



A future where  
**good work** is available  
to more **Australians**



## BE PART OF

A national system-wide collaboration for people with a health condition or disability to engage in good work - that's good for people, good for community and good for business.



# JOIN A GROWING NETWORK

Breaking down barriers in our systems and culture starts with broad cross-sector coordination, which is what the Collaborative Partnership is all about.

By connecting the following sectors and industries, along with the public, private and not-for-profit sectors, we form a powerful national alliance that can influence significant change:

- Government
- Workplace relations
- Workers' compensation
- Motor vehicle accident compensation
- Life Insurance
- Superannuation
- General insurance
- Peak professional bodies
- Unions
- Financial services
- National corporations
- Health insurance



Good work is good for all of us. For hundreds of thousands of Australians with a health condition or disability, the chance to engage in good work is often limited. >>>



## 786K

People unable to work due to a health condition or disability in 2015-16

## 6.5M

People that accessed employer provided entitlements for short periods of work incapacity in 2015-16

## \$37.2 BILLION









Amount spent in one year on income replacement and benefits for people who were unable to work

# COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIP STRATEGY 2020-22\*









We have a bold two-year Strategy. Our partners are working on five pillars that are person-centred and focused on the movement and transition between Australia's income and benefit support systems, and the roles of employers, employees and General Practitioners (GPs).

Everything we do is geared to developing solutions and making tangible inroads into improving work participation for every Australian. We know this issue is complex, our role is to find ways to fix it.

One major barrier is the complexity of Australia's income support and benefit systems. Evidence shows that while these systems are interconnected, many people fall between the cracks as they move from one system to another.

	WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW NOW	WHAT WE'VE LEARNED FROM RESEARCH	HOW PARTNERS, PEOPLE AND SYSTEMS WILL BENEFIT
 <p><b>PILLAR 1</b></p> <p>Measuring the movement of people between systems</p>	<p>What are the main drivers and pathways of people moving between the systems?</p>	<p>Australia's major income and benefit support systems are complex, fragmented and highly disparate.</p>  <p><b>Case Management</b> is the only service common across all systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>6</b> systems fund return to work</li> <li> <b>6</b> systems fund job finding / employment services</li> <li> <b>5</b> systems fund healthcare and treatment</li> <li> <b>4</b> systems fund provision of functional support</li> </ul>	<p><b>Better policy and practice</b></p> <p>We will identify where systems connect, how policy and practices in one system impact another, and measure the economic and health impacts of people's movement.</p> <p><b>Upstream system interventions</b></p> <p>We will identify the best opportunities for collaboration across systems for upstream interventions that improve work and health outcomes for individuals.</p>
 <p><b>PILLAR 2</b></p> <p>Designing and trialling transition support service for people moving between systems</p>	<p>How can we better support people as they exit a system and enter another?</p>	 <p><b>People are most vulnerable as they move between systems</b> and often draw on personal financial and social assets while awaiting support. Providing support at this critical stage is a recognised gap in the current systems.</p>	<p><b>Improve people's experience and system efficiency</b></p> <p>We will trial a new intervention to improve support to people as they exit systems and reduce system duplication.</p> <p><b>Reduce movement and achieve work outcomes</b></p> <p>We will reduce avoidable movement of people between systems by achieving work outcomes earlier.</p>

Our next pillars focus on the role of employers, GPs and the community. Most employers feel they are unable to accommodate people with a health condition or disability, and these workers believe employers underestimate what they can offer. At the same time, the role of GPs in supporting work participation can be complex and unclear.

