Let's do what works

The right support at the right time

Easy Read

www.cid.org.au

The right support at the right time

People with intellectual disability do not always get the right support at the right time.

They do not always get good support from health services.

They are more likely to have contact with the **criminal justice system**.

The **criminal justice system** means services for people who get in trouble with police.

Some people think people with intellectual disability cannot make their own decisions.

CID wants the NSW Government to make it easier to get good support.

People need support at the right time to have a good life.

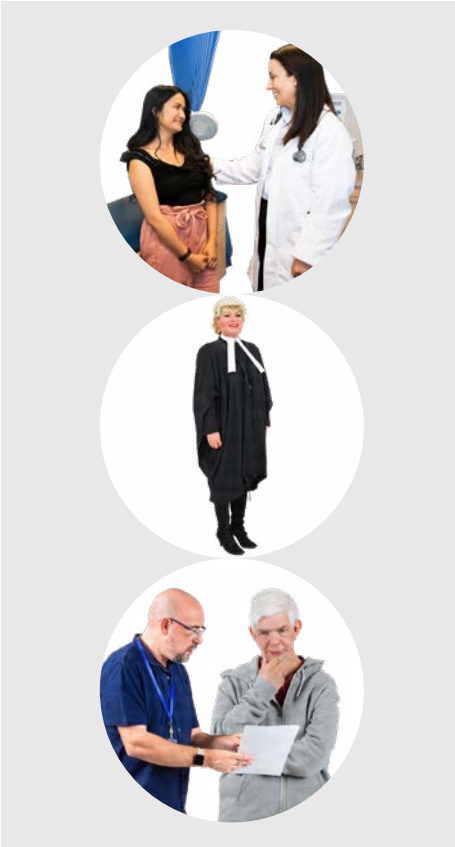
Our campaign

Council for Intellectual Disability are doing a **campaign** called Lets do what works.

We say CID for short.

A **campaign** is where CID asks the government to make things better for people with intellectual disability.

People with intellectual disability need the right support at the right time.



This is support with

- Health
- The justice system
- Making choices about their lives.

People with intellectual disability have told us what works well for them.

Now it is time to do what works.

More health care support

We want people with intellectual disability to get more support with their health care.

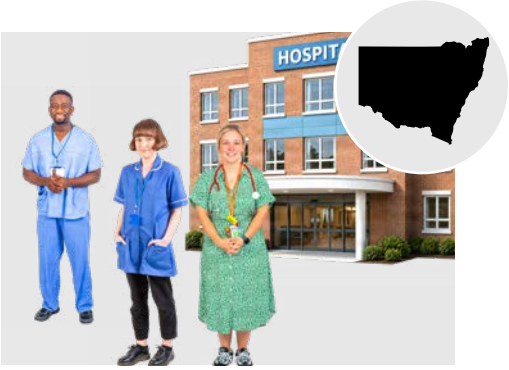
It can be hard for people with intellectual disability to find good health care.

They may not be able to see doctors and other health workers who understand what they need.

We need health and medical staff who know about intellectual disability.

Bad support with health means people with intellectual disability

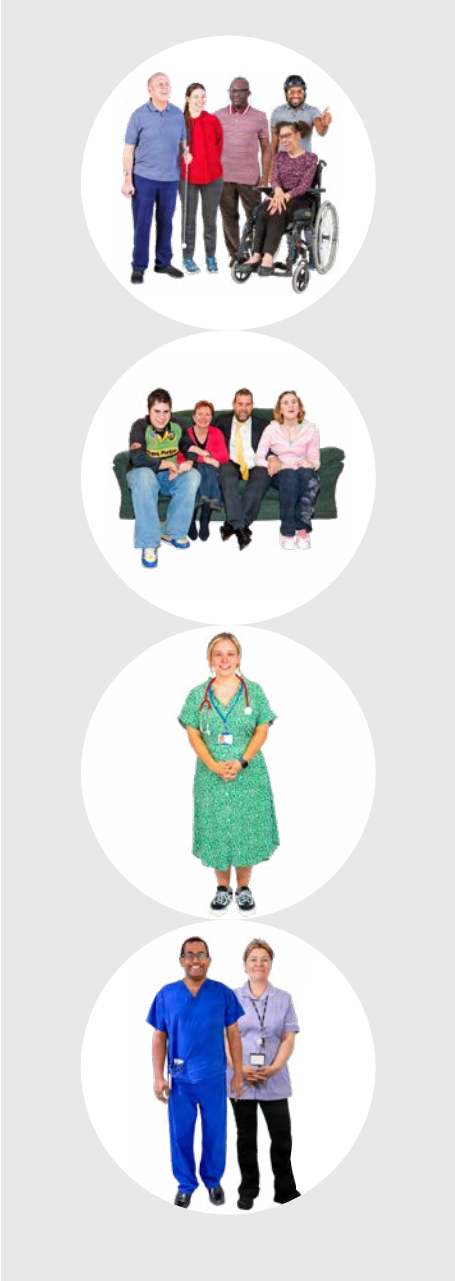
- Often die 27 years before people without intellectual disability
- Need to go to hospital more often
- Are more likely to die from health problems that could be fixed.



