

## Disability Information and Advisory Service (DIAS)

---

### What is a DIAS?

The Ministry of Health funds a number of organisations throughout the country to provide disability information and advice in the form of a DIAS. Some of these services are individual regional organisations while others provide information through a national network.

### What does a DIAS do?

A DIAS provides independent information and/or advice to disabled people, their families, whanau, aiga, caregivers, providers and the general public. This information should be accessible and appropriate to the needs of the information seeker.

A DIAS provides information on both Ministry and non-Ministry funded disability support services and how you can find them. This information may include how to find support and advocacy groups, how to find a Needs Assessment and Service Co-ordination (NASC) organisation and other community information, as well as specific information related to a particular disability.

### Who can use a DIAS?

The service is available to everyone and there is no charge to use it. You can make use of the DIAS service whenever you chose.

### How do I get information?

Most DIAS produce printed information in the form of a pamphlet, flyer and/or newsletter. They can also supply information in a format to suit your needs such as braille or large print. Most DIAS offer face-to-face visits and contact via phone and fax and some have their own website.

### How do I find a DIAS?

You can find DIAS organisations by looking on-line at <http://www.moh.govt.nz/disability> under contacts or by contacting your local NASC. Some DIAS are also listed under Personal Help Services – Health – at the front of the white pages or under “D” in the white pages. Your doctor should also be able to help you find a DIAS organization that can meet your needs.

For more information on Disability Support Services, and the services we fund look online at [www.moh.govt.nz/disability](http://www.moh.govt.nz/disability), email [disability@moh.govt.nz](mailto:disability@moh.govt.nz), or call 0800 DSD MOH (373 664).

### Other fact sheets in this series:

- Carer Support
- Community Residential Support Services
- Home and Community Support Services (HCSS)
- Needs Assessment and Service Co-ordination (NASC)
- Respite Services
- Frequently Asked Questions
- How do I make a complaint?

### Other pamphlets in this series:

- Information on Disability Support Services
- Equipment and Modifications