so they can:



- live on their own



- take part in the community.



You can do research about how funding can support people with disability to have a choice about where they live.

For example, to have different types of housing to choose from.



This includes people with disability who need support with their mental health.

Your research can look into how people with disability:



- become **homeless**



- stop being homeless.



People who are homeless don't have a home.

They must find a place to sleep each night.



Research about this should focus on how to stop people with disability from becoming homeless.



## 5. Accessible and inclusive communities

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When the community is **accessible**, it is easy to:

- move around in
- find and use services.

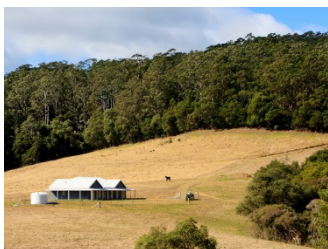


You can do research about how the place where a person lives can affect how inclusive their community is.

This includes:



- cities and towns



- places far away from cities and towns.



Your research can look at how other parts of who people with disability are can affect the barriers they face.

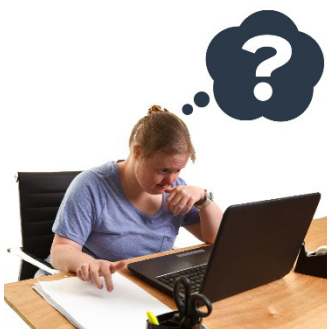


For example, people with disability who might:

- come from different backgrounds
- be women or children.



Research about this should focus on barriers that make it hard for these people to take part in the community.



You can do research about barriers that make it hard for people with disability to use the internet.



For example, barriers that make it hard to find and use:

- information
- supports and services.



Research about this should focus on how to stop these barriers affecting people with disability.



Your research can look at how to make sure places in the community are accessible for people with disability.



You can do research about barriers in the community that make it hard for people with disability to:

- take part in activities and events
- enjoy activities and events.



Research about this should focus on how to stop these barriers affecting people with disability.

## 6. The National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

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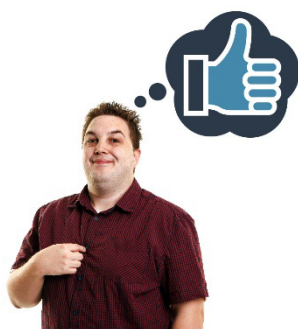
The **National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)** provides services and support to people with disability.



Your research can look at examples of new services and supports that can better support people with disability.



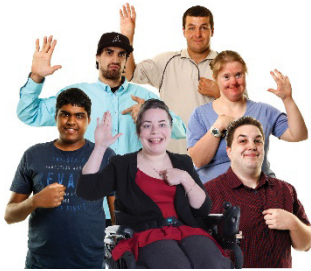
Research about this should focus on how these services and supports can help change parts of the NDIS.



When a person **benefits** from something:

- it helps them
- they get something good from it.

You can do research about how the NDIS benefits:



- participants – people with disability who take part in the NDIS



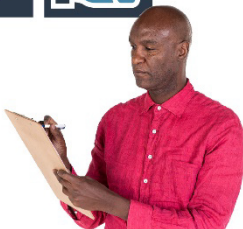
- their families



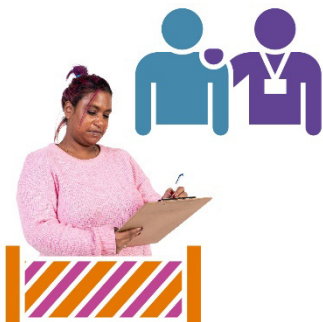
- the community.



You can also do research about:



- how much the NDIS costs everyone
- how to make sure everyone gets good results from the NDIS.



Your research can look at the types of barriers some people with disability face when they:

- find and use supports
- manage their supports.



This includes people with disability who:

- are First Nations peoples
- come from different backgrounds
- speak a language that isn't English.



You can do research about how the NDIS can work with other **systems** to support people with disability.



A system is made of different parts that work:

- together
- towards the same type of goal.

A system can be made up of organisations and people.



For example, the health and education systems.

## Take a break



You can take a break now if you want to.



You're about halfway through this document.

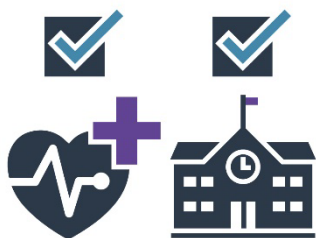




## Part 2: Our research areas

### 7. Supporting people with disability at home and in the community

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Your research can look at how to make systems work together so people with disability don't get left behind.

For example, the health and education systems.



You can do research about how to better support people who are carers for people with disability.

This includes:



- parents



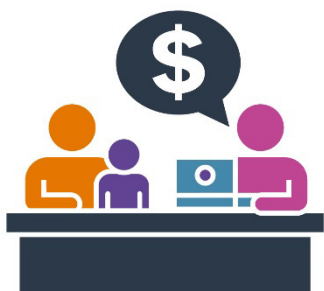
- family members



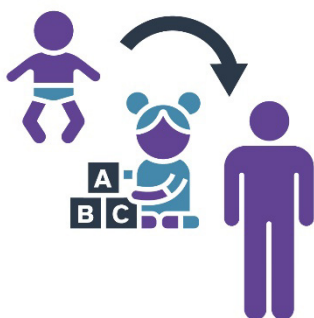
- other support people.