	<b>WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW NOW</b>		<b>WHAT WE'VE LEARNED FROM RESEARCH</b>	 <b>HOW PARTNERS, PEOPLE AND SYSTEMS WILL BENEFIT</b>
 <p><b>PILLAR 3</b></p> <p>Designing and delivering tools to build employer capability to recruit and retain people with health conditions or disability</p>	<p>What skills and capabilities do employers need and what is the best way to deliver tools and resources to support them?</p>	<p><b>50%</b></p> <p><b>Less than 50%</b></p>	<p>Percentage of employers that are not confident in their businesses' ability to support people with a physical or psychological disability or health.</p> <p>Less than 50% of employers have experience in recruiting or supporting someone with a health condition or disability.</p>	<p><b>Build employer capability</b></p> <p>We will work with employers across multiple systems to have the confidence and skills to recruit and retain people with health conditions or disability.</p> <p><b>Influence policy and practices</b></p> <p>We will help improve policy and practices across Australia's workplaces for effective recruitment and work accommodations.</p>
 <p><b>PILLAR 4</b></p> <p>Designing and implementing a national awareness program aimed at culture and behaviour change</p>	<p>How do we shift cultural norms and beliefs in the community and among employers to engage people with health conditions or disability?</p>	<p><b>1 in 5</b></p> <p><b>50%</b></p>	<p>Only 1 in 5 employers could identify the benefits of employing someone with a health condition or disability.</p> <p>Percentage of employers who do not consider it a priority to recruit or support a person with a health condition or disability.</p>	<p><b>Raise awareness and drive behaviour change</b></p> <p>We will develop a program that shifts cultural beliefs in the community on ill health, disability and work by promoting the benefits of supporting work participation for people with a health condition or disability.</p> <p><b>Improve health literacy among target groups</b></p> <p>We will improve health literacy among those involved in the provision of support to people with a health condition or disability.</p>
 <p><b>PILLAR 5</b></p> <p>Designing and delivering tools to support the GP's role in facilitating work participation.</p>	<p>How do we drive positive change building on the work we've done to define the GP role in work participation?</p>	 	<p><b>GPs advocate for their patient's health</b> including the need for 'good work' to aid in recovery and wellbeing.</p> <p><b>A team-based approach</b> to care coordination is needed between the GP and clinical environment, systems, workplaces and other providers to facilitate work participation.</p>	<p><b>Improved service coordination</b></p> <p>We will improve coordination between service providers involved in facilitating work participation.</p> <p><b>Improved coordination</b></p> <p>We will support improved coordination between stakeholders involved in facilitating work participation.</p>

\*The Pillars are not intended for implementation in a sequential order and may be implemented in parallel.

# BECOME A PARTNER


Be part of system-wide change to benefit all Australians, including your customers, clients and stakeholders.

## YOUR OPPORTUNITY

As part of the Collaborative Partnership, you align your organisation with leading research and trials, while also working alongside sectors and industries committed to improving Australia's benefit and income support systems.

Your contribution – your ideas, skills, industry experience – is part of a national collaboration geared towards supporting Australians with a health condition or disability to engage in good work. Working together we drive and influence the Collaborative Partnership vision:



An Australia where people with a physical or mental health injury, illness or disability have a greater opportunity to work so that people, communities and businesses can enjoy the health and economic benefits of increased work participation. 

There are three tiers of partnership that provide a range of investment options. You can choose to sponsor a specific program or trial that has particular relevance for your organisation or guide multiple projects and trials where you gain early access to new research findings.

### MAJOR PARTNER

Contribution of  
**\$100,000–  
\$250,000**

Your opportunity to:

- Gain early access to new and ground-breaking research
- Access a national network of leading organisations and stakeholders across the public, private and not-for-profit sectors
- Showcase your leadership and expertise to help shape the strategic direction of the Collaborative Partnership
- Receive recognition for your role and contribution to improving work participation

### ASSOCIATE PARTNER

Contribution of  
**\$50,000–  
\$100,000**

Your opportunity to:

- Showcase your leadership and expertise across research and awareness programs
- Guide projects and share your knowledge, experience and expertise through membership on project advisory and working groups
- Receive recognition for your role and contribution to improving work participation


### PROJECT CONTRIBUTORS

Contribution up to  
**\$50,000**

Your opportunity to:

- Contribute your knowledge, skills and experience to a specific project of interest or relevance to your organisation
- Partner, sponsor or participate in project and intervention trials and gain early access to findings
- Shape sub-projects



Be part of a future where **good work** is available to more **Australians**.  
For more information about becoming a partner, please contact us at  
**[collaborativepartnership@comcare.gov.au](mailto:collaborativepartnership@comcare.gov.au)** 



The Collaborative Partnership is a national collaboration between the public, private and not-for-profit sectors to give more Australians the opportunity to engage in good work.

Be part of the change that will improve the lives of Australians that are unable to work due to a health condition or disability.

Contribute to a national system-wide collaboration to support people with a health condition or disability to engage in good work - that's good for people, good for community and good for business.

Our research and intervention trials are more important than ever as Australia recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Join us on our next two years and be part of system-wide change that benefits all Australians.

[www.comcare.gov.au/collaborativepartnership](http://www.comcare.gov.au/collaborativepartnership)

