

## New Resources for LGBTIQ+ People Navigating Australia's NDIS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

*Wednesday 21 JULY 2022* - Thorne Harbour Health and Inclusion Melbourne have released a set of resources for LGBTIQ+ people with disability to understand their rights and navigate Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

LGBTIQ+ people with disability consistently indicate that they have had poor experiences navigating both the NDIS planning process and working with NDIS registered providers in addressing their specific intersectional needs.

The suite of resources includes:

- Knowing Your Rights: Disability & LGBTIQ+ Australians
- Preparing for your NDIS Plan
- LGBTIQ+ Clauses for Your Contract

Community advocate Ruby Mountford was the project lead on the partnership between Thorne Harbour Health and Inclusion Melbourne.

"Unfortunately, the needs of LGBTIQ+ people with disabilities have not been adequately understood or valued," they said.

"These resources have been developed in collaboration with a group of LGBTIQ+ people with disabilities – built from their collective wisdom and their experiences navigating systems, services and LGBTIQ+ spaces."

"While we want to see the systems that support people with disability build their capacity to better work with LGBTIQ+ people, we also want to equip our communities with the tools they need to make sure their needs and identity are respected. People with disability can use these resources to learn about their rights and embed them into contracts they sign with people they hire to support them," said Inclusion Melbourne's Nathan Despott.

"As we continue to take collective action to advocate for the improved health and wellbeing of our LGBTIQ+ communities, we need to ensure LGBTIQ+ people with disability have the resources they need to protect their rights and get the best possible results when engaging with a NDIS registered provider," said Thorne Harbour Health CEO Simon Ruth.

All three resources are available online at: [thorneharbour.org/disabilityresources](https://thorneharbour.org/disabilityresources)

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