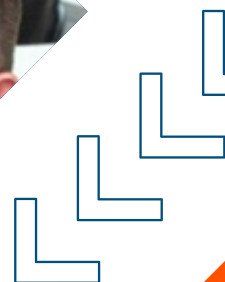
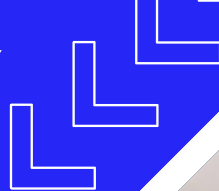
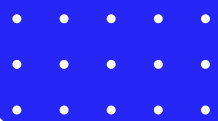


EMPOWERING ADVOCACY

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VALID ADVOCACY IN ACTION CONFERENCE

16-17 JUNE 2025
9.00AM - 4.30PM

 NOVOTEL FUNCTION CENTRE
215 BELL STREET, PRESTON

REGISTRATION:

<https://events.valid.org.au>

 **WEBSITE:**
[Advocacy in Action 2025](#)

 **MORE INFORMATION:**
Info: 0475 698 884
Office: 03 9416 4003

 Email: christine@valid.org.au



Program (Note: updates will be published)

Monday 16th June 2025

Time	Session Information	
8.30 – 9.00am	Registration, pick up flyers and other info, coffee / tea – foyer area	
9.00 – 10.30am	Opening Plenary: Empowering Advocacy – Making Waves! • Welcome to Country • Opening Keynote Speech: Kevin Stone AM • Discussion	
10.30 – 11.00am	Morning break (<i>The Market room lobby</i>)	
11.00 – 12.30pm	First Breakout Sessions	
	Market Room 1 Self Advocacy in Action • VALID Self Advocacy team Power to Speak, Power to Act <i>Building Confidence and Skills through Co-design</i> • SARU (Self Advocacy Resource Unit) 'OUR VOICES, OUR POWER' <i>Building a self advocacy movement together</i>	Market Room 2 Big Advocacy Issues 1: People with disabilities in the justice system • Emily Piggot & Stan Winford, Centre for Innovative Justice, RMIT • Frederikke Jensen, VALID Advocacy Manager • Patrick Mcgee, Disability & Justice Consultant • Jai Haines, Voices for Change
12.30 – 1.30pm	Lunch (<i>The Stampton Room</i>)	
1.30 – 2.50pm	Second Breakout Sessions	
	Market Room 1 Big Advocacy Issues 2: Parents with disabilities and the child protection system • Dr Kate Fitt, Uni Lecturer, <i>Addressing discrimination of people with disability in the Child Protection System</i> • Denise Boyd, Executive Officer, STAR • Frederikke Jensen, VALID Advocacy Manager	Market Room 2 Making It All Possible: Funding for advocacy • El Gibbs, CEO, Disability Advocacy Network Australia (DANA) • Julie Phillips, Chair, Disability Advocacy Victoria (DAV)
2.50 – 3.10pm	Afternoon break (<i>The Market Room lobby</i>)	
3.10 – 4.30pm	Second Plenary: Panel and discussion: Perspectives on advocacy from outside the sector • Simon Katterl, Mental Health Advocate • Danae Bosler, Assistant Secretary, Trades Hall Council • Jennifer Beveridge, CEO, Tenants Victoria Close of day	

Tuesday 17th June 2025

Time	Session Information	
8.30 – 9.00am	Registration, pick up flyers and other info, coffee / tea – foyer area	
9.00 – 10.30am	Third Plenary: - Acknowledgement of Country - Panel and discussion: Changes to the NDIS - Kirsten Deane, Deputy Director, Melbourne Disability Institute - Naomi Anderson, Principal Solicitor, Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service - El Gibbs, CEO, DANA (Disability Advocacy Network Australia)	
10.30 – 11.00am	Morning break (<i>The Market Room lobby</i>)	
11.00 – 12.30pm	Third Breakout Sessions	
	Market Room 1 Big Advocacy Issues 3: Foundational Supports: What will they be and how will they work? - Evie Naufal, Managing Director, Disability Services Consulting (DSC) - Maeve Kennedy, Deputy CEO, Inclusion Australia	Market Room 2 Big Advocacy Issues 4: Restrictive Practice - Kylie Bowden, Victorian Senior Practitioner - Dariane McLean - Rod Carracher, Deputy Commissioner, Practice Quality Division, NDIS Quality & Safeguards Commission
12.30 – 1.30pm	Lunch (<i>The Stampton Room</i>)	
1.30 – 2.50pm	Fourth Breakout Sessions	
	Market Room 1 Self advocacy for people with disabilities in CALD communities - VALID Community Development team - Angela Dew, Professor of Community & Inclusion, Deakin Uni - Mahmoud Murad, Deakin Uni researcher	Market Room 2 Advocating for and with people with complex communication needs and no formal supports, including supported decision-making - Bronwen Jones, Communication & Inclusion Resource Centre, Scope - Dariane McLean, Specialist Advisor, Inclusion Australia
2.50 – 3.10pm	Afternoon break (<i>The Market Room lobby</i>)	
3.10 – 4.30pm	Closing Plenary: Panel and discussion: Regulation, Safeguarding and Advocacy by / for People with Disabilities – Complementary Roles? - Louise Glanville, NDIS Quality & Safeguards Commissioner - Jonathan Kaplan, Victorian Social Services Regulator - Dan Stubbs, Victorian Disability Worker Commissioner (VDWC) - Mary Mallett, Principal Advisor, Inclusion Australia - Treasure Jennings, Chair Commissioner, Mental Health and Wellbeing Commission Thank yous and closing	

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P PARKING:

Free to delegates ONLY if you
park in the underground carpark.
Carpark ENTRY via
137 Hotham St, Preston
[Download](#) Info Sheet

A ACCOMMODATION:

Novotel
215 Bell Street, Preston
Ph: 03 9485 1000



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