

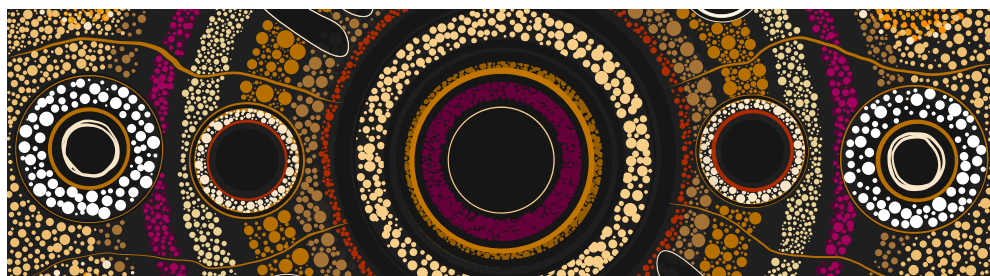
DISABILITY HEALTH STRATEGY FIRST ACTION PLAN 2024–2026



ACT
Government

ACT Health

www.health.act.gov.au



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Ngunnawal people as traditional custodians of the ACT and recognise any other people or families with connection to the lands of the ACT and region. We acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of this city and this region.

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CONTENTS

Introduction.....	1
The Disability Health Strategy.....	1
The action plan – an overview.....	2
Strategic alignment.....	3
Actions.....	4
Focus area 1 – Health information and literacy.....	5
Focus area 2 – Service access, design, and delivery.....	7
Focus area 3 – Emergency planning, preparedness and management.....	9
Focus area 4 – Workforce.....	10
Focus area 5 – Data and research.....	11

INTRODUCTION

THE DISABILITY HEALTH STRATEGY

The Disability Health Strategy is a ten-year overarching plan to ensure people with disability have equitable and appropriate access to healthcare in the ACT and improved health outcomes. The strategy has 3 goals, 9 principles, and 5 focus areas.

GOALS



Goal 1

People with disability have autonomy and their rights respected



Goal 2

People with disability have access to appropriate healthcare services.



Goal 3

Change is achievable, measurable, and reported back to the community.

PRINCIPLES

Healthcare as a human right

'Nothing About Us Without Us'

Social model of disability

Intersectionality

Person-centred care

Social determinants of health

Trauma informed practice

Reasonable adjustments

Universal Design

FOCUS AREAS

FOCUS AREA 1

Health information and literacy

FOCUS AREA 2

Service access, design, and delivery

FOCUS AREA 3

Emergency planning, preparedness and management

FOCUS AREA 4

Workforce

FOCUS AREA 5

Data and Research



C Moore, member of the ACT Disability Health Strategy Steering Committee and Health Literacy Officer, Health Care Consumers' Association

THE ACTION PLAN – AN OVERVIEW

The ACT community will have full and direct participation in the implementation of the action plan – improving health outcomes for people with disability

The three-year First Action Plan aims to lay the foundations to build upon in subsequent action plans. The actions and activities will work towards fulfilling the requirements of the 3 goals, 9 principles, and 5 focus areas presented in the Disability Health Strategy.

All actions in the First Action Plan will be undertaken in consultation with, or co-designed with the ACT disability community, including, people with disability, their family members, carers, and advocates; along with government and non-government service providers and advocacy groups.

The First Action Plan includes a focus on eight priority populations identified in current national and local legislation, policy, and research. The eight priority populations are:

- women with disability
- older people with disability
- people with an intellectual disability
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People with disability
- culturally and linguistically diverse people with disability
- LGBTIQ+ people with disability
- detainees with disability
- carers of people with disability

The development of the Disability Health Strategy's First Action Plan was guided by the ACT Disability Health Strategy Steering Committee, along with action and activity owners.

Future action plan's will be developed under the guidance of the to-be-established ACT Disability Health Reference Group. The development of the Disability Health Strategy's First Action Plan was guided by the ACT Disability Health Strategy Steering Committee, along with action and activity owners.

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STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

The First Action Plan aligns with Australia's Disability Strategy 2021-2031, ACT Disability Health Strategy 2024-2033, and Canberra Health Services Disability Action and Inclusion Plan 2022-2025. Additionally, action plan aligns with local and national legislation and policy.