Your research can look at how caring for people with disability can affect a family or carer's money.



Research about this should also look at ways to help families who need support with money.



You can do research on how services and supports can change to support young people with disability:

- their whole life
- when parts of their life change.



For example, when young people with disability develop their sexuality.

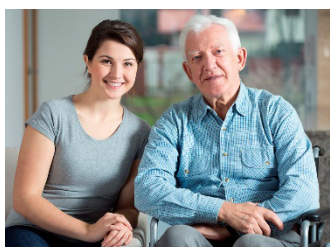


Your research can look at better ways to provide supports to people with disability.

This includes:



- children with disability



- older people with disability.

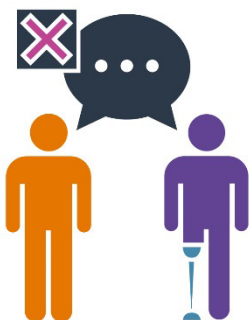
## 8. Community attitudes

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Your research can look at how:



- the community can learn more about the rights of people with disability
- to improve community attitudes towards people with disability.



You can do research about what makes some people not want to connect with people with disability in their day-to-day lives.



Research about this should look at how to stop this from happening.



You can also do research about the types of discrimination people with disability experience.

This includes:



- people with intellectual disability



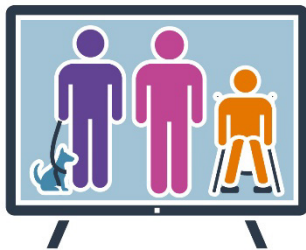
- people with disabilities you can't see



- people with disability who need support with their mental health.



Research about this should look at better ways to make sure people with disability don't experience this.



Your research can look at how to show more people with disability in the **media**.

This includes showing people with disability in the media in positive ways.



Media is a way of getting information.

Parts of the media include:

- TV
- the Internet
- social media, like Facebook.

## 9. Employment of people with disability

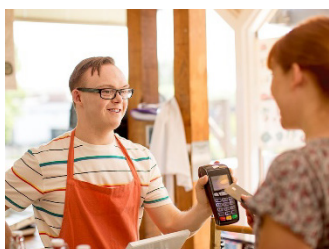
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You can do research about barriers that stop people with disability from finding **employment**.

Employment means a person:

- has a job
- goes to work
- gets paid.



Research about this should focus on how to stop these barriers affecting people with disability.



Your research can look at how the places where people work need to change to support disability.



This includes what must change so more people with disability can find jobs they want.





Your research can also look at what helps people with disability find and keep a job.

This includes people with:



- intellectual disability



- **psychosocial disability.**

A psychosocial disability affects a person's mental health.



It can affect how they:

- think
- feel
- deal with other people.

You can do research about barriers that stop people with disability from:



- becoming leaders in their work



- growing their career.



Research about this should focus on how to stop these barriers from affecting people with disability.

## 10. Supporting young people with disability going into employment

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Your research can look at:



- what makes it hard for young people with disability to get a job



- how to support young people to get a job.



You can do research about how to improve programs that support young people with disability to find employment.

This includes programs that happen when a young person with disability:



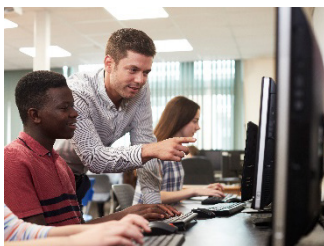
- is at school



- leaves school.



Your research can look at young people with disability who live somewhere that is not their home.



Research about this should look at how to support these young people with disability to find employment.



You can do research that looks at how other parts of who people with disability are can affect the barriers they face.

This research should look at:



- what barriers can make it hard for them to go from school to employment



- how to stop these barriers from affecting people with disability.

## 11. Education and learning for children with disability

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You can do research about:



- the barriers most students with disability face



- how to support students with disability to get past these barriers.

Your research can look at how supports in schools can help students with disability:



- take part in school

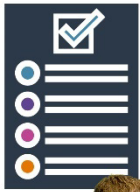


- do better in school.



These supports also include **reasonable adjustments**.

When people make reasonable adjustments, they change places so people with disability can work or study there.



You can do research about how to find out what policies best support students with disability.



Your research can look at how schools can change tests to support students with disability.



## 12. Education and learning for adults with disability

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Your research can look at how governments can support people with disability to learn new things as they get older.

For example, how to support people with disability to go to university where they can learn new things.



Your research can also look at how to support students with disability to have a say.

This includes having a say about what their lives will be like after they finish school.



You can also do research about how schools do well at supporting students with disability.

