

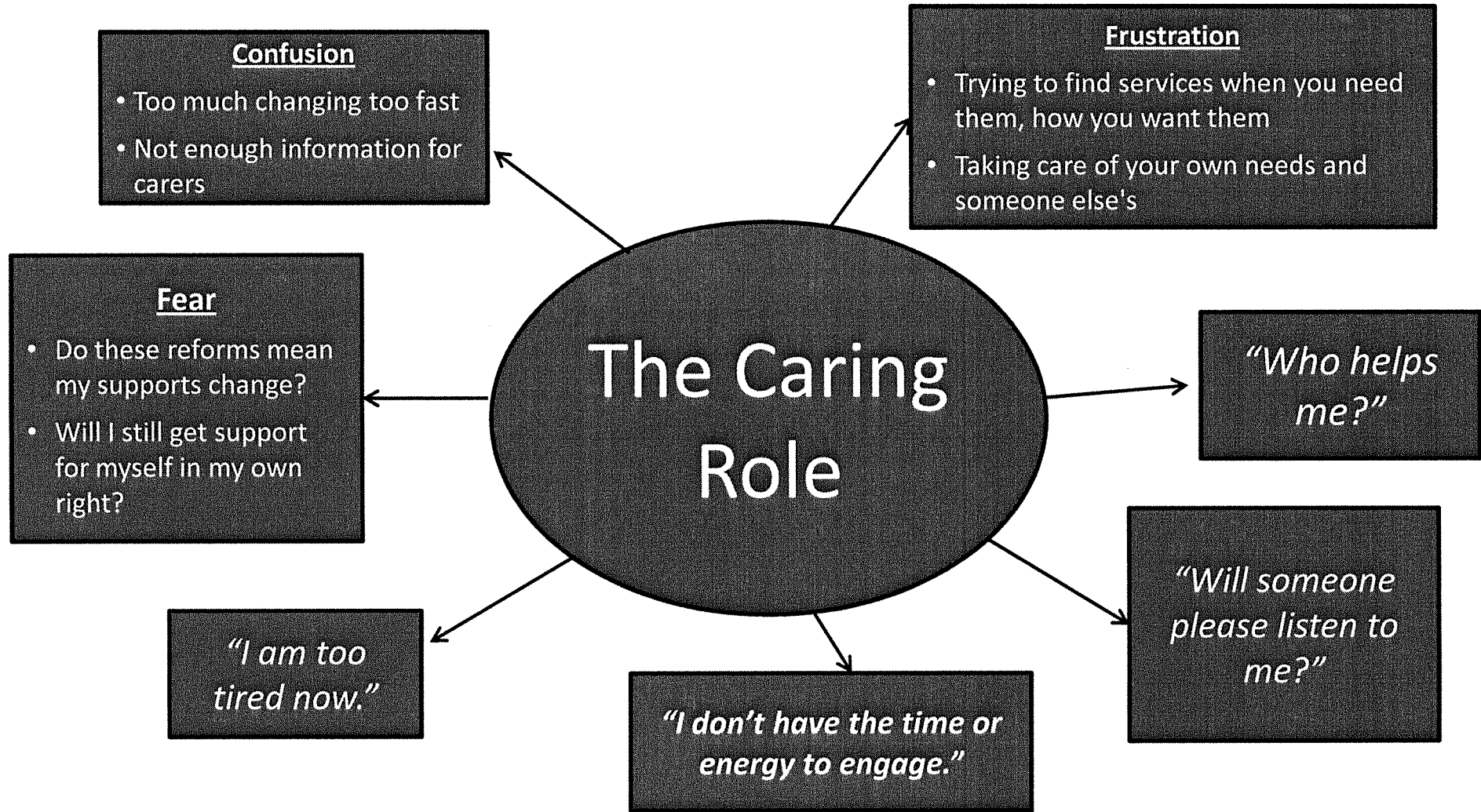
Understanding Disability Sector Reform: A Brief Guide for Carers

Maureen Flynn
National Respite
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Today's Agenda

1. The carer challenge
2. The Federal Reform Agenda
3. What is NDIS and how does it affect me?
4. What if I care for someone with mental illness?
5. How do I prepare for NDIS?
6. Getting carer support in your own right

1. The carer challenge



2. The Federal Reform Agenda

- Person centred care = putting people and their families at the centre of decisions and seeing them as experts, working alongside professionals to get the best outcome.
- Funding now goes to the PWD, who chooses their provider/s of support.
- These providers do not need to be in the disability sector.

