

# **Tip Sheet 6 – Advocacy & Other Key Contacts**

Key Victorian groups providing Advocacy, Information, Legal Support, Complaints Handling, etc.



ndis Details for agencies that provide support with NDIS Appeals to the Administrative Appeals Tribunal (AAT) are written in blue

#### STATEWIDE DISABILITY ADVOCACY SERVICES

ADEC (ACTION ON DISABILITY IN ETHNIC COMMUNITIES)	Web: www.adec.org.au
Head office: Level 1, U22/855 Plenty Road, SOUTH MORANG VIC 3752	Ph: (03) 9480 7000
Dandenong: Suite 1, 50 Thomas Street, DANDENONG VIC 3175	Email: info@adec.org.au
Mail: PO Box 40, SOUTH MORANG VIC 3752	
Disability and aged care support services for people from ethnic backgrounds, NDIS	
plan management and appeals support, different forms of advocacy, other information	
and resources	

AMIDA (ACTION FOR MORE INDEPENDENCE & DIGNITY IN ACCOMMODATION)	Web: <u>www.amida.org.au</u>
Office: 1st Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9650 2722
Individual, family, systemic, and self-advocacy support for people with disability	Housing Support Worker: 1800 825 955
regarding housing issues, NDIS appeals support	Email: amida@amida.org.au

ACD (ASSOCIATION FOR CHILDREN WITH A DISABILITY)	Web: www.acd.org.au
--	---------------------



Office: Level 1, 587 Canterbury Road, SURREY HILLS VIC 3127	Ph: (03) 9880 7000 or 1800 654 013
Information, support, and individual advocacy for families of children who have a	(regional)
disability and/or developmental delays	Text: 0475 577 997
	Email: mail@acd.org.au

BCA (BLIND CITIZENS AUSTRALIA)	Web: <u>www.bca.org.au</u>
Office: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9654 1400 or 1800 033 660
Individual and systemic advocacy for people who have vision impairment, information	Text: 0436 446 780
access, peer support	Email: bca@bca.org.au

CAV (CONSUMER AFFAIRS VICTORIA)	Web: www.consumer.vic.gov.au
Mail: GPO Box 123, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 (General correspondence)	Ph: 1300 558 181
GPO Box 4567, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 (Complaints)	Enquiries/complaints can be submitted via
Where to make complaints and collect information/resources about contracts,	a form available on the website
purchases, refunds, and scams relating to housing and business	

DEAF VICTORIA	Web: www.deafvictoria.org.au
Office: Level 6, 54 Wellington Street, COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066	Email: info@deafvictoria.org.au
Peak state body providing individual and systemic advocacy for people who are deaf	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
and hard of hearing	available on the website

DJA (DISABILITY JUSTICE AUSTRALIA)	Web: www.dja.org.au
Mail: Unit 2, 28A Albert Street, PRESTON VIC 3072	Ph: (03) 9474 0077 or 1800 808 126



Individual and systemic advocacy for children and adults with disability, NDIS appeals	Email: info@dja.org.au
support	

DDLS (DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION LEGAL SERVICE)	Web: www.ddls.org.au
Office: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9654 8644 or 1300 882 872
Community legal centre providing information, referral, advice, casework assistance,	(regional)
community legal education, policy, and law reform	Email: info@ddls.org.au

DRC (DISABILITY RESOURCES CENTRE)	Web: www.drc.org.au
Office: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9671 3000
Individual advocacy, NDIS access and support, campaign organisation	Email: advocacy@drc.org.au or
	info@drc.org.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

IFAS (INDEPENDENT FAMILY ADVOCACY SERVICE)	Web:
Non-legal individual advocacy for parents and primary carers in early-stage involvement	www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/independent-
with the child protection system	family-advocacy-and-support
CATCHMENT AREA REQUIREMENTS APPLY	Ph: 1800 849 200
	Email: <u>IFAScontact@vla.vic.gov.au</u>

IMHA (INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY)	Web: www.imha.vic.gov.au
Head office: 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1300 947 820
Mail: GPO Box 4380, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Email: contact@imha.vic.gov.au



Statewide advocacy support service for people receiving compulsory mental health	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
treatment to make decisions and have as much say as possible about their assessment,	available on the website
treatment, and recovery	

LEADERSHIP PLUS	Web: www.leadershipplus.com
Mail: PO Box 190, RICHMOND VIC 3121	Ph: (03) 9489 2999
Statewide individual advocacy service for people with all types of disability, NDIS	Email: admin@leadershipplus.com or
appeals support	intake@leadershipplus.com

OPA (OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC ADVOCATE)	Web: www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au
Office: Level 1, 204 Lygon Street, CARLTON VIC 3053	Ph: 1300 309 337 (advice service)
Advice and assistance regarding guardianship and administration, enduring powers of	In-person appointments and general
attorney, medical treatment decision-making to people with disability, carers and	enquiries can be made via forms available
family, and professionals	on the website

STAR VICTORIA	Web: www.starvictoria.org.au
Office: 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9650 2730
Individual advocacy and information for people with intellectual disability	Text: 0491 615 461
	Email: info@starvictoria.org.au or
	advocacy@starvictoria.org.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

