



**International Initiative for Disability Leadership:
The best learning experience in 2017
Sydney, Australia: 27th Feb – 3rd March**

The International Initiative for Disability Leadership (IIDL) (<http://www1.iimhl.com/iidl/>) is a unique international leadership forum that shares knowledge, innovation and effective practices to support the vision of a full life in the community for children, adults and elders with a disability. IIDL is a collaboration of four countries: Australia, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland and Canada, with participation from the UK, Sweden and the USA.

IIDL organizes opportunities for international networking, innovation sharing and problem solving across countries and agencies. The overall aim of these opportunities is to provide better outcomes for people who use disability services and their families. Membership of IIDL is free for those in member countries, and any leader in disability can join to keep up with overseas developments. Join by using this link: <http://www1.iimhl.com/MemDir/IIDLMembership.asp>

To view our 2015 Annual Report, please go to: <http://ow.ly/uW7X304kC4C>

**2017 International Leadership Exchange
'Contributing Lives, Thriving Communities'**

Jointly hosted with the International Initiative for Mental Health Leadership (IIMHL), this week-long learning event will take place in Australia, in collaboration with New Zealand, from 27th of February to the 3rd of March 2017. The week consists of two events: Leadership Matches and Combined Meeting. The Leadership Matches are held across Australia and New Zealand.

27th – 28th February: Leadership Matches

On the 27th and 28th of February the Leadership Matches will take place across both Australia and New Zealand. Leadership matches give participants the chance to visit a leading local service or agency, and learn about their leadership on a particular question or theme. The program of these Leadership Matches includes:

Theme	Host	Location
Delivering Self-Directed Supports	Avivo	Perth, Western Australia (Australia)
Agency Transformation – Key Agency Decisions	Amicus	Bendigo, Victoria (Australia)
Supporting Greater Autonomy	Community Connections Supported Living Trust	Paraparaumu, Wellington (New Zealand)
Building Individual and Family Leadership for Inclusive Lives	Community Resource Unit Inc	Brisbane, Queensland (Australia)
NDIS: Opportunities, challenges and responses	National Disability Services	Sydney, New South Wales (Australia)
Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS): Site Service delivery and implementation	National Disability Insurance Agency	Barwon, Victoria (Australia)

Never Lose Sight of Your Dreams - Creating a Real Life	Kalapana	Brisbane, Queensland (Australia)
The power to choose something different: supporting change by people with disabilities in systems where there are personalised budgets	InCharge	Sydney, New South Wales (Australia)
Creating Capacity and Confidence Through Individualised Funding	Manawanui InCharge	Albany, Auckland (New Zealand)
A Good Life : Elements of Quality Supports and Services	Western Australia's Individualised Services & Microboards Australia	Perth, Western Australia (Australia)
My Life My Choice – How to have control of my life	My Place	Perth, Western Australia
Person Centred Thinking and Planning	Centre for Disability Studies	Sydney, New South Wales (Australia)
So What Do You Call Challenging?	Quality Lifestyle Support	Toowoomba, Queensland (Australia)
Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) : Strategic Overview and Insurance Approach	National Disability Insurance Agency	Sydney, New South Wales (Australia)
Building Good Lives in the Community	Community Living Project	Christies Beach, South Australia (Australia)
The Challenge of Authentic Transformation Within Large Provider Agencies	UnitingCare Community	Brisbane, Queensland (Australia)
Intersectionality and Meeting the Needs of Aboriginal People with Disability	First Peoples Disability Network (Australia)	Sydney, New South Wales (Australia)

For more information, availability and registration, go to:

<http://www1.iimhl.com/IIDL/Meetings/Themes.asp?msstat=2>

Benefits: The expected outcomes of the leadership matches are significant. Participants have an exceptional opportunity to gather information on a particular approach or strategy from staff, individuals, and their families or carers, access to resources, and the ability to develop a network of ongoing contacts for further follow up.

2nd - 3rd March: Combined Meeting in Sydney

The Leadership Matches precede a Combined Meeting, which will take place on March 2nd & 3rd at the Hilton Sydney. This two-day Combined Meeting is an opportunity for international leaders to learn more about innovation, research, and best practices in the areas of disability and mental health, from expert speakers and from peers.

This year, the IIDL Combined Meeting will address various disability themes of interest and development in member countries. Speakers are being progressively confirmed and include a wide range of Australian, New Zealand, and international leaders from member and participant countries. Further details to follow as speakers are progressively confirmed. Confirmed topics include:

- *Contributing lives and thriving communities – Keynote*
- *State of the Nations – Key leadership and sector updates from member and participating countries*
- *The journey to create the NDIS in Australia – the power of combined leadership*
- *Self-direction and Psychosocial Disability/Mental Health – an international perspective*
- *SPARK training and framework on international knowledge exchange – including highlights from a selection of matches featuring peer and family leadership*
- *Highlighting opportunities through leadership networks in disability – Indigenous/First Peoples, disability peoples organisations, and service providers*
- *Brag and Steal – a marketplace of 6 to 8 leading edge initiatives that will share their resources and progress*

Benefits: an international perspective on key disability leadership and sector developments, latest developments for mental health and psychosocial disability, training framework for international knowledge exchange, connection to regional and international leaders.

For everyone travelling from their Leadership Match to the meeting in Sydney, an evening welcoming reception is organised on March 1st at the Hilton.

For the preliminary agenda and registration, please go to <http://www.iimhl.com/iidl-leadership-exchange-2017-sydney> .

Next steps:

Registration for both Leadership Matches and the Combined Meeting is required. Demand for the Leadership Match and for the Combined Meeting is strong, please register early. There is no cost to participate in the exchanges or the Combined Meeting. Participants have to cover the costs of travel and accommodation.

Please pay careful attention to the location of Leadership Matches.

Before the IIDL meetings, National Disability Services are having an independent conference on the topic of 'Turning Plans into Outcomes'. This may be of interest to attendees, and more information can be found at:

<https://www.nds.org.au/events-and-training/conferences/nds-nsw-conference-2017>

We look forward to meeting you in Sydney!