Legislation

- *Carers Recognition Act 2010* (Cth)
- *Carers Recognition Act 2021* (ACT)
- *Disability Discrimination Act 1992* (Cth)
- *Disability (Access to Premises – Buildings) Standards 2010* (Cth)
- *Health Records (Privacy and Access) Act 1997* (ACT)
- *Human Rights Act 2004* (ACT)

Policy

- ACT Government, 2016, *ACT Women's Plan 2016-2026*
- ACT Government, 2018, *ACT Carers Strategy 2018-2028: First Three Year Action Plan*
- ACT Government, 2019, *ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028*
- ACT Government, 2019, *ACT Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Plan 2019-24*
- ACT Government, 2019, *Capital of Equality Strategy 2019-2023*
- ACT Government, 2020, *ACT Accessible, Accountable, Sustainable: A Framework for the ACT Public Health System 2020-2030*
- ACT Government, 2020, *ACT Wellbeing Framework*
- ACT Government, 2020, *Healthy Canberra ACT Preventative Health Plan 2020-2025*
- ACT Government, 2020, *People with Disability Employment Framework*
- ACT Government, 2022, *ACT Health Directorate Services Plan 2022-2030*
- Australian Government, 2013, *National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Plan 2013-2023*
- Australian Government, 2021, *National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability*
- Australian Government, 2022, *Future focused primary health care: Australia's Primary Health Care 10 Year Plan 2022-2032*
- Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council, 2017, *National Strategic Framework for Chronic Conditions*
- United Nations, 2008, *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*

Louisa Sailor, community member and Yehuwdiy Dillon, member of the ACT Disability Health Strategy Steering Committee and Senior Director of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Partnerships, ACT Health Directorate



ACTIONS

The First Action Plan has 15 actions across the five focus areas of the Disability Health Strategy.

During the first year of the First Action Plan, the ACT Disability Health Reference Group will be established and an evaluation framework will be developed.


*** Note:** Some action and activities within the First Action Plan are dependent on future funding considerations. The ACT Government will pursue and explore options to fund these actions during the life of the First Action Plan.




Kim Adams, member of the ACT Disability Health Strategy Steering Committee and Health Ambassador, Down Syndrome Australia

FOCUS AREA 1

HEALTH INFORMATION AND LITERACY

Goals	Action	Activities	Lead
	1.1 Easy English training and tools	Procure and facilitate access to Easy English translation training for healthcare and disability services in the ACT.	ACT Health Directorate
		Procure and facilitate access to an Easy English image library to be used in the development of Easy English translations by ACT public healthcare services.	
		Fund access to an Easy English image library to be used in the development of Easy English translations by healthcare and disability services in the ACT.	

Goals	Action	Activities	Lead
 	1.2 Accessible healthcare information	<p>Update ACT public healthcare services' websites to ensure compliance with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).</p> <p>Provide healthcare information in accessible formats across ACT public healthcare services.</p>	ACT Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services
  	1.3 Health literacy	<p>Scope and develop a disability health literacy program for people with disability, their family members, carers, and advocates, healthcare workers, disability service providers, and advocacy groups.</p> <p>Implement a disability health literacy program.</p>	ACT Health Directorate


















Tess Yvanovich,
community member

I want to be able
to access the services
that I need to
live well.

FOCUS AREA 2

SERVICE ACCESS, DESIGN, AND DELIVERY

Goals	Action	Activity	Lead
 	2.1 Accessible facilities	Develop and undertake an accessibility audit of facilities leased or owned by ACT public healthcare services.	ACT Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services
		Develop an accessibility improvement plan for facilities leased or owned by ACT public healthcare services.	
 	2.2 Supported decision-making framework	Develop a disability health supported decision-making framework for healthcare services in the ACT.	ACT Health Directorate
 	2.3 Case management and referral service	Scope and model a disability health case management and referral service for the ACT.	ACT Health Directorate
		Pilot a disability health case management and referral service. Evaluate the pilot disability case management and referral service.	


Goals	Action	Activity	Lead
  	2.4 Women's sexual health	Scope, develop, and implement a clinical sexual health service for women with disability.	ACT Health Directorate
		Scope, develop, and implement a sexual health information and education program for women with disability.	
		Evaluate the clinical sexual health service and information and education program.	
	2.5 Improving Mental Health Wellbeing Outcomes for People with Intellectual Disability - Position Statement	Finalise and endorse the Improving Mental Health Wellbeing Outcomes for People with Intellectual Disability - Position Statement.	ACT Health Directorate
 	2.6 Health projects with a disability perspective	Scope and recruit to a disability health lived experience advisor role.	ACT Health Directorate
		Develop a disability co-design framework for ACT public healthcare services. Provide a disability perspective to ACT public healthcare projects, plans, and commissioning.	
  	2.7 Minor home modifications	Scope and pilot a minor home modification grant program for people ineligible for NDIS or My Aged Care to support their discharge from hospital.	ACT Health Directorate
		Evaluate the minor home modifications program.	



