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VALID e-newsletter issue #43
01/09/21



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

We have lost a very dear friend with the passing of Dot Leigh.

Tireless in her advocacy and agitation for provision of rights, entitlements and recognition for and of persons with

both as a parent and exposure to discrimination in the education sector. She had a strong social conscience and served on a number of school councils. Having joined a children's play group when her children were pre-school, she experienced the comfort and need for support personally and which should be available to other parents of children with disability. Work of that type consumed a greater part of her life; Dot was the founding convenor of the Geelong Parents Network and a member of GenU (formerly Karingal).

Dot was the inaugural President of VALID and served in that capacity, and another period as vice President for a combined 25 years. She was proud to serve in those roles and to be a member of VALID as it grew and achieved changes for people with intellectual disability and their families. She was especially loyal and supportive of Kevin Stone and the VALID staff, and was highly respected and valued by the Committee of Management. We will miss her greatly.

John Handley
VALID President

Dot's funeral will be held on Tuesday 7 September at 1:50pm. You can attend the funeral [online](#)..

[The Empowering Advocacy Manual](#)



September using The Empowering Advocacy Method (TEAM). The training workshops are available to individuals and organisations seeking to:

- Build the skills of advocates
- Assist disability support workers to embrace and manage the advocacy component of their roles
- Assist advocates in explaining their approach to people with an intellectual disability
- Ensure accountability and transparency in the advocacy decision-making process
- Support people with an intellectual disability to become self advocates

TEAM Training workshops run over 6 x 2.5 hour sessions (15 hours total). For more information on TEAM Training, download the flyer [here](#) or please contact Melanie (03) 9416 4003

Registration now open for Succession Planning Course in 2022



Places in this course are full until the end of 2021, so we have opened up registration for the 2022 courses in March, April and May 2022.

VALID's Succession Planning course is **free online** for Victorian family members of people with disability. It includes four core sessions and three optional sessions:

- To assist you to map out what things you need to put in place for the future

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- Setting up your family member to receive quality of care, e.g. Circle of Support
- Optional sessions will have guest speakers on Wills, trusts, Supportive Attorneys, Guardianship & Admin and what accommodation support is funded by the NDIS

If you are interested in doing this course please [fill this form in](#) and take a photo or scan of it and return to Maree E: maree@valid.org.au
M: 0409 965 264

Department of Families, Fairness and Housing - Privacy Breach



The Department of Families Fairness and Housing (the department) are in the process of providing information to families and residents about the introduction of the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA) reforms within department owned Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) properties.

The department recently wrote to residents, their primary contacts, and their financial administrators. When the department prepared the letters for the financial administrators, unfortunately there was an error made in the data for the mail merge. This resulted in financial administrators receiving a letter referencing the incorrect resident name.

The department has attempted to phone financial administrators and written to them to ask them to securely destroy the letter containing the wrong information.

You can read the full letter [here](#).

VALID membership



As a valued VALID supporter we are reaching out and inviting you to become a member for July 2021 to June 2022 (and beyond). VALID is an award-winning organisation that has been at the forefront of advocating for people with a disability since 1989. Over that time, we have developed training tools, information and resources, and advocacy to help empower people with disability and their families. As a member you will help support VALID's continued work for people with intellectual disability throughout Victoria.

Being a member entitles you to a 10% discount off registration for the annual Having a Say Conference including a free Having a Say conference DVD. It will also link you to VALID's state-wide community via our Newsletters, online discussions, Forums, Conferences, Expos, social media campaigns and special membership events.

[We invite you to become a member to help build a stronger VALID.](#)

Get social with VALID

Have you liked our [Facebook page](#)? Like our page to keep up to date with the latest news in the sector and important updates. You can also find out more by following us on [twitter](#).

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