



Justifying the Purchase of the Circle of Support Project Against the Criteria on Page 8 of the NDIS Self Manager's Guide

Will the support help you to reach the goals in your NDIS plan

My son has a goal to build friendships and increase the number of informal supports [could be any goal as circles help people with disability to achieve their goals].

Our strategy to achieve this and other goals in his plan is to form a circle of support. A circle of support is a group of family and friends that form around a person with a disability to support them to achieve their goals for a good life. They do this in an unpaid capacity and use the creativity of the group and the member's networks to achieve these goals.

Is the support reasonably priced and good value?

While there is freely available information about circles of support just accessing this information has proven to be not enough. I have not been able to form a circle as I need more individualised, step by step guidance and an expert mentor to help me overcome issues and maintain momentum. The cost of the course is \$1997 which comes with individual mentoring and peer support. This makes this course very good value for money as these additional factors increase the likelihood of achieving our goals greatly.

Can you afford the support within your support budget?

I have reviewed my budget and I can afford this support. It will not mean that I have to reduce other vital supports in order to pay for this support.

Will the support help you to connect with your community and improve the relationships you have with family and friends?

Yes – a key purpose of a circle of support is to enable connection with community and help family and friends to be supported in their roles as informal supports.

Is the support something that should be funded by the NDIS and not other government services?

This kind of support is best funded by the NDIS. Funding for this support is not provided by other government services.

Is the support safe?

This course has been designed by people with training and experience in setting up and working with circles of support. A key focus of the training is to enable circle members to uphold the human rights of the focus person through person centred planning, enabling choice and control and building valued social roles in the community.