

[Date]

[Name]

[Title]

Sent by email: [email address]

Dear [name]

Subject: removal of music therapy as an NDIS-funded therapeutic support: urgent action needed

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the recent decision by the Department of Social Services to **remove music therapy** from the Capacity Building – Improved Daily Living category under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). This decision, made without consultation with the music therapy community, will significantly impact NDIS participants who rely on music therapy to achieve their goals.

[This is a good spot to add a personal note. "As a registered music therapist, I have witnessed firsthand how music therapy enables NDIS participants to achieve their goals. For instance, I worked with a ... who used music therapy to improve ... with the outcome Removing this support would deprive individuals like Emily of the opportunity to thrive."]

Music therapy has been a funded therapeutic support since the inception of the NDIS. Music therapy is an evidence-based allied health profession with proven benefits, including improvements in:

- movement and physical coordination
- speech, communication, and social skills
- behaviour, self-regulation, and mental health
- cognition, memory, and attention.

The removal of funding will leave most NDIS participants unable to access this vital support, jeopardising their ability to meet their goals. This decision not only undermines the principles of participant choice and inclusion at the heart of the NDIS but also risks eroding trust in the NDIA.

In [your region], music therapy is a lifeline for many individuals and families.

[If you can, add a local perspective or a personal story. "Dozens of participants depend on music therapy to achieve their goals, such as ... Further, a number of organisations provide these services, such as"]

As your constituent, I urge you to use your influence to:

- **Pause** the implementation of this decision and initiate an independent review to ensure fairness and transparency.
- **Provide a clear reason** for the decision to deny NDIS participants funding for music therapy.
- **Protect participants' right** to choose therapies that meet their unique needs and align with their individual goals.

Music therapy is a recognised allied health profession delivered by highly qualified, registered music therapists who meet rigorous professional standards. Its benefits are supported by a strong evidence base, and its impact on improving lives and inclusion for people with disability is undeniable.

[This is a good spot to add another story. "I have witnessed firsthand how music therapy enables NDIS participants to achieve their goals. For instance, I worked with a ... who used music therapy to improve ... with the outcome Removing this support would deprive individuals like Emily of the opportunity to thrive."]

I respectfully ask for your support in urging DSS to reverse this decision.

Together, we can ensure that NDIS participants retain access to music therapy and continue to benefit from this therapeutic support.

I would be grateful for your response on this matter, as well as any actions you take to advocate for the continuation of funding for music therapy.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[Your name and contact details]