

Hi Gloria,

I have been waiting to hear back from the results of our care team meeting in early June, were you able to sort out any assistance for us at all?

We received BuddyBoy's NDIS plan last week but I'm talking with RIAC about requesting a review. While we have a good plan, it is not enough for BuddyBoy's specific situation, let alone taking into account that we have to care for other children as well. And it certainly doesn't help us with sleep, etc, and means we have to cut back on support hours from what we were currently doing. Both hubby and I are struggling with too little sleep and as a result getting sick more often, so we've been yelling at the children and unable to care for them properly, because BuddyBoy takes up all our energy and then some. Last night BuddyBoy did not sleep again and I have to drive two kids to Melbourne for a paediatrician's appointment today and I'm honestly concerned about staying awake during the drive.

We saw RC who recommended an intensive program to help BuddyBoy overcome his stims and be able to learn to use a communication system. Unfortunately we do not have the time, energy, space or funding to do this. We've had our RDI therapist and psychologist come for a visit, who also recommended a more structured and intensive program. Our Occupational Therapist is at the point where she cannot help a great deal until BuddyBoy has a communication system in place and is able to cooperate with at least some things. If BuddyBoy was an only child I would find it challenging enough, but given that we have other children who are falling through the cracks, it's just impossible.

Could you please look into a short term placement for BuddyBoy, so that we can try and repair the damage to our house and family while we have a bit of a break from him. I'm hoping that with a few weeks/ months' break, we will be able to avoid relinquishment.

Thank you,  
Martina