

# Every Australian Counts

South Australia e-update

October 2011

## MP Breakfast - Canberra

On Wednesday 13th October the Every Australian Counts campaign held a Breakfast in Canberra for Federal MPs.

The keynote speakers included Prime Minister Julia Gillard; Senator Mitch Fifield, Shadow Minister for Disabilities, Carers and the Voluntary Sector and Manager of Opposition Business in the Senate; and Senator Rachel Siewert, Disability spokesperson for The Greens.

The Event was attended by more than 80 members of Federal Parliament as well as representatives and members from National Disability Services, Carers Australia and The Australian Federation of Disability Organisations. Every Australian Counts campaign champions from the ACT also attended the breakfast.

The speeches were video recorded and are available to listen to at [www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au)



November 27 - December 3

# Spread the Word Week

**TAKE ACTION:**

3 easy ways you can help change the lives of Australians with disability.

**Get Involved Today**



From November 27 – December 3 we're holding a week of action across Australia to grow the movement for an NDIS to 100,000 supporters.

You can do one of the three easy things below to help support a National Disability Insurance Scheme – register online and we will send a package of materials to help you.

Even better, you can do all three things.

You can help improve the lives of people with disabilities by choosing to do one or all of the activities below:

- Hold a stall in my community
- Letterbox 40 houses
- Sign up 10 friends

**To register your interest in holding a community stall and / or conducting a letter box drop please visit [www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au](http://www.everyaustraliancounts.com.au)**

## National Press Club - November 23rd

The National Press Club is hosting the Every Australian Counts National Address on Wednesday 23rd November in Canberra, ACT from 11.45am - 1.30pm.

If you can make it to Canberra for the day, or happen to be in Canberra the night before for the National Disability Awards why not stay on for the National Press Club event! Guest speakers include, Peter Darch, Dr Rhonda Galbally and Dr Paul Brock.

**For more details or to purchase tickets visit:**

**<http://www.npc.org.au/speakers/peter-darch-dr-rhonda-galbally-dr.html>**

**Peter Darch** is an outstanding member of the community. Named WA Young Person of the Year for 2011. He became a quadriplegic in a swimming accident in his teenage years.



**Dr Rhonda Galbally** is a disability advocate and Federal Government nominee to the NDIS Advisory Group. Rhonda has focussed her life's work on making a difference for a more equitable society.



**Dr Paul Brock AM** FACE FACEL, is the Director of Learning and Development Research in the NSW Department of Education and Training and Adjunct Professor at the University of Sydney.



# NDIS Advisory

## Group Appointments

**The Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs, Jenny Macklin and the Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Carers, Senator Jan McLucas today announced the appointment of the National Disability Insurance Scheme Advisory Group.**

The Advisory Group will help steer the development of a NDIS by providing advice on progress with the foundation reforms required to fundamentally improve the system of care and support for Australians with disability and their carers.

The new appointees to the Advisory Group are Dr Ken Baker, Dr Lorna Hallahan, Ms Joan McKenna-Kerr, Mr Brendan O'Reilly and Ms Fran Vickery.

The new appointees will join the Advisory Group Chairman Dr Jeff Harmer AO, Dr Rhonda Galbally AO and Mr Bruce Bonyhady AM.

The Advisory Group brings together a wealth of knowledge about the experience of people with disability and carers, the challenges for the service sector and government administration.

The group includes people with expertise in social insurance principles, disability policy, service provision, performance monitoring, training and curriculum development,

academia and research, psychological and intellectual disability, indigenous disability services, young people and children with disability.

The Advisory Group will work closely with all governments as they work to deliver foundation reforms in preparation for a NDIS.

Foundation reforms include developing common assessment tools, so that people's eligibility for support can be assessed fairly and consistently, based on their level of need, no matter which state or territory they live in.

The reforms also include service and quality standards so that people with disability can expect high-quality support; building workforce capacity so we have more trained staff to support people with disabilities; and developing rigorous timelines, milestones and benchmarks to support the delivery of these and other foundation reforms.

These reforms were recognised by the Productivity Commission in their report into the long term care and support of people with disability as a necessary precursor to a NDIS.

The Advisory Group will work with the disability sector and conduct a series of community workshops around the country.

They will be supported by expert working groups to provide technical expertise and advice on specific elements of reform.

# Select

## Council of

## Ministers

This week sees the Government take another important step on the path to reform, with the Select Council of Ministers meeting for the first time on Thursday.

At the meeting, the government will be asking the states and territories to agree to accelerate delivery of the foundation reforms – the changes the Productivity Commission recognised had to be made before the introduction of a NDIS.

These changes include a common assessment tool to determine eligibility for support, national service and quality standards and a workforce strategy to make sure we have the skilled people needed to deliver care and support to Australians with disability.

Thursday will see the Government ask states and territories to sign up to making sure these important foundations are in place a year ahead of the Productivity Commission's deadline – by mid-2013.

They will also set out a path to look at the important issues of funding and governance.

The Government understands that Australians with disability, their families and carers have big expectations of a NDIS, because it is the best opportunity we have to meet the needs and expectations of people with disability.

# South Australian Federal MPs who have taken the pledge!

The MP action week saw all South Australian Federal MPs receive requests for visits from you, our dedicated campaigners.

I know there are still a few meetings that have yet to take place and I look forward to receiving these photos in the coming weeks.



A big thank you to Andrew Southcott, Member for Boothby and Kate Ellis, Member for Adelaide who signed the Every Australian Counts pledge and agreed to wear their 'Count on Me' badges in parliament last week.

## Is your MP still WANTED?

South Australia still needs the following MPs to sign the Every Australian Counts pledge and to have their picture taken with an 'I COUNT' sign.

**Let's make sure all SA Federal MPs say 'I COUNT'!**

### Barker

Patrick Secker  
Electoral Office  
MURRAY BRIDGE



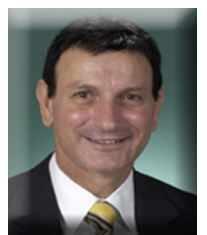
### Mayo

Jamie Briggs MP  
Electoral Office  
STIRLING



### Makin

Tony Zappia  
Electoral Office  
MODBURY



### Wakefield

Nick Champion  
Electoral Office  
SMITHFIELD



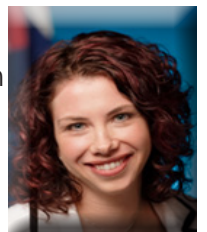
### Hindmarsh

Steve Georgeanas  
Electoral Office  
OAKLANDS PARK



### Kingston

Amanda Rishworth  
Electoral Office  
OAKLANDS PARK



### Sturt

Christopher Pyne  
Electoral Office  
ADELAIDE



### Grey

Rowan Ramsey  
Electoral Office  
PORT AUGUSTA



### Port Adelaide

Mark Butler  
Electoral Office  
ADELAIDE

