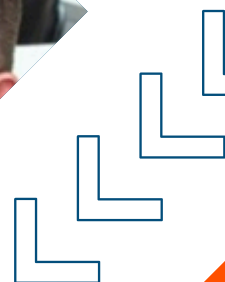
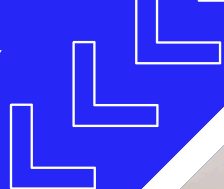
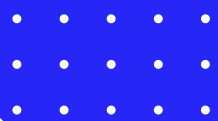


EMPOWERING ADVOCACY

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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! <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 Making It All Possible: Funding for advocacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • El Gibbs, CEO, Disability Advocacy Network Australia (DANA) • Julie Phillips, Chair, Disability Advocacy Victoria (DAV) 	Market Room 2 Big Advocacy Issues 2: Parents with disabilities and the child protection system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Acknowledgement of Country Panel and discussion: Changes to the NDIS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kirsten Deane, Deputy Director, Melbourne Disability Institute Naomi Anderson, Principal Solicitor, Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service El Gibbs, CEO, DANA (Disability Advocacy Network Australia) NDIA representative – to be confirmed 	
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? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evie Naufal, Managing Director, Disability Services Consulting (DSC) Maeve Kennedy, Deputy CEO, Inclusion Australia 	Market Room 2 Big Advocacy Issues 4: Restrictive Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
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A ACCOMODATION:

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215 Bell Street, Preston
Ph: 03 9485 1000

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