VALID (VICTORIAN ADVOCACY LEAGUE FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITY)	Web: www.valid.org.au
Office: Level 1, 144-152 Langridge Street, COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066	Ph: (03) 9416 4003



Individual advocacy for people with intellectual disability	Email: info@valid.org.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

VMIAC (VICTORIAN MENTAL ILLNESS AWARENESS COUNCIL)	Web: www.vmiac.org.au
Office: Level 3, 211 Chapel Street, PRAHRAN VIC 3181	Ph: (03) 9380 3900
Mail: PO Box 59, SOMERTON VIC 3062	Email: reception@vmiac.org.au
Advocacy for people with lived experience of mental health challenges, NDIS access and	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
appeals support	available on the website

VILLAMANTA DISABILITY RIGHTS LEGAL SERVICE	Web: www.villamanta.org.au
Mail: PO Box 7328, GEELONG WEST 3218	Ph: (03) 5260 1845 (general enquiries) or
Information and legal advice about disability-related legal issues, NDIS appeals support	1800 014 111 (legal matters)
(support available for AAT and some internal reviews)	Email: <u>legal@villamanta.org.au</u>
CATCHMENT AREA REQUIREMENTS APPLY	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

WDV (WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES VICTORIA)	Web: www.wdv.org.au
Office: Level 1, 255 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9286 7800
Mail: PO Box 18314, COLLINS STREET EAST VIC 8003	Email: wdv@wdv.org.au
Systemic advocacy and community projects/programs relating to women with	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
disabilities	available on the website

YDAS (YOUTH DISABILITY ADVOCACY SERVICE)	Web: www.yacvic.org.au/ydas
Office: Level 2, 235 Queen Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 0438 638 734 (call or text)



Individual advocacy and support for young people aged 12 to 25 who have disabilities Email: intake@ydas.org.au

#### **REGIONAL DISABILITY ADVOCACY SERVICES**

CITIZEN ADVOCACY SUNBURY AND DISTRICTS	Web: <u>citizenadvocacysunbury.com.au</u>
Office: 5A/36 Macedon Street, SUNBURY VIC 3429	Ph: (03) 9744 7378 or 0408 178 614
Mail: PO Box 420, SUNBURY VIC 3429	Email: casunbury1@bigpond.com
Matches voluntary 'citizens' with a person with a disability for support in the Sunbury	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
district	available on the website

CORAS (COLAC OTWAY REGION ADVOCACY SERVICE)	Web: www.coras.com.au
Office: 50 Rae Street, COLAC VIC 3250	Ph: (03) 5232 1009
Individual advocacy for people with disabilities in Colac, Otway, and Surf Coast, systemic	Email: info@coras.com.au
advocacy, NDIS access and support (no AAT), community engagement programs and	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
events	available on the website

GdA (GRAMPIANS DISABILITY ADVOCACY ASSOCIATION)	Web: grampiansadvocacy.org.au
Office: 2/32 Tuson Street, ARARAT VIC 3377	Ph: 1800 552 272
Individual advocacy for people with disabilities in Ballarat, Horsham, Warracknabeal,	Email: admin@grampiansadvocacy.org.au
Ararat, Stawell, Daylesford, and Clunes, peer support programs, NDIS appeals support	

GDA (GIPPSLAND DISABILITY ADVOCACY)	Web: gdai.com.au
Office: Suite 2, First Floor, 6-8 Grey Street, TRARALGON VIC 3844	Ph: (03) 5175 0444
Bairnsdale: U 1, 210 Main Street, BAIRNSDALE VIC 3875	Email: administration@gdai.org.au
Wonthaggi: Bass Coast Adult Learning, 239 White Road, WONTHAGGI VIC 3995	



Individual advocacy for people with disabilities in Baw Baw, South Gippsland, Bass	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
Coast, Latrobe City, Wellington, and East Gippsland	available on the website

MEDA (MELBOURNE EAST DISABILITY ADVOCACY)	Web: www.meda.org.au
Office: Level 1, 79 Mahoneys Road, FOREST HILL VIC 3131	Ph: (03) 9877 7990
Individual advocacy for adults with intellectual disability in Boroondara, Monash,	Email: office@meda.org.au
Maroondah, Whitehorse, and Manningham	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

MRC NWR (MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE NORTH WEST REGION)	Web: www.mrcnorthwest.org.au
Head office: 20 Victoria Crescent, ST ALBANS VIC 3012	Ph: 1300 676 044
Broadmeadows: Suite 10, 11-17 Pearcedale Parade, BROADMEADOWS VIC 3047	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
Multiple services designed for recent migrants and people from CALD backgrounds,	available on the website
individual advocacy for people with disabilities from CALD backgrounds, NDIS support	
coordination	

NECA (NORTH-EAST CITIZEN ADVOCACY)	Web: www.citizenadvocacy.com.au
Office: 56 Gabonia Avenue, WATSONIA VIC 3087	Ph: (03) 8407 3684
Mail: PO Box 251, WATSONIA VIC 3087	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
Individual and systemic advocacy for people with intellectual disability in Banyule,	available on the website
Darebin, Whittlesea, and Nillumbik	

