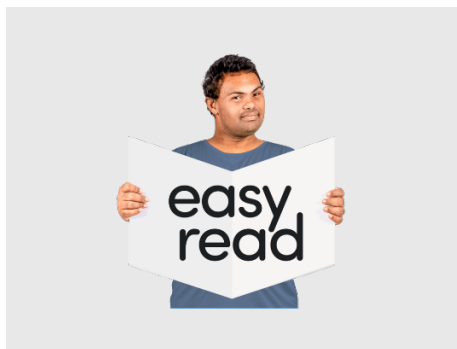


Questions and answers

Family and Supporters Advisory Group



This Easy Read guide is about the Family and Supporters Advisory Group.



The Family and Supporters Advisory Group will be a group of 6-8 people who are a family member or a support person for someone with intellectual disability.



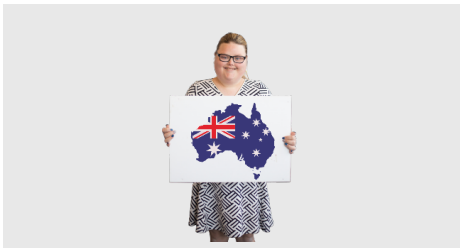
The Family and Supporters Advisory Group will give advice to the **National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health**.

We call it **the Centre** for short.

Who will be in the Family and Supporters Advisory Group?



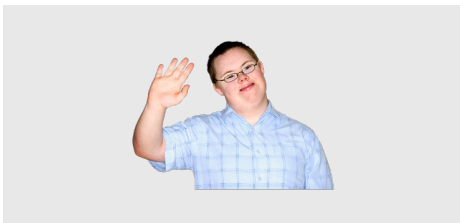
To be part of the Family and Supporters Advisory Group you must:



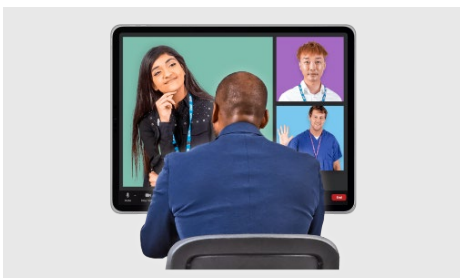
- live in Australia



- be 18 years or older



- be a family member or support a person with an intellectual disability



- be able to join online meetings once every 2 months.



We want lots of different people in the group.

This includes people who support people who:



- are First Nations people



- come from different cultures



- live far away from big cities



- have complex support needs

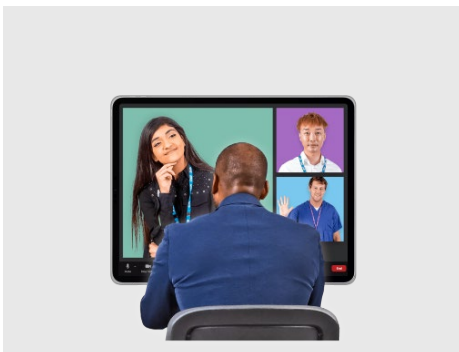


- use alternative communication.

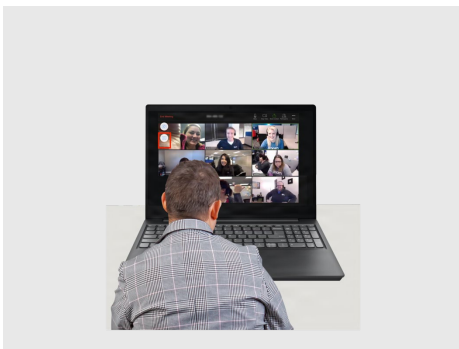
How will the Family and Supporters Advisory Group will work?



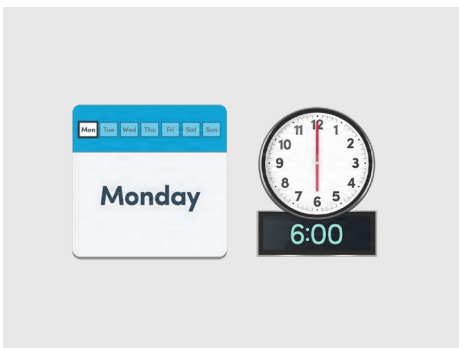
The Family and Supporters Advisory Group will be working together from November 2026.



The group will meet online.



They will meet every 2 months from February 2027.



The meetings will be on Mondays from 6pm **Eastern time** for 2 hours.

Eastern time is what time it is in NSW, Victoria, Queensland, Tasmania and ACT.

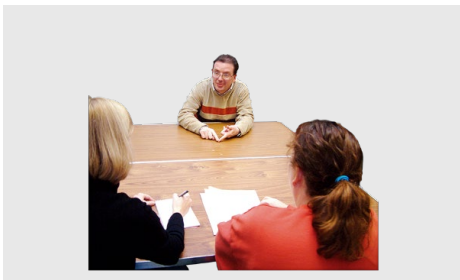
What will the Family and Supporters Advisory Group do?