# Word list

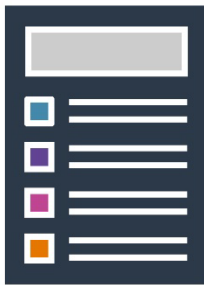
This list explains what the **bold** words in this agenda mean.

## Accessible



When the community is accessible, it is easy to:

- move around in
- find and use services.



## Agenda

An agenda is a list of things to do or talk about.

## Attitude



A person's attitude is what they:

- think
- feel
- believe.

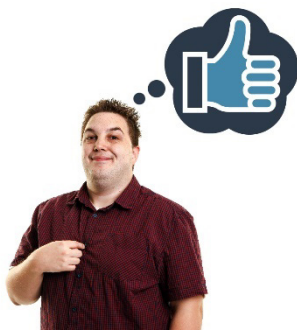
## Barrier



A barrier is something that stops a person from doing something they:

- need to do
- want to do.

## Benefit



When a person benefits from something:

- it helps them
- they get something good from it.



## Career

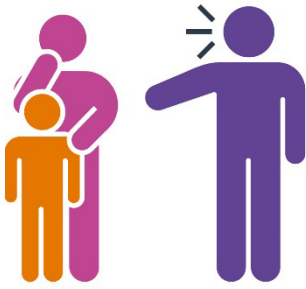
Your career is the path you take in your work throughout your life.



## Discrimination

Discrimination is when someone treats a person unfairly because of a part of who they are.

## Domestic and family violence

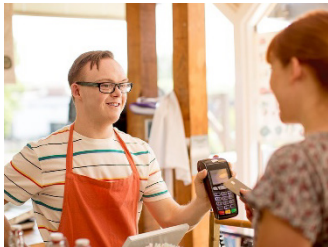


Domestic and family violence is when someone close to a person hurts them.

This could be:

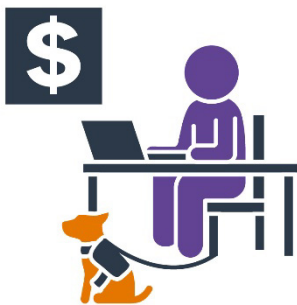
- a member of their family.
- someone they have or had a relationship with.

## Employment



Employment means a person:

- has a job
- goes to work
- gets paid.



## Funding

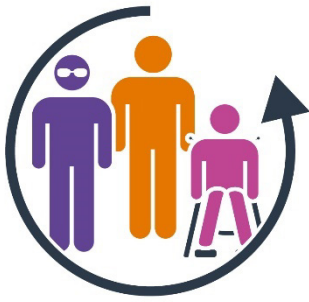
Funding is money that helps people do research.



## Homeless

People who are homeless don't have a home.

They must find a place to sleep each night.



## **Inclusive**

When something is inclusive, everyone:

- can take part
- feels like they belong.

## **Intellectual disability**



An intellectual disability affects how a person:

- learns new things
- solves problems
- communicates
- does things on their own.

## **Justice system**



Our justice system includes:

- prisons
- the courts
- police
- the law.

## Media



Media is a way of getting information.

Parts of the media include:

- TV
- the Internet
- social media, like Facebook.

## Mental health



A person's mental health is about how they:

- think and feel about themselves
- deal with things in their life
- manage their feelings.



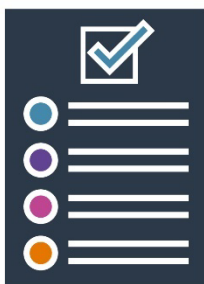
## National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS provides services and support to people with disability.

## Policy

A policy is:

- a plan for how to do things
- where rules come from.



## Psychosocial disability

A psychosocial disability affects a person's mental health.



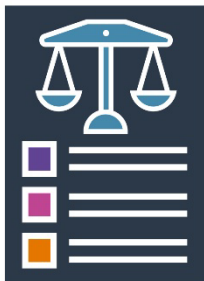
It can affect how they:

- think
- feel
- deal with other people.



## Reasonable adjustments

When people make reasonable adjustments, they change places so people with disability can work or study there.

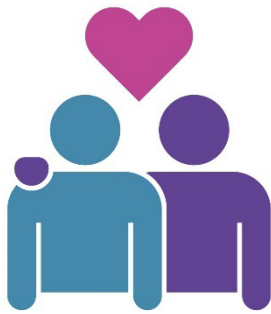


## Rights

Rights are rules about how people must treat someone:

- fairly
- equally.





## **Sexuality**

A person's sexuality is who they:

- love
- are attracted to.



## **Supported decision-making**

Supported decision-making is when someone helps a person make important decisions about their life and how they will live.



## **Systems**

A system is made of different parts that work:

- together
- towards the same type of goal.

A system can be made up of organisations and people.

## Contact us



You can call us.

**03 8344 2813**



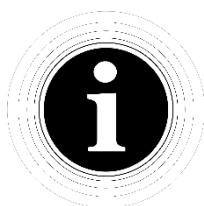
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You can visit our website.

**[www.ndrp.org.au](http://www.ndrp.org.au)**



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