RDAS (REGIONAL DISABILITY ADVOCACY SERVICE)	Web: www.rdas.org.au
Wodonga: 132 Melbourne Road, WODONGA VIC 3690	Ph: 1800 250 292
Wangaratta: 6/8-10 Tone Road, WANGARATTA VIC 3677	Email: admin@rdas.org.au



Individual advocacy for people with disabilities in North-East Victoria and Southern	Intake forms and enquiries can be
NSW, NDIS reviews and appeals support	submitted via the website

RIAC (RIGHTS INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY CENTRE)	Web: www.riac.org.au
Mail: PO Box 1763, SHEPPARTON VIC 3630	Ph: (03) 5222 5499
Individual and systemic advocacy for people with disabilities, First Nations disability	Email: referrals@riac.org.au
advocacy, CHSP Access and Support program, NDIS appeals support	General enquiries and referrals can be
	submitted via forms available on the
	website

SOUTHERN DISABILITY ADVOCACY	Web: www.southernda.org.au
Office: 2/128 Balcombe Road, MENTONE VIC 3194	Ph: (03) 9533 5977
Mail: PO Box 161, BENTLEIGH VIC 3204	Email: info@southernda.org.au
Self advocacy advice line, individual advocacy for people with disabilities in the Port	Enquiries can be submitted via a form on
Phillip, Stonnington, Bayside, Glen Eira, Kingston, Casey, Frankston, and Mornington	the website
Peninsula LGAs	Appointments with the self advocacy
	advice line can be requested via the
	website

SWAA (SOUTHWEST ADVOCACY ASSOCIATION)	Web: www.southwestadvocacy.org.au
Located in Warrnambool – currently moving office locations	Ph: (03) 5561 4584
Individual and systemic advocacy for people with disabilities in the Corangamite,	Email: admin@swadvocacy.com.au
Glenelg, South Grampians, Moyle, and Warrnambool LGAs, NDIS access and appeals	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
support	available on the website



#### **SELF ADVOCACY GROUPS**

The following are 'formal' self advocacy groups or networks. There are also many local informal or service based groups across Victoria – contact SARU or VALID for information about local and service based groups.

SARU (SELF ADVOCACY RESOURCE UNIT)	Web: saru.net.au
Office: Ground Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9639 6856
Provides support and resources to self advocacy groups across Victoria for people with	Email: saru@rosshouse.org.au
intellectual disability, ABI, people with complex communication requirements, and	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
people whose first language is not English	available on the website

BIM (BRAIN INJURY MATTERS)	Web: braininjurymatters.org
Office: 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9639 7222
Self advocacy and community education run by and for people with Acquired Brain	Email: office@braininjurymatters.org
Injury (ABI)	Enquiries can be submitted via form
	available on the website

DIVERSITY & DISABILITY – 'THE DnD PROGRAM'	Web:
Head office: 20 Victoria Crescent, ST ALBANS VIC 3012	www.mrcnorthwest.org.au/services/disabili
Disability self advocacy program delivered from MRC's St Albans office for people from	ty-services/
CALD backgrounds	Ph: 1300 676 044
	Enquiries can be submitted via form
	available on the website

NEW HORIZONS	Web: www.voicestogether.com.au/self-
Office: Lifeworks, 9 Greenwood Avenue, RINGWOOD VIC 3134	advocates/find-group/vic/new-horizons/



Self advocacy and mutual support group for adults with intellectual disability, held on	Ph: 0438 099 733 (Sue Chrisfield)
the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month (\$15.00 cost)	

NEW WAVE GIPPSLAND	Web: newwavegippsland.com
New Wave is comprised of four self advocacy groups focused on people with	Contact details for each new Wave group
intellectual disability or acquired brain injury: Morwell, Leongatha, Bass Coast, and	peer worker are available on the website
Rainbow Pride	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

POSITIVE POWERFUL PARENTS	Web: positivepowerfulparents.com.au
Office: 1st Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9639 9106
Self advocacy group run for and by parents who have intellectual disability	Email:
	info@positivepowerfulparents.com.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

REINFORCE SELF ADVOCACY	Web: reinforce.org.au
Office: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9650 7855
Self advocacy group run for and by people who have intellectual disability	Email: info@reinforce.org.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

VALID SELF ADVOCACY NETWORKS	Web: valid.org.au/valid-self-advocacy/



Northern (Bundoora), Eastern (Ringwood), and Western (Maidstone) networks for people with intellectual disability to build self advocacy skills, work on systemic change, and build social connections

Ph: (03) 9416 4003

Email: rick@valid.org.au

#### **STATEWIDE GENERAL ADVOCACY SERVICES**

BEYOND HOUSING	Web: beyondhousing.org.au
Wodonga: Level 4, 111-113 Hume Street, WODONGA VIC 3690	Ph: (03) 6055 9000 (Wodonga)
Wangaratta: 40-42 Rowan Street, WANGARATTA VIC 3676	(03) 5722 8000 (Wangaratta)
Shepparton: 49 Stewart Street, SHEPPARTON VIC 3630	(03) 5833 1000 (Shepparton)
Seymour: 54 Tallarook Street, SEYMOUR VIC 3660	(03) 5735 2000 (Seymour)
Support and information relating to crisis and longer-term housing access and	Email: info@beyondhousing.org.au
maintenance in the North East and Goulburn Valley regions of Victoria	Enquiries can be submitted via a form on
	the website