We want **intellectual disability health teams** in every **local health district** in NSW.

Intellectual disability health teams are teams of medical staff who know about intellectual disability.

Local health districts look after health in different parts of NSW.



Intellectual disability health teams can support

- People with intellectual disability
- Their families
- GPs
- Hospital staff.

They will help people with intellectual disability get the right support at the right time.

This will mean people with intellectual disability will have better support for their health.

This will mean that less people will need to go to hospital.

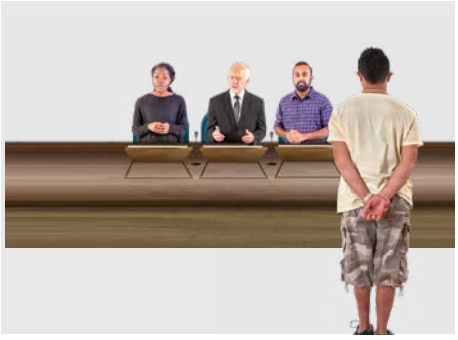
The government will spend less money on health needs as health problems will be fixed before they get serious.

There will be more options for health supports.

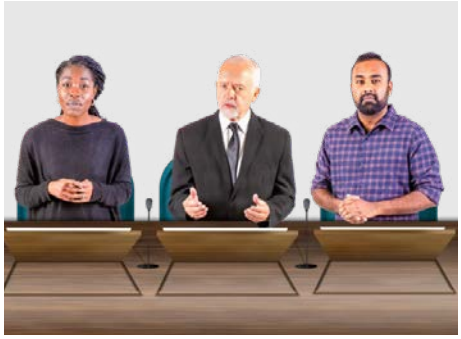
This is important with the changes to the NDIS.

More support in the criminal justice system

We want people with intellectual disability to have more support in the criminal justice system.



Often people with intellectual disability are in the criminal justice system because they do not have the right support.



Courts might not understand the support a person with intellectual disability needs.

Judges might send a person to jail because there is no other support.

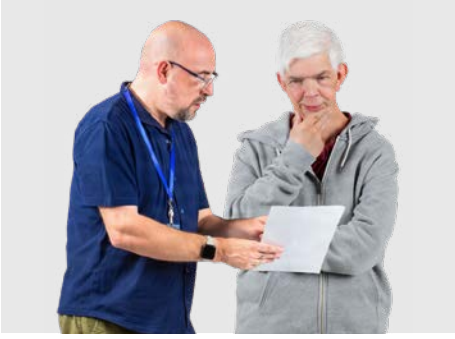
Changes to the NDIS may make this worse.

People with intellectual disability are more likely to go to jail.

First Nations people with intellectual disability are even more likely to go to jail.

People with intellectual disability in jail often get hurt by other people.

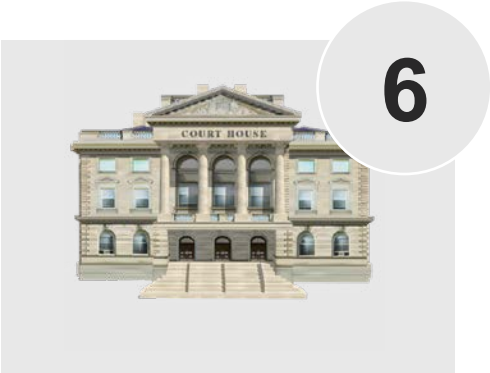
People with intellectual disability often go to jail more than 1 time.