Group members will:



- Provide advice to the 'Resources for people with intellectual disability, families and supporters' project.



- Help work out what new health resources need to be made.



- Help make sure the resources get to the people and organisations that need them.

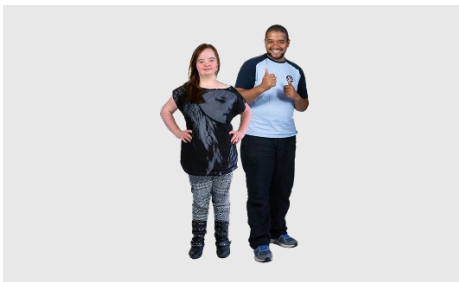


- Give feedback on resources.

Can I join meetings if I do not have a computer?



Someone you know might have a computer you can use.



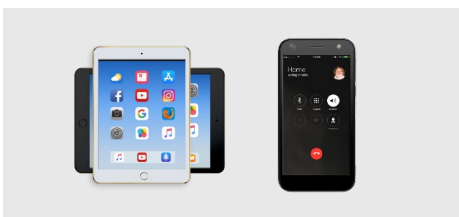
This may be

- a friend
- a family member
- a support person.



Or you may be able to use a computer at

- a library (sound proof area)
- a local service you attend.



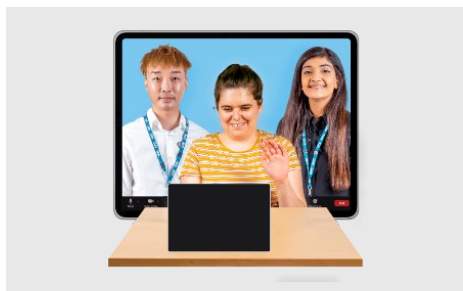
You can also use

- a mobile phone
- an iPad or tablet.

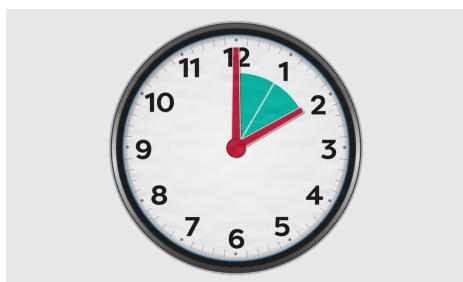


You must be able to connect to the internet.

How many hours will it be for?



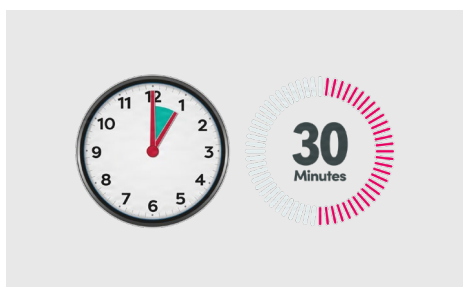
Group members meet online once every 2 months.



Meetings are 2 hours long.



In between meetings you may need to do some preparation for the next meeting.



If there is preparation for a meeting then the meeting time will be 1 hour and 30 minutes.

How long will I be part of the group?



You will be part of the group from November 2026.



You can leave the group whenever you like.

You will need to let Alison know.

Alison will be coordinating the group.

Do I get paid?



Members of the group will be volunteers.



We will pay you an **honarium** of \$200.



An **honarium** means you get paid for each meeting but you are not an employee.

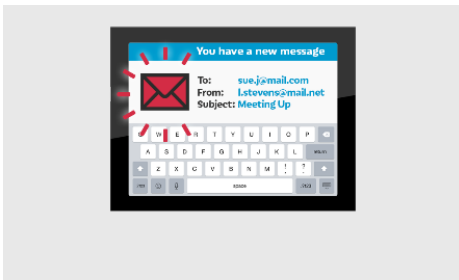


It is also for any preparation work for the meeting.

Do I need a support person?



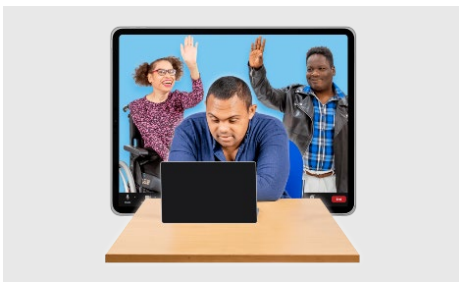
You may not need a Support Person if you can do these things by yourself:



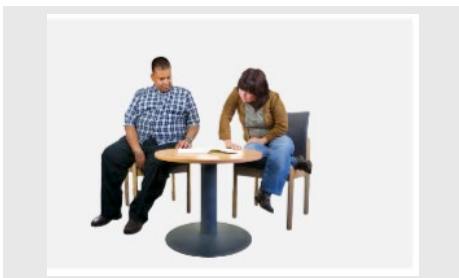
- read emails and documents and respond to them



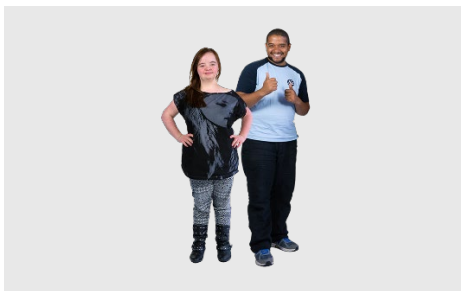
- organise meetings



- join and take part in online meetings



- any preparation work



If you usually have a Support Person then you may need them to support you in this group.