CAV (CONSUMER AFFAIRS VICTORIA)	Web: www.consumer.vic.gov.au
Mail: GPO Box 123, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 (General correspondence)	Ph: 1300 558 181
GPO Box 4567, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 (Complaints)	Enquiries/complaints can be submitted via
Where to make complaints and collect information/resources about contracts,	a form available on the website
purchases, refunds, and scams relating to housing and business	

ERA (ELDER RIGHTS ADVOCACY)	Web: www.elderrights.org.au
Office: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9602 3066 or 1800 700 600
Individual advocacy, volunteer visitors, information, and community and professional	Email: admin@era.asn.au
education for older people	Enquiries can be submitted via a form on
	the website



SENIORS RIGHTS VICTORIA	Web: seniorsrights.org.au
Office: Level 2, 424 St Kilda Road, MELBOURNE VIC 3004	Ph: (03) 9655 2129 (general enquiries) or
Information and support for Victorians who are concerned about elder abuse and are	1300 368 821 (helpline)
aged 60 and above, or 45 and above if you are Indigenous, and professionals in elder	Email: info@seniorsrights.org.au
care, community legal service	

#### PLEASE NOTE: The SOCIAL HOUSING ADVOCACY AND SUPPORT PROGRAM (SHASP) is now known as TENANCY PLUS

TENANCY PLUS Support Providers	WEBSITE	CONTACT
STATEWIDE		
TENANTS VICTORIA	tenantsvic.org.au/	(03) 9416 2577 (renter support line) (03) 9411 1444 (office admin) admin@tenantsvic.org.au
METROPOLITAN MELBOURNE		
LAUNCH HOUSING	launchhousing.org.au/	1800 825 955 (housing advice and support workers) (03) 9288 9600 (office admin) info@launchhousing.org.au
SALVATION ARMY SOCIAL HOUSING AND SUPPORT NETWORK	salvationarmy.org.au/housing/	Area-specific contact information available on website
UNITING VIC TAS HOUSING	unitingvictas.org.au/services/homelessness/	Area-specific contact information available on website



WAYSS	wayss.org.au/get-help/housing-	(03) 9791 6111
	homelessness/	Enquiries can be submitted via a
		form on the Contact page
WOMBAT HOUSING AND SUPPORT	wombat.org.au/	(03) 8327 2222
SERVICES		1800 887 775 (free call)
		wombat@wombat.org.au
REGIONAL VICTORIA		
ARC JUSTICE – HOUSING JUSTICE	arcjustice.org.au/programs/housing-justice/	Area-specific contact information
		available on website
		Enquiries and referrals can be
		submitted via forms on the website
BEYOND HOUSING	beyondhousing.org.au/	1800 825 955 (statewide urgent
		assistance)
		Area-specific contact information
		available on website
		Enquiries can be submitted via a
		form on the website
BROPHY FAMILY AND YOUTH	brophy.org.au/	(03) 5561 8888
SERVICES		Enquiries can be submitted via a
		form on the website
CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES	cafs.org.au/housing-support/	1800 692 237
		Enquiries can be submitted via a
		form on the website



HAVEN HOUSING SERVICES	havenhomesafe.org.au/	1300 428 364
		1800 825 955 (statewide urgent
		assistance)
		Area-specific contact information
		available on website
MELI	meli.org.au/	(03) 5226 8900
		1800 825 955 (statewide urgent
		assistance)
		info@meli.org.au
QUANTUM SUPPORT SERVICES	quantum.org.au/	1800 243 455

## **LEGAL CENTRES**

AED (Association of Employees with Disability) LEGAL CENTRE	Web: <u>www.aed.org.au</u>
Office: Level 9, 45 William Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9639 4333
Legal and systemic advocacy for individuals facing disability-based discrimination in	Email: aedlegal@aed.org.au
education or employment, assistance and support with 'whole life issues' that impact	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
education and employment, NDIS appeals support	available on the website

BARWON COMMUNITY LEGAL SERVICE	Web: www.barwoncommunitylegal.org.au
Office: Level 1, 63 Thomson Street, BELMONT VIC 3216	Ph: 1300 430 599
Mail: PO Box 571, BELMONT VIC 3216	Email: bcls@barwoncls.org.au
Free legal information, advice, and casework for people in the Greater Geelong,	
Bellarine Peninsula, Surf Coast, and Colac Otway regions	



DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION LEGAL SERVICE (DDLS)	Web: ddls.org.au
Office: 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Ross House, 247-251 Flinders Lane, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9654 8644 or 1300 882 872
Community legal centre with a focus on disability-based discrimination and sexual	Email: info@ddls.org.au
harassment, providing information, referral, advice, casework assistance, community	
legal education, and policy and law reform	

FEDERATION OF COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES (FCLC)	Web: www.fclc.org.au
Office: Level 3, 225 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9652 1501
Peak body for Community Legal Centres and Aboriginal Legal Services for Victoria, in-	Email: administration@fclc.org.au
site search engine for finding your nearest community legal centre	

