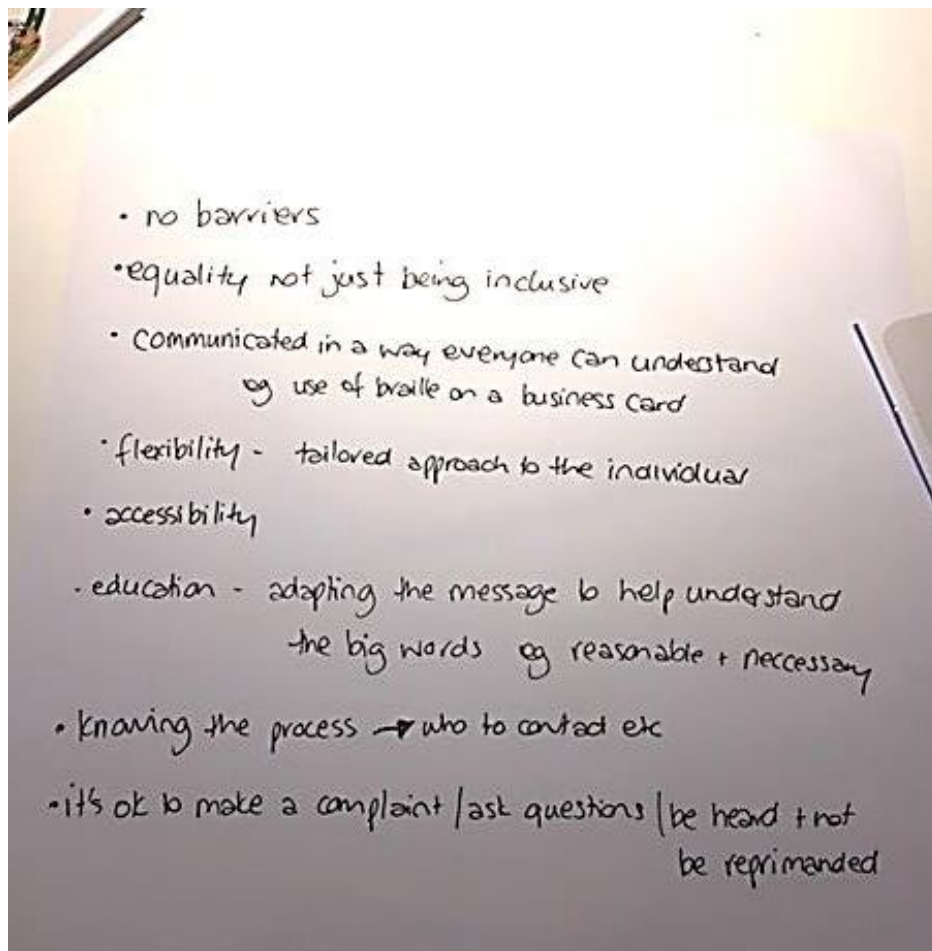


Workshop C: NDIS

Workshop convenors: Peta and Shanana, Uniting – 2 discussions held simultaneously



Notes discussion 1 (1:45 – 3pm) Uniting



Notes from discussion 2 (1:45 – 3pm) CRN

Uniting is moving into 'codesign' space within NDIS – seeking partners in collaborative projects.

Q: How do we provide culturally appropriate services eg. Arab community-specific?

Many cultures feel shame and don't disclose disability of family members and avoid 'outing' family members, so access to NDIS not utilised.

Uniting can provide informal advice on cultural issues but not staff training in this area.

There are some services in the area providing cultural competency training (eg. Health).

Universal values of engagement (respect, listening, reflection, acknowledging) provide good start.

Uniting helps people complete the Access Request Form. This form has proved a barrier for access in many cases, with rejections being due to GPs and Specialists not clearly stating impact of a person's identified disability on the form.

The systemic response to this issue is currently patchy. A guide for GPs and Specialists has been produced but uptake of the required practice is inconsistent. Information Linkage and Capacity Grants are available for individual projects. Systemic issues are generally identified at management level and passed upward to NDIA.

This point led on to a discussion of the value of systemic advocacy in NDIS and the bearing of competitive tendering on this value.

The discussion completed with explanation of the division of labour within NDIS. Ie. NDIA, Local Area Coordinators, Services, Support Coordinators, Clients and their community support.

See diagram below:

