

stronger together

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A new direction for disability services in NSW :: 2006–2016

Stronger Together: A new direction for disability services 2006–2016 is a NSW Government plan to change the way people with a disability are supported and includes a significant boost in funding: an additional \$1 billion over the first five years.

It promises to deliver better value, better access and better results through a more flexible and innovative system for people with a disability, their families and carers — a system that does not assume one size fits all.

Stronger Together has been developed after 16 months of consultation between the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care and the Minister for Disability Services and people with a disability, their families, service providers, advocates, academics, peak bodies and the community generally.

Implementation of *Stronger Together* will:

- > create fair and more transparent access;
- > help people remain in their own homes;
- > link services to need;
- > provide more options for people living in specialist support services; and
- > create a sustainable support system.

We will achieve change through three areas of effort:

- > **Strengthening families** — enabling children with a disability to grow up in a family and participate in the community;
- > **Count me in...promoting community inclusion** — supporting adults with a disability to live in and be part of the community; and
- > **Improving the system's capacity and accountability** — fairer and clearer ways to access services, greater accountability and more opportunities for innovation.

The first five years at a glance

Strengthening families

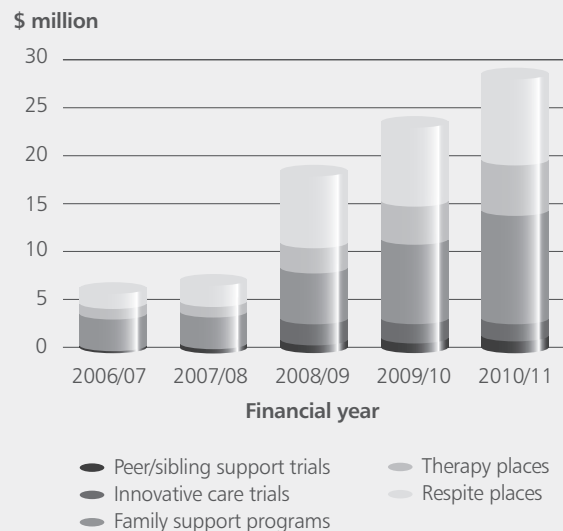
— enabling children and young people with a disability to grow up in a family and participate in the community

\$6 million in 2006/07 and \$83 million over five years

Highlights

- > Continuing increases in intensive, innovative and flexible support packages for children and young people and their families at \$31 million over five years. By the fifth year there will be an additional 1,800 places a year.
- > 200 new therapy places for children with a disability in 2006/07 at \$1.1 million. By the fifth year, the number of therapy places will be 960 a year.
- > 80 additional flexible respite places for children with a disability in 2006/07 at \$1.6 million. By 2010/11, there will be 450 new respite places for children and young people.

Investment in 'Strengthening families'



The first five years at a glance, continued...

Count me in...promoting community inclusion

— supporting adults with a disability to live in and be part of the community

\$87 million in 2006/07 and \$1,013 million over five years

Highlights

- > Expansion of community participation programs for people with a disability from three days a week to four days and five days for people with very high support needs commencing in 2007. This will be at a cost of \$20 million in 2006/07 and \$235 million over five years. This will assist 1,990 people next year.
- > 180 new places for innovative supported accommodation options in 2006/07 at \$46 million. By 2010/11 there will be 990 places, with costs over the five years totalling \$514 million.
- > 130 places in day programs for adults with a disability in 2006/07 at \$2 million and 780 places over five years at \$33 million.
- > 70 intensive in-home support places in 2006/07 at \$5.3 million, with 320 places over five years at \$66 million.
- > Introduce flexible community support packages with 40 packages over five years at \$10 million.
- > Up to \$80 million over five years (with the Commonwealth Government contributing half) to prevent young people entering nursing homes, improve the circumstances of young people in nursing homes and develop alternative models of support for young people living in nursing homes.
- > 400 new therapy places for adults with a disability in 2006/07 at \$2.2 million. By 2010/11 there will be 1,920 new therapy places for adults.
- > 670 additional flexible respite places for adults with a disability in 2006/07 at \$5 million. By 2010/11 there will be 810 new respite places.

Improving the system's capacity and accountability

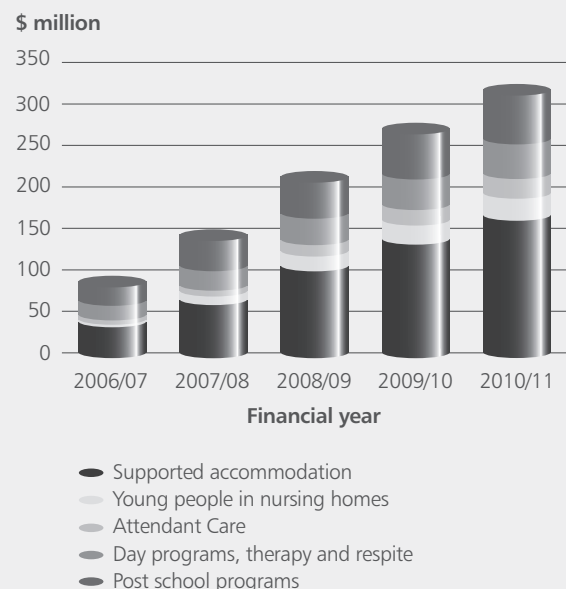
— fairer and clearer ways to access services with greater accountability and more opportunities for innovation

\$61 million in 2006/07 and \$242 million over five years

Highlights

- > Build research and development capacity with \$4.5 million over five years.
- > Develop specialist accommodation with \$23 million over five years (includes capital) — large residential centres will continue to close over time with some of the properties being redeveloped into contemporary village-style accommodation and support.
- > 100 new case managers at \$53 million over five years providing assistance to 4,000 people with a disability and their families per year.
- > Expand training for Government and non-government disability workers at \$15 million over five years.

Investment in 'Count me in'



The NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care will produce a report card on progress against the plan.

Stronger Together: A new direction for disability services in NSW 2006–2016 is available in full or summary on the NSW Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care's website, www.dadhc.nsw.gov.au or in accessible formats by emailing publications@dadhc.nsw.gov.au.