FITZROY LEGAL SERVICE	Web: fls.org.au
Fitzroy: Level 4, Fitzroy Town Hall, 201 Napier Street, FITZROY VIC 3065	Ph: (03) 9419 3744 (Fitzroy and Reservoir)
Reservoir: 279 Spring Street, RESERVOIR VIC 3073	
In-person or phone Night Service Legal Advice Clinic (appointments required), Day	
Service provides advice and legal representation for eligible people	

MENTAL HEALTH LEGAL CENTRE (MHLC)	Web: mhlc.org.au
Mail: PO Box 495, 72-82 Errol Street, NORTH MELBOURNE VIC 3051	Ph: (03) 9629 4422 (intake)
Phone-based free legal advice covering a range of matters for mental health consumers,	Email: mhlc@mhlc.org.au
some capacity for advocacy and casework	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

NEIGHBOURHOOD JUSTICE CENTRE	Web:
Office: 241 Wellington Street, COLLINGWOOD VIC 3066	www.neighbourhoodjustice.vic.gov.au



Online and in-person legal information and support services, including court-based	Ph: (03) 9087 5739
support	Email: njc@courts.vic.gov.au

SOCIAL SECURITY RIGHTS VICTORIA	Web: www.ssrv.org.au
Mail: PO Box 4226, FITZROY VIC 3065	Ph: (03) 9481 0299 (general enquiries)
Community legal centre providing free legal services relating to social security and	(03) 9481 0355 (legal assistance line)
Centrelink matters	(03) 9481 0655 (worker help line)
	1800 094 164 (regional)
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

VICTORIAN LEGAL AID (VLA)	Web: www.legalaid.vic.gov.au
Melbourne office: Level 9, 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1300 792 387
Mail: GPO Box 4380, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Legal Help Chat is available on the website
Multiple metro and regional office locations are listed on the website	and is staffed from 8am to 6pm, Monday to
Free legal information available on website and via Legal Help Chat, free legal support	Friday
available for eligible people	

VILLAMANTA DISABILITY RIGHTS LEGAL SERVICE	Web: villamanta.org.au
Mail: PO Box 7328, GEELONG WEST VIC 3218	Ph: (03) 5260 1845 (general enquiries) or
Community legal centre focused on disability-related legal and justice issues, NDIS	1800 014 111 (legal issues only)
appeals support	Email: legal@villamanta.org.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website



# **COMPLAINTS: MONITORING AND/OR SUPPORT**

ADMINITRATIVE REVIEWS TRIBUNAL (ART)	Web: www.art.gov.au
VIC office: Level 4, 15 William Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1800 228 333
Mail: GPO Box 9955, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Email: reviews@art.gov.au
Independent reviews of administrative decisions made by under Commonwealth and	Applications can be submitted, and case
Norfolk Island laws by Government ministers, departments, and agencies	documents uploaded via online.aat.gov.au

AFCA (AUSTRALIAN FINANCIAL COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY)	Web: www.afca.org.au
Mail: GPO Box 3, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Ph: 1800 931 678
Independent assistance for consumers and small businesses to make and resolve	Email: info@afca.org.au
complaints about financial firms	Complaints can be submitted via the
	website; live chat function is available on
	the website

AGED CARE QUALITY AND SAFETY COMMISSION	Web: www.agedcarequality.gov.au
National regulator of Commonwealth funded aged care services, provides support to	Ph: 1800 951 822
resolve complaints about aged care services	Email: info@agedcarequality.gov.au
	Complaints can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

AUSTRALIAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (AHRC)	Web: <u>humanrights.gov.au</u>
Mail: GPO Box 5218, SYDNEY NSW 2001	Ph: 1300 369 711 (reception)
National human rights institution that investigation of relevant complaints, systemic	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
human rights advocacy, education, and research	available on the website



COMMISSIONER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE	Web: <u>ccyp.vic.gov.au</u>
Mail: Level 18, 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1300 782 978 (general enquiries)
Promotes improvement in policies and practices that affect the safety and wellbeing of	Email: contact@ccyp.vic.gov.au
Victorian children and young people	

COMMONWEALTH OMBUDSMAN	Web: www.ombudsman.gov.au
NSW: Level 20, 60 Castlereagh Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000	Ph: 1300 362 072
VIC: Level 2, 452 Flinders Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Enquiries and complaints can be submitted
ACT: Level 5, 7 London Circuit, CANBERRA ACT 2601	via forms available on the website
QLD: Level 22, 215 Adelaide Street, BRISBANE CITY QLD 4000	
SA: Level 11, 25 Grenfell Street, ADELAIDE SA 5000	
Mail: GPO Box 442, CANBERRA ACT 2601	
Free and independent service to help resolve complaints, after a complaint has already	
been filed. Is also the ACT Ombudsman, Defence Force Ombudsman, Overseas Students	
Ombudsman, VET Student Loans Ombudsman, Private Health Insurance Ombudsman,	
Postal Industry Ombudsman	

COMMUNITY VISITORS	Web: www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au/opa-
Volunteers who visit people with disability who are living in funded residential	volunteers/community-visitors
accommodation to check and report on the safety and cleanliness of the	Ph: 1300 309 337 (to request a Community
accommodation	Visitor)
	Email: opavolunteers@justice.vic.gov.au (to
	request a Community Visitor)



