

# SUMMER FOUNDATION

CONNECT & SUPPORT



COVID-19  
RESPONSE

## DISCHARGE FOLLOW-UP SERVICE

Due to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, there is a significant risk that hospitals may be forced to discharge people with disability home early from rehabilitation programs and/or to interim discharge destinations that are not sustainable or appropriate long term.

The Summer Foundation's Discharge Follow-up Service will support hospitals by following up NDIS participants, or those likely to be eligible, with high and complex support needs who are being discharged quickly from hospital.

### This service is for

- Patients leaving hospital with high and complex disability support needs
- Hospital discharge planners
- Occupational therapists and social workers in hospitals
- NDIS support coordinators and support workers

### What we will be doing

Summer Foundation staff with clinical backgrounds will provide a phone outreach service to people with disability who have been recently discharged from hospital. This service will:

- Check to see how individuals and their close others are managing post discharge
- Support people to navigate the NDIS and access essential services
- Provide flexible funding for urgent essential services and supports
- Provide information about other assistance organisations
- Support individuals to explore housing options
- Provide information about COVID-19
- Work with support coordinators and support workers

### Service Outcomes

- People will be connected with appropriate health and NDIS supports
- Improved movement through the NDIS process
- Support services will be in place to meet immediate needs
- More people will be living in appropriate housing
- People will have a better understanding of COVID-19 and how it relates to their situation

### How it will work

- Health professional completes referral and patient consent form (found at [summerfoundation.org.au/discharge-follow-up-service/#referral-form](https://summerfoundation.org.au/discharge-follow-up-service/#referral-form)) to allow the Summer Foundation to follow up with participant
- 4-6 week follow-up if the person is well supported
- 1-2 week follow-up if the person is not well supported
- Referral to case management/clinical experts if needed

### More information

Email: [postdischargefollowup@summerfoundation.org.au](mailto:postdischargefollowup@summerfoundation.org.au)