Crystal Bevan,
community member

FOCUS AREA 3

EMERGENCY PLANNING, PREPAREDNESS AND MANAGEMENT





Goals	Action	Activity	Lead
	3.1 Healthcare emergency planning	Scope a disability health-focused emergency preparedness and management plan.	ACT Health Directorate

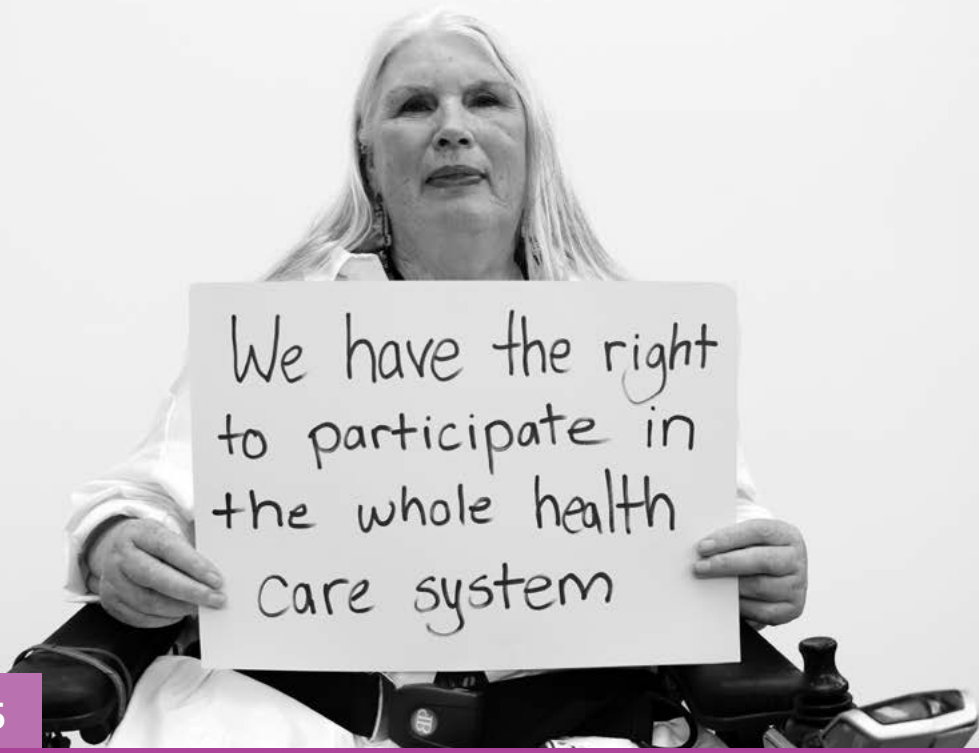
Jake Docker, Maria Travers, Kat Guerin Spijkers and Lisa Spencer, ACT Disability Health Strategy Project team, ACT Health Directorate (missing - Yas Barrington-Knight)



FOCUS AREA 4

WORKFORCE


Goals	Action	Activity	Lead
 	4.1 Disability Access and Inclusion Plans	Develop an ACT Health Directorate Disability Access and Inclusion Plan.	ACT Health Directorate
		Implement an ACT Health Directorate Disability Access and Inclusion Plan and the Canberra Health Services Disability Action and Inclusion Plan.	ACT Health Directorate and Canberra Health Services
 	4.2 Training	Develop disability health training for frontline employees across the healthcare system in the ACT.	ACT Health Directorate



*Maria French,
community member*

FOCUS AREA 5

DATA AND RESEARCH

Goals	Action	Activity	Lead
	5.1 Data collection, recording and sharing	Review and report on disability data clinical and reporting requirements for ACT public healthcare services.	ACT Health Directorate
		Provide National Minimum Data Sets (NMDS) unidentified healthcare data to the Australian Government's National Disability Data Asset (NDDA).	
	5.2 ACT public healthcare services feedback	Develop and implement a feedback mechanism for people with disability accessing ACT public healthcare services.	Canberra Health Services