Interest in becoming a Community Visitor
volunteer can be registered via a form
available on the website

COMPLAINTS RESOLUTION AND REFERRAL SERVICE	Web: www.jobaccess.gov.au/resource/crrs-
Mail: PO Box 1764, OSBORNE PARK DC WA 6916	<u>fact-sheet</u>
Free service for people with disability who are part of or using Disability Employment	Ph: 1800 880 052
Services, Australian Disability Enterprises, and/or Disability Advocacy services	Email: crrs@glresolution.au
	Complaints can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

COURT NETWORK	Web: <u>courtnetwork.com.au</u>
Head office: 555 Lonsdale Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1800 571 239 or (03) 8306 6966 (head
Victoria and Queensland-based volunteers who support people accessing and	office)
navigating court systems	Email: admin@courtnetwork.com.au
	Enquiries, feedback, and complaints can be
	submitted via forms available on the
	website

DISABILITY SERVICES COMMISSIONER (DSC)	Web: odsc.vic.gov.au
Office: Level 30, 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1800 677 342
Supports people with disability to resolve complaints about disability service providers,	Email: complaints@odsc.vic.gov.au
and promotes the right of people with disability to be free from abuse	(complaints) or contact@odsc.vic.gov.au
	(general enquiries)



General enquiries and complaints can be
submitted via forms available on the
website

ENERGY AND WATER OMBUDSMAN	Web: <u>www.ewov.com.au</u>
Mail: Reply Paid 469, MELBOURNE VIC 8060 (Braille letters accepted)	Ph: 1800 500 509
Free service that helps to resolve complaints between Victorians and their electricity,	Email: <u>ewovinfo@ewov.com.au</u>
gas, and water companies, after a complaint has already been made	Complaints can be submitted via the
	website; live chat function is available on
	the website

HEALTH COMPLAINTS COMMISSIONER (HCC)	Web: hcc.vic.gov.au
Mail: Level 26, 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1300 582 113
Independent body that receives and helps to resolve complaints about health service	Enquiries and complaints can be submitted
providers	via forms available on the website

IBAC (INDEPENDENT BROAD-BASED ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION)	Web: <u>ibac.vic.gov.au</u>
Responsible for preventing and exposing public sector corruption and police	Ph: 1300 735 135
misconduct in Victoria	Email: info@ibac.vic.gov.au
	Enquiries and complaints can be submitted
	via forms available on the website

JUSTICE CONNECT	Web: <u>justiceconnect.org.au</u>
VIC mail: PO Box 16013, DX 128, MELBOURNE VIC 8007	Ph: (03) 8636 4400 (VIC)
NSW mail: PO Box 436, DARLINGHURST NSW 1300	(02) 8599 2100 (NSW)



Improves access to legal support across multiple areas and increases social justice,	
some capacity to provide free legal support	

LAW INSTITUTE VICTORIA	Web: www.liv.asn.au
Office: Level 13, 140 William Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9607 9311 (reception)
Mail: PO Box 263, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Email: inquiries@liv.asn.au
Maintains directories for finding legal help in your area across a range of specialist	
areas, can provide legal information and resources	

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMISSION	Web: www.mhwc.vic.gov.au
Mail: Level 26, 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1800 246 054
Supports to resolve complaints about publicly funded mental health and wellbeing	Email: help@mhwc.vic.gov.au (complaints
services in Victoria	and enquiries)
	Complaints can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

MY AGED CARE COMPLAINTS	Web: www.myagedcare.gov.au/contact-
Mail: PO Box 1237, RUNAWAY BAY QLD 4216	<u>us/complaints</u>
Supports to resolve complaints about My Aged Care, provides guidance around making	Ph: 1800 200 422
complaints relating to aged care services and receiving aged care funding	

NATIONAL DISABILITY ABUSE AND NEGLECT HOTLINE	Web: www.jobaccess.gov.au/complaints-
Mail: PO Box 1764, OSBORNE PARK DC WA 6916	or-report-abuse/make-complaint-report-
Free, independent, and confidential service for reporting abuse and neglect of people	<u>abuse</u>
with disability	Ph: 1800 880 052



Email: hotline@glresolution.au
Liliali. Hotilile@giresolution.au

NDIS QUALITY AND SAFEGUARDS COMMISSION	Web: www.ndiscommission.gov.au
Mail: PO Box 210, PENRITH NSW 2751	Ph: 1800 035 544
Handles complaints from NDIS participants regarding purchases made with NDIS	Email:
funding, regulates NDIS service providers, monitors compliance against the NDIS Code	contactcentre@ndiscommission.gov.au
of Conduct and NDIS Practice Standards	Enquiries and complaints can be submitted
	via forms available on the website

OPA (OFFICE OF PUBLIC ADVOCATE)	Web: www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au
Office: Level 1, 204 Lygon Street, CARLTON VIC 3053	Ph: 1300 309 337 (advice service)
Advice and assistance regarding guardianship and administration, enduring powers of	In-person appointments and general
attorney, medical treatment decision-making to people with disability, carers and	enquiries can be made via forms available
family, and professionals	on the website

