



Easy Read report about the Team Up Evaluation



This Easy Read report is about Team Up.



Team Up is about peer support.



Peer support means people with disability helping and supporting each other.

Team Up has two parts:



1. Training

Teaching people:

- what peer support is
- how to lead peer support



2. Grants

Giving money and help to run peer support groups

Team Up was run by:



NSW Council for Intellectual
Disability



Community Disability Alliance
Hunter



Disability and Diversity Alliance



The Intellectual Disability Behaviour Support Program at UNSW Sydney did an evaluation of Team Up.



Evaluation means asking if Team Up did what it was meant to.

The evaluation included:

- people with disability
- family members
- Team Up staff



Ways to take part were:



- Interviews – talking one-on-one



- Focus groups – talking in a group



- Written feedback



This report is about what the evaluation found out.

Valuing lived experience



Team Up helped people with disability learn from each other.



People shared information. Some people made changes in their lives.



It was sometimes hard for people with disability and family members to learn from each other.



It was sometimes hard when people had different things they wanted to share.

Leading peer support



Some people with disability learnt how to lead peer support.

This could be running peer support training or a group.

It could also be just knowing how to help other people with disability.



It was sometimes hard to find chances to lead peer support once people had learnt how.



It takes time and money to help people lead peer support. If the time and money ran out, it might be hard for people to keep running peer support.

Having choice and control

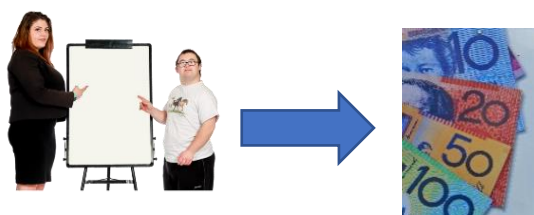


Most people with disability who got a grant said they had choice and control about how to use it.

People chose to run lots of different types of peer support groups.



Sometimes paperwork stopped people having all the choice and control they wanted.



People might have had more choice and control if the training had run before the grants.

Being part of a community



The grants helped people with disability take part in their community. This could be going to events or different places in the community.



The grants also helped people advocate for more knowledge about disability in their community.



People said Team Up also let them be part of a community with other people with disability. Lots of people liked this.

Being accessible

There was lots of effort to make sure Team Up was easy to use for:



- People who speak Auslan



- People who use AAC



- People who use Easy Read



There were still ways that Team Up could be easier to use. For example, the training was not accessible to screen readers.



It takes time and money to make Team Up easy to use. If the time and money ran out, it might be hard for people to keep using Team Up.

Being diverse



There was lots of effort to make sure people with disability from different cultures could be part of Team Up.



It would be good if more people from different cultures got grants. This might have happened if:

- the grant application forms were in more languages
- the training happened before the grants
- there were more ideas about how to give them grants



More time and money is needed to make sure people from more cultures can be part of Team Up.

Learning from feedback



Team Up listened to feedback. It made some changes to make the training and grants better.



The ways to give feedback were not always clear.



Telling people more clearly how to give feedback would help make Team Up better in the future.

Seeing peer support as a good option



People with disability now use peer support more often than they did before Team Up started.



Team Up staff said they think peer support is more known about now than before Team Up started.

Having people for peer support



Team Up helped to make sure there are more people with disability who can lead peer support.



Time and money is needed to support the people who run peer support. If the time and money runs out, it will be hard to help peer support leaders in the future.

Having resources for peer support



Team Up helped to make sure there are resources so people know how to run peer support in the future.



There is still more to do to make sure that everything people learnt from Team Up is written down so that other people can use it.



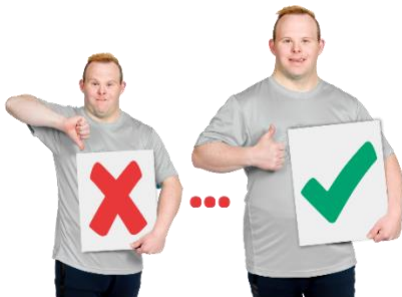
Time and money is needed to keep making resources for peer support. If the time and money runs out, it will be hard to keep peer support running in the future.

What does it all mean?

Everything everyone said about Team Up means that:



- Team Up did a good job helping people with disability with peer support



- There are things it can do better and should keep working on



- To keep getting better, Team Up needs more time and money to make sure that it can keep up its work in the future.

The reference for this Easy Read report is:

Meltzer, A., Dew, A., Dowse, L. and Dillon Savage, I. (2018) *Easy Read report about the Team Up Evaluation*. Sydney: UNSW Sydney.

This report is an Easy Read copy of the following main report:

Meltzer, A., Dew, A., Dowse, L. and Dillon Savage, I. (2018). *Team Up Evaluation: Final Report*. Sydney: UNSW Sydney.

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