The **Justice Advocacy Service Diversion Program** helps people get the support they need.

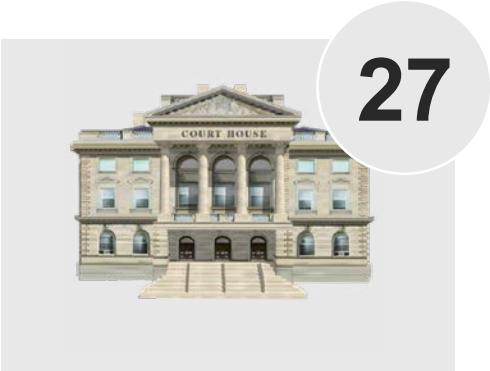
We call it the **program** for short.

It also helps people to not break the law again.



The program is only in 6 NSW courts.

This means that only people who go to these courts can get support.



We want the program to be in 27 NSW Local Courts.

This will help people get the right support at the right time.

The support means that courts will be fairer for people with intellectual disability.

They will also have more support for a good life.

If the program is in more Local Courts

- Less people will get in trouble with the law again
- Less money will be spent by the government on the criminal justice system
- People will get better NDIS support.

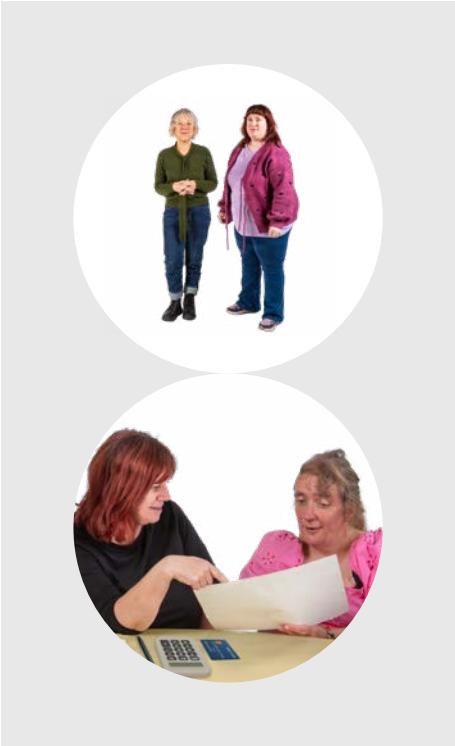
More support to make decisions

We want more support for people with intellectual disability to make their own decisions.

People with intellectual disability may not get support to learn how to make decisions.

They may not get the support they need to make their own choices.

They may not get support at the right time.



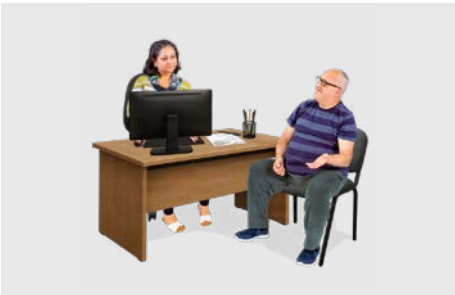
If someone does not have the right support to make decisions they might be given a

- **Guardian**

- **Financial manager**.

A **guardian** is a person who makes decisions for a person if they cannot make them.

A **financial manager** makes decisions about money for a person.



Having a guardian or financial manager can mean a person has less control over their life.

The **NSW Trustee and Guardian** is a government service that can make decisions for people.

There are no other options for the government to support people to make their own decisions.

We want the **NSW Ageing and Disability Commissioner** to help everyone understand support for decision making.

We will say **ADC** for short.

We want the ADC to support services and government to get better at support for decision making.

This will mean that guardianship and financial management will only be done when it is really needed.

Supported decision making will make sure people get the right support at the right time.

The right support means people with intellectual disability will

- Have more choice in their lives
- Have less need for paid services
- Be more able to protect themselves from abuse or neglect.

Why we need this campaign

The right support at the right time means that people with intellectual disability will be better supported in the community.

We want to hear stories from people about these issues.

You can tell us your story here

www.cid.org.au/our-campaigns/lets-do-what-works

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