OVIC (OFFICE OF THE VICTORIAN INFORMATION COMMISSIONER)	Web: ovic.vic.gov.au
Mail: PO Box 24274, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Ph: 1300 006 842
Primary regulator of how the public sector collects, uses, and discloses information,	Email: enquiries@ovic.vic.gov.au
provides advice to the community and the Victorian government	

PTO (PUBLIC TRANSPORT OMBUDSMAN)	Web: www.ptovic.com.au
Mail: PO Box 538, Collins Street West, MELBOURNE VIC 8007	Ph: 1800 466 865
Free and independent service to help resolve complaints about public transport in	Email: enquiries@ptovic.com.au
Victoria, after a complaint has already been made to the public transport operator	Complaints can be submitted via a form
	available on the website



TIO (TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY OMBUDSMAN)	Web: <u>www.tio.com.au</u>
Mail: PO Box 276, Collins Street West, MELBOURNE VIC 8007	Ph: 1800 062 058
Free and independent service to help people and small businesses to resolve	A complaints form is available for download
complaints with phone and internet providers, after a complaint has already been made	from the website and can be emailed to
to the provider	tio@tio.com.au or sent via mail

VCAT (VICTORIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL)	Web: www.vcat.vic.gov.au
Mail: GPO Box 5408, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Ph: 1300 018 228
Melbourne: 55 King Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Different email addresses for different
Bendigo Law Courts: Level 3, 188 Hargreaves Street, BENDIGO VIC 3550	matters are listed on the website
Bundoora: Level 2, Uni Hill Town Centre, 1-3 Janefield Drive, BUNDOORA VIC 3083	
La Trobe Street, Melbourne: Level 4, 414 La Trobe Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000 (For	
guardianship and human rights issues)	
Frankston: 1 Balmoral Street, FRANKSTON VIC 3199	
Oakleigh: Level 1, 20 Atherton Road, OAKLEIGH VIC 3166	
Makes decisions for certain legal cases and supports people to resolve disputes	

VICTORIAN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION	Web: www.humanrights.vic.gov.au
Office: Level 3, 204 Lygon Street, CARLTON VIC 3053 (Appointments only, no walk-ins)	Ph: 1300 292 153
Complaints about unfair treatment regarding disability rights, workplace rights, First	Email: enquiries@veohrc.vic.gov.au
Nations peoples' rights, LGBTQIA rights, older people's rights, racial and religious rights,	Complaints can be submitted via a form
women's rights, and youth rights	available on the website or emailed to
	complaints@veohrc.vic.gov.au



VICTORIAN LEGAL SERVICES BOARD AND COMMISSIONER	Web: Isbc.vic.gov.au
Office: Level 27, 500 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9679 8001
Post: GPO Box 492, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	Complaints can be submitted via a form
Independently regulates lawyers and legal professional standards, supports to manage	available on the website
complaints about lawyers	

VICTORIAN OMBUDSMAN	Web: www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au
Office: Level 2, 570 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: 1800 806 314
Helps to resolve complaints about an action or decision made by a Victorian public	Complaints can be submitted via a form
organisation	available on the website

VICTORIAN SENIOR PRACTITIONER	Web: www.dffh.vic.gov.au/victorian-senior-
Mail: GPO Box 1774, MELBOURNE VIC 3001	practitioner
Upholds the rights of people who are subject to restrictive practice and makes sure that	Ph: (03) 9096 8427
appropriate standards are met	Email:
	victorianseniorpractitioner@dffh.vic.gov.au

# **EQUIPMENT AND COMMUNICATION**

CAPS (CONTINENCE AIDS PAYMENT SCHEME)	Web: www.health.gov.au/our-
Government program that provides a payment to eligible people, to help cover the	work/continence-aids-payment-scheme-
costs of continence products	<u>caps</u>
	Ph: 1800 239 309



VIC: Suite 1, 407 Canterbury Road, SURREY HILLS VIC 3127	Ph: 1800 330 066 (national helpline)
NSW: Brightsky Building, 6 Holker Street, NEWINGTON NSW 2127	(03) 8692 8400 (head office – VIC)
Information and resources relating to continence health, including guidance around	(02) 8741 5699 (NSW)
getting financial assistance to pay for equipment and aids	Email: info@continence.org.au
	Call back service can be booked via the
	website

ECDS (ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES SCHEME)	Web: www.yooralla.com.au/electronic-
State-funded scheme administrated by Yooralla where funding is available for eligible	communication-devices-scheme-ecds
people to purchase Electronic Communication Devices	Ph: 1800 966 725
	Email: ecds@yooralla.com.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website

FREEDOM SOLUTIONS	Web: freedomsolutions.org.au/
NSW: Unit 10, 185 Briens Road, NORTHMEAD NSW 2152	Ph: 1300 663 243
VIC: 27 Cathrine Street, COBURG NORTH VIC 3058	Email: info@freedomsolutions.org.au
Not-for-profit that customises, designs, and builds Assistive Technology solutions for	
people living with disability in NSW and VIC	

