

Safeguarding Policy

Policy statement

Patches is committed to promoting and protecting individual rights and maximising the choice and control of people with disability in decisions about their lives. This policy outlines the role of safeguarding supports and mechanisms to ensure the safety of people with disability and the quality of services.

Patches is dedicated to providing an environment where people with disability to whom it provides services are protected from abuse, neglect or harm and where staff work according to our organisational values.

This policy supports Patches to apply the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Practice Standards for Rights and Responsibilities, Provider Governance and Operational Management and Provision of Supports.

Scope

This policy applies to all individuals engaged in a service arrangement with Patches.

Principles

- Safeguarding improves safety and wellbeing, while imposing the least possible restriction on an individual and their choices.
- Safeguards are responsive to the individual's circumstance and are relevant to the risk within these circumstances. These factors may change over time.
- Every person should be supported to develop their individual skills and capacity and be involved in determining their own safeguards.
- People who need and want support to make decisions will be supported to exercise choice.
- Safeguards can be informal or formal and work at an individual and/or organisational level.
- A person's money or other property is only used with their consent and for the purposes they intended.
- Supports are provided based on the least intrusive options that meet the person's needs and help achieve desired outcomes.

Key actions

Definitions

- Safeguarding - actions designed to protect the rights of people to be safe from the risk of harm, abuse and neglect, while maximising the choice and control they have over their lives.

Related policy and procedures

- Eliminating restrictive practices policy, procedures and practices
- Choice and control policy

Related legislation and policy

- Disability Services Act 1993 (WA)
- Code of Practice for the Elimination of Restrictive Practice (revised 2019)
- National Standards for Disability Services
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Act 2013
- National Disability Insurance Scheme Rules
- Western Australia National Disability Insurance Scheme Operational Policy Safeguarding (June 2016)
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- NDIS Practice Standards and Quality Indicators 2021

Document Control

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