

Mini World Café Responses from DEA 2018 – Presentation by Dr Lisa Stafford and Lisa Hamilton.

- Complexities in the Education-to-Work Journey for Young Adults with Disabilities

1 How well do you think DES providers are equipped to support young adults with disabilities?

Why?

- If DES have specialised experience working with youths they are in a good position
- Do not often have the time to collaborate with schools – early intervention
- Need to understand how best to work with tertiary education system
- Work with teacher to identify students who could be a potential DES staff member
- Need to have skills to work with parents/balance expectations
- DES providers specialise in school to work transition
- Peer mentoring
- Only as policy and DES guidelines allow
- Depends on the DES provider
- DES is limited by policies and guidelines
- DES providers need to work more with schools and education centres
- DES needs to know how school transition works, their VET programmes etc
- This varies between providers and ESA's; I think we could invest in more tailored resources if the ESL eligibility was loosened

2 a) What do you see as the stress/tension points with the NDIS?

- NDIA's planners lack of education on employment support
- NDIA not referring or putting employment supports in plans (> 2.5%)
- Poor links to DES, not connected
- NDIS not knowing enough about it
- NDIS plans tend to lock participants into commitments based on service ability – undermines availability for commitment to open employment
- Having to select a service without knowing what support you need
- Separation between work preparation (or non-DES eligibility) and DES
- Assessment process for school leavers
- Digital literacy of parents to access NDIS
- Delay and difficulties getting plans approved or lack of knowledge of what support is available to go on plans
- Low % of 15-24 year olds with employment on plans
- SLES – education for teachers, parents, LACs and planners
- SLES – no transition to work in Queensland previously, gap was filled by DES providers
- NDIS providers competing with DES
- NDIS often takes a journey towards non-competitive pathways
- LACs need to understand pathways from education

2 b) What do you see as the opportunities with the NDIS? With young adults with disabilities

- NDIA working in partnership with organisations
- Parallel servicing = more support for participants
- DES to work in alignment with NDIS Providers
- SLES – pathways
- Increased choice – increased opportunities
- NDIS providers working with DES providers
- Small percentage of participants electing employment services
- Adopt ticket to work model for LACs/planners