INDEPENDENCE AUSTRALIA	Web:
Web store selling in-home personal care equipment and accessories, dietary and	store.independenceaustralia.com/homepage
medical aids, mobility and daily living aids, and other items related to improving	
choices for older people and people with disability	



KEY WORD SIGN VICTORIA	Web: kwsa.org.au/victoria/
Office: Level 2, 109 Burwood Road, HAWTHORN VIC 3122	Ph: 1300 472 673
Information, training, and resources relating to the Key Word Sign style of Alternative	Email:
and Augmentative Communication.	keywordsignaustralia@scopeaust.org.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website
NATIONAL PUBLIC TOILET MAP	Web: toiletmap.gov.au/
Map showing public and private general and accessible toilets, adult change, and baby	Ph: 1800 990 646
care locations with opening hours	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website
NRS (NATIONAL RELAY SERVICE)	Web: www.accesshub.gov.au/about-the-nrs
Guidance on what the National Relay Service does and how to use the different	
functions; links to active NRS services	
SCOPE SHOP	Web: shop.scopeaust.org.au/
Wide range of communication aids and resources	Ph: 1300 472 673
	Email: contact@scopeaust.org.au
	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
	available on the website
SWEP (STATE-WIDE EQUIPMENT PROGRAM)	Web: swep.bhs.org.au/
Mail: PO Box 1993, BAKERY HILL VIC 3354	Ph: (03) 5333 8100 or 1300 747 937



Subsidised Assistive Technology, home and vehicle modifications, oxygen equipment,	Email: swep@gh.org.au
continence, lymphoedema compression garments, and laryngectomy items and	Feedback and enquiries can be submitted
products for eligible people	via a form available on the website

SAEAS (SUPPORTED ACCOMMODATION EQUIPMENT ASSISTANCE SCHEME)	Web: swep.bhs.org.au/supported-
Subsidised Assistive Technology available to eligible people who currently reside in	accommodation-equipment-assistance-
Department of Health-funded accommodation	scheme-saeas.php
	Ph: 1300 747 937
	Email: <a href="mailto:swepat@gh.org.au">swepat@gh.org.au</a>

VISION AUSTRALIA	Web: shop.visionaustralia.org/
Vision Australia's webstore sells vision impairment-focused Assistive Technology	Ph: 1300 847 329

### **INFORMATION & SUPPORT SERVICES**

AFTER HOURS GP HELPLINE	Web: www.healthdirect.gov.au/how-
After hours health information and assistance from a registered nurse who can transfer	healthdirect-can-help-you
you to a GP if required	Ph: 1800 022 222

AMAZE	Web: www.amaze.org.au/
Mail: PO Box 374, Carlton South VIC 3053	Ph: 1300 308 699
Office: 678 Victoria Street, RICHMOND VIC 3121	Email: info@amaze.org.au
Peak Victorian organisation for people on the autism spectrum, systemic advocacy,	Enquiries can be submitted via a form
information and resources relating to autism	available on the website; live chat function
	is available on the website



ARBIAS	Web: www.arbias.org.au/
NSW: 27-29 George Street, North Strathfield NSW 2137	Ph: (02) 9736 1821 (NSW)
NSW mail: PO Box 117, Concord West NSW 2138	(03) 8388 1222 (VIC)
VIC: 27 Hope Street, Brunswick VIC 3056	Email: enquiriesNSW@arbias.com.au or
VIC mail: PO Box 5002, Brunswick VIC 3056	enquiriesVIC@arbias.com.au
Case management and support services for people who have acquired brain injury,	
training for industry professionals, research into ABI	

ASK IZZY	Web: askizzy.org.au/
Regularly updated nationwide search engine for support services	Email: <a href="mailto:support@askizzy.org.au">support@askizzy.org.au</a> (feedback,
	not general enquiries)

CARERS VICTORIA	Web: www.carersvictoria.org.au/
Mail: PO Box 13305, Law Courts VIC 8010	Ph: (03) 9396 9500 or 1800 514 845
Statewide organisation providing information, resources, and support for unpaid carers	Email: reception@carersvictoria.org.au

CARER GATEWAY	Web: www.carergateway.gov.au/
Federal Government program providing free services, resources, and support for carers	Ph: 1800 422 737
	Requests for a callback or email contact can
	be submitted via a form available on the
	website



Office: VCOSS Level 8, 128 Exhibition Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000	Ph: (03) 9639 5807
Develops and provides resources and training focused on keeping advocates updated	Feedback can be submitted via a form
on issues impacting people with disability in Victoria; maintains a registry of Victorian	available on the website
advocacy services	

DIRECTLINE	Web: www.directline.org.au/
24-hour free and confidential drug and alcohol telephone counselling, information, and	Ph: 1800 888 236
referral	Enquiries and feedback can be submitted
	via a form available on the website; live
	chat function is available on the website

DISABILITY GATEWAY	Web: www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/
	Ph: 1800 555 677
	Email:
	disabilitygateway@benevolent.org.au
	Enquiries and feedback can be submitted
	via forms available on the website



MY AGED CARE	Web: www.myagedcare.gov.au/
Mail: PO Box 1237, Runaway Bay QLD 4216	Ph: 1800 200 422
Extensive information and support around accessing aged care services	Live chat function is available on the
	website