

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## Spotlighting abuse and neglect of people with disability

Carers Australia is sympathetic to calls for a possible Royal Commission following on from the publication of the Senate Inquiry into *Abuse and neglect against people with disability in institutional and residential settings*.

“The evidence presented to this Inquiry is harrowing, particularly the stories told by witnesses with disability and their carers,” said Ara Cresswell, CEO of Carers Australia.

“The establishment of the National Disability Insurance Scheme Quality and Safeguards Commission and the NDIS Code of Conduct will provide considerable protection for those who are eligible for the Scheme.

“However, such protection will only go part of the way to address the many contexts identified in the Senate’s report where people with disability are subject to physical and psychological abuse, humiliation and neglect – including in schools, transport services, aged care and community housing to name but a few,” said Ms Cresswell.

“Most people are probably aware in a general sense that these situations occur. However, as other Royal Commissions have demonstrated, it is only by shining a spotlight on the extent of the problem and harm caused to individuals that the issues and the will to address them come to the forefront of public awareness.”

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