They might be a:

- family member
- friend
- support worker.

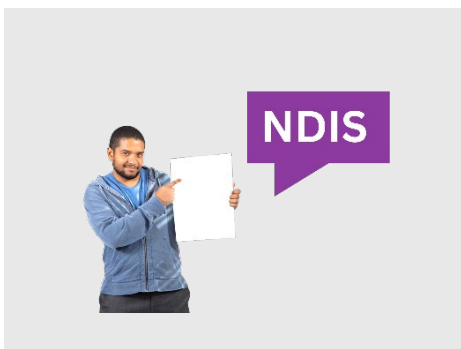


If you have trouble finding a Support Person please let us know.

We may be able to find one.



We can cover the costs of your Support Person.

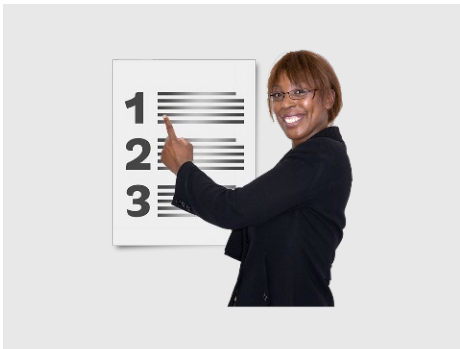


If being a member of the group is one of your NDIS goals you can use your NDIS funds.

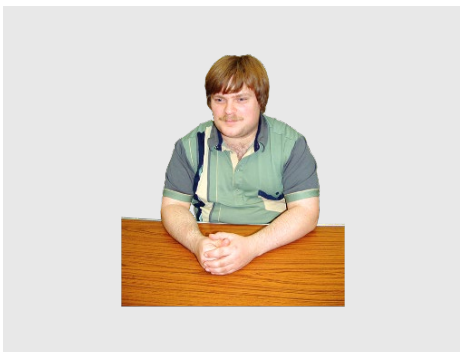
What happens after I submit my Expression of Interest?



We read all the Expressions of Interest.



Then we make a list of people we will call to talk to about being in the group.

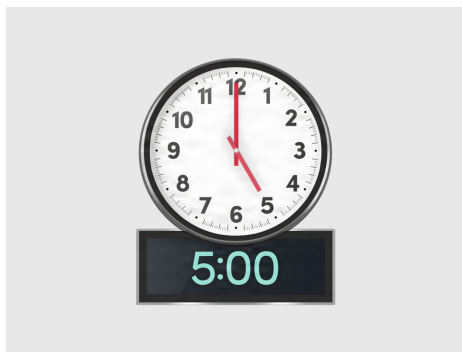


We will contact people on this list to make a time for a phone or video call.



We will tell you if your application is not successful.

When do the Expressions of Interest close?

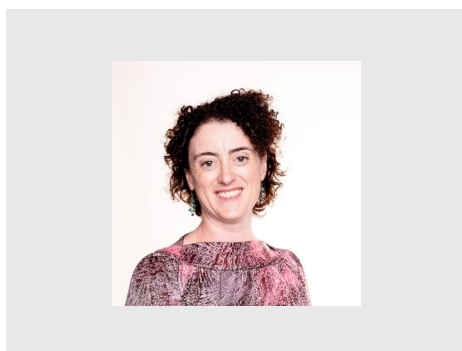


Expressions of Interest close at
5pm on Thursday October 29, 2026

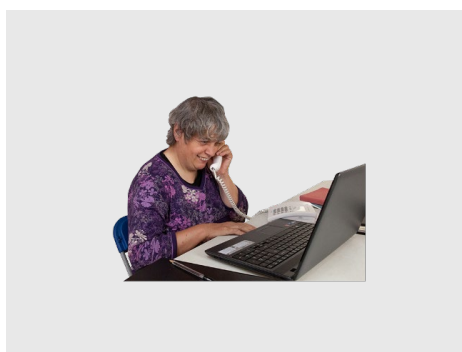


You must finish and submit the Expression of
Interest on this date or before this date.

What if I have questions or need support?



Contact Alison at Down Syndrome Australia
if you need support to apply or have any
questions.
Down Syndrome Australia is part of the
Centre.



Call or text 0438 926 035

Email:

alison.richardson@downsyndrome.org.au

You can also use the National Relay Service.