

Who We Help

Plain English Entry, Referral and Exit Policy

Who We Help

Independent Advocacy SA Inc. tries to help people with intellectual disability to get a fair go and have a good life. A "good life" means a life where a person with a disability has choices and chances to live their life in a meaningful way just like the rest of society.

We do this by speaking up for people and this is called advocacy. Advocacy helps people who need it the most. The person who helps is called an advocate.

Advocacy helps people with intellectual disability who have a difficult problem or lots of problems. Some of the problems might be:

- having another disability like mental illness, being in a wheelchair or a big health problem
- being homeless, having trouble where you live or living somewhere that isn't where you want to be
- being abused – this might mean that someone is physically hurting you, saying things that hurt you, making you do things you don't want to, someone taking or using your money when you don't want them to, someone making you have sex when you don't want to
- having to see people like lawyers, doctors, social workers and other services
- not being able to make your own decisions or do things like other people can

Sometimes we can't help because we are not the best people to help or we might not have someone ready to help. If we can't help we will try to find someone who can.

Sometimes we stop helping when things are getting better and there are others to help instead. Sometimes the person we are trying to help doesn't want it and tells us to go away. When this happens we will wait until the person asks for help again.

We know that sometimes people say go away when they get cross or upset. If this happens we will wait for the person to contact us when they are feeling ok or check with them later.

Signed.....*S. Jane*.....
Chairperson

Reviewed 19/7/2011

To be reviewed 19/7/2014

Other helpful Plain English Documents:

- *Who We Help* - Entry Referral and Exit Policy
- *Keeping Your Information Private* – Privacy and Confidentiality Policy