3. What is NDIS and how does it affect me?

- The NDIS is the new national program for people with disability
- If you are a person with disability and you meet the access requirements you can become a participant in the scheme.
- Then you can start the planning and assessment process. This will help to determine the informal, community and mainstream services and any reasonable and necessary supports you need to achieve your goals.
- The NDIS funds reasonable and necessary disability specific supports in a plan

3. What is NDIS and how does it affect me?

- To get a plan, the person with disability meets with an NDIA planner.
- People with disability can choose different ways to manage their funds
- They can:
 1. Elect for funds to be held by NDIA
 2. Partially self-manage
 3. Fully self-manage

3. What is NDIS and how does it affect me?

- The meaning of a 'vision of a good life' depends on the age and type of disability of the individual.
- Once you have gained an idea of your 'vision of a good life', your planner will help you set specific goals to help you achieve it.
- They will then link goals to supports needed and allocate funding to the plan

Early Childhood

Kyle is a 4-year-old boy with developmental delays, due to complications during child birth.

Some goals include:

- To undertake speech therapy in order to enhance communication.
- To participate in early childhood programs to increase social and emotional development.

Late Childhood

Sarah is an 11-year-old girl with hearing loss in both ears.

Some goals include:

- To participate in classroom activities through using hearing instruments, flexible seating and interactive whiteboards.
- To participate in sporting activities with friends after school.

Adolescence

Grace is a 17-year-old female with cerebral palsy. She has limited use of her muscles and relies on a wheelchair on a daily basis.

Some goals include:

- Gain assistance with personal care on a daily basis.
- To complete Higher School Certificate and further study Business Administration at TAFE or University.
- Engage in recreational activities e.g. water exercises, wheelchair basketball, arts and crafts and playing musical instruments.

Early Adulthood

Daniel is a 25-year-old male with autism.

Some goals include:

- To increase living skills to live in his apartment as independently as possible.
- To go to more St George Illawarra Dragons football games with friends.
- To gain part-time or full-time employment in the Hospitality sector.

Mature Adulthood

George is a 52-year-old male who has Down syndrome and intellectual delay, lives with his ageing mother.

Some goals include:

- To gain personal and home care support on a daily basis.
- To access transport in order to maintain his social support activities.

4. What if I care for someone with mental illness?

- People with psychosocial disability are eligible for NDIS
- Psychosocial disability = the experience of people with impairments and participation restrictions related to mental health conditions.
- Supports could include community and social participation support, living skills support

5. How do I prepare for NDIS?

To prepare as carers:

- Know when NDIS rolls out in your area and attend relevant sessions
- Keep a weekly diary of the disability supports your loved one uses
- Download/print the pre-planning workbook from the NDIA website
- Talk about it with your loved one
- Thinks about goals and aspirations of your loved one and what supports they need now and in the future to meet them
- Write this down and take it with you to the planning meeting

6. How do I get support for me?

- Must non respite carer support programs will continue to be funded until 2017-18 under current arrangements
- From 2017-2018, carers will have access to carer support through the DSS National Integrated Carer Support Plan
- Carers can also get short term support and emergency respite support from Commonwealth Respite Centres
- Some carer support will be available in the disability space through a national program called ILC (Information, Linkages and Capacity Building)
- Carers can contact the state carers peaks e.g. Carers NSW for things like free counselling

8. Wrap-Up

Q&A