

# Disability Support Resources

<b>1 Advocacy and support</b>	
<p><b>Individual and group advocacy service</b> (People with Disability Australia Incorporated)</p>	<p>Telephone: 02 9370 3100 or 1800 422 015 TTY 1800 422 016</p> <p>This is a free, non-legal advocacy service for individuals and groups of people with a disability who have serious and urgent problems. The service is available to people with all kinds of disability across NSW. The service also gives advice and information to people with a disability and their associates about how to advocate for themselves.</p>
<b>2 Reporting Abuse &amp; Neglect</b>	
<p><b>NSW Police and Police Assistance line</b></p>	<p>If in doubt about reporting abuse, contact the NSW Police for advice regarding non-urgent matters, contact the Police Assistance line on 131 444. For emergencies, contact NSW Police on 000.</p>
<p><b>Australian National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline</b></p>	<p>Free call: 1800 880 052 TIS: 13 14 50, TTY: 1800 301 130, NRS: 1800 555 677</p> <p>The National Disability Abuse and Neglect Hotline is an Australia-wide telephone hotline for reporting abuse and neglect of people with disabilities using government funded services. Allegations are referred to the appropriate authority for investigation. Any person including the person, family, and staff from a service provider can use this Hotline for support, information and advice on any matter involving abuse and neglect.</p>



<p><b>Child protection</b></p>	<p>If you think a child or young person is at risk of harm from abuse or neglect, contact Child Protection Helpline on 132 111 (TTY 1 800 212 936). The Child Protection Helpline is a 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, statewide call centre staffed by professionally qualified caseworkers to receive and screen all reports.</p>
<p><b>3 Sexual assault services</b></p>	
<p><b>Sexual Assault Service (SAS) NSW Ministry of Health</b></p>	<p>Staff should contact their local Sexual Assault Service for advice if they are uncertain about reporting an incident as sexual abuse.</p> <p>This service is available 24 hours at most services or telephone the local hospital after hours.</p> <p>The SAS provides a range of services that can include immediate care and counselling for victims of sexual assault. The SAS can advise staff about monitoring, documentation and duty of care issues in relation to any allegation of sexual assault.</p>
<p><b>4 Legal advice and services</b></p>	
<p><b>Criminal Justice Support Network (CJSN)</b></p>	<p>Telephone: 1300 665 908 (24 hours)</p> <p>CJSN is a State-wide support and information service for people with an intellectual disability who are involved in criminal matters (whether they are victims, witnesses, suspects or defendants).</p> <p>CJSN, amongst other things, can provide support workers to assist a person with an intellectual disability at police interviews, at court and at related legal appointments.</p>
<p><b>Community Legal Centres NSW</b></p>	<p>Telephone: 02 9212 7333</p> <p>CLC are independent organisations that provide free legal advice, information and referrals for individuals and communities in NSW, especially people on low incomes or otherwise disadvantaged in their access to justice.</p>



<p>Disability Discrimination Legal Centre NSW</p>	<p>Telephone: 02 9310 7722 or 1800 800 708</p> <p>The Centre provides free legal advice, representation and assistance for problems involving discrimination against people with disabilities and their associates.</p> <p>The Centre is not a generalist legal service for people with disabilities and only assists in cases of disability discrimination under either the Commonwealth Disability Discrimination Act or the NSW Anti-Discrimination Act.</p>
<p>Intellectual Disability Rights Service (IDRS)</p>	<p>Telephone: 02 9318 0144 or 1800 666 611</p> <p>The IDRS provides telephone advice on a range of legal issues and representation in priority areas such as criminal law, care and protection and guardianship. IDRS also engages in policy and law reform work and undertakes community education.</p>
<p>Law Access NSW</p>	<p>Telephone: 1300 888 529</p> <p>Law Access NSW is a website and telephone service that can assist people in finding information and other services that will assist them with their legal needs.</p>
<p><b>5 Victims support</b></p>	
<p>Victims Access Line (VAL)</p>	<p>Telephone: (02) 8688 5511 (Sydney Metro) or 1800 633 063 (Toll free) TTY 1800 555 677 ask for 1800 633 063</p> <p>Free access to the Approved Counselling Scheme can be arranged through Victims Services by contacting the VAL. The VAL operates 8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).</p>
<p>Telephone Interpreting Service</p>	<p>13 14 50</p> <p>Callers with a speech/communication impairment: 1800 555 727 ask for 1800 633 063</p>



<p><b>Victims Services</b></p>	<p>Telephone: 02 8688 5511 (Sydney Metro), 1800 633 063 or TTY 1800 555 677 ask for 1800 633 063</p> <p>Victims Services is part of the Department of Justice in New South Wales. Victims Services offers support to people who are victims of crime. Victims Services aims to ensure that its assistance is accessible to all victims of crime, including those with disabilities.</p> <p>Victims Services staff provides information on the rights of a victim of crime as detailed in the Charter of Victims Rights. Victims Services staff can also provide confidential emotional support, in addition to practical information on how to access other groups and services that may assist with a victim's recovery following a crime.</p>
<p><b>6 Resources for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</b></p>	
<p><b>Aboriginal Contact Line</b></p>	<p>Telephone: 1800 019 123</p> <p>Dedicated to Aboriginal victims of crime who would like information about counselling and/or compensation.</p> <p>The Aboriginal Contact Line hours are 8.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday (excluding public holidays).</p> <p>The service includes information to victims of violent crime about applying for compensation.</p>
<p><b>Indigenous Disability Advocacy Service (IDAS)</b></p>	<p>Telephone: 1300 114 327</p> <p>IDAS provides short and long term individual advocacy, advocacy training and an information service to Aboriginal people with disability and their families.</p>



<p>First Peoples Disability Network (Australia) - FPDN</p>	<p>A national peak organisation representing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with disability and their families. FPDNs purpose is to 'promote' respect for human rights, secure social justice, and empower First Peoples with disability to participate in Australian society on an equal basis with others</p>
<p><b>7 Complaints and the NSW Ombudsman</b></p>	
<p>NSW Ombudsman</p>	<p>Telephone: 02 9286 1000 or 1800 451 524 or TTY 02 9264 8050  The office of the NSW Ombudsman can look into any matter relating to complaints and serious incidents in disability services. The NSW Ombudsman can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- handle complaints brought by any individual,</li> <li>- conduct inquiries of his 'own motion' (such as in response to an anonymous complaint or information received from other sources), and</li> <li>- inquire into matters affecting people receiving (or eligible to receive) disability services, and service providers.</li> </ul>
<p><b>8 Other useful resources</b></p>	
<p>Capacity Toolkit 2008, NSW Attorney General's Department</p>	<p>The Capacity Toolkit is a guide to assessing a person's capacity to make legal, medical, financial and personal decisions.</p>
<p>Gay and Lesbian Counselling and Community Services of Australia</p>	<p>Telephone: 1800 184 527  Either 5:30pm –10:30pm or 7pm – 10 pm local time (depending on the state the person is calling from).</p>



<b>Family Planning NSW</b>	Fact sheets developed by Family planning NSW DVD titled “Love and Kisses”. It features actors with disability speaking about different aspects of intimate relationships.
<b>Looking After Me (LAM) Resource Kit.</b>	A kit containing educational tools for women with intellectual disabilities and professionals to better understand domestic violence issues and facilitate skill development in achieving safe and healthy relationships
<b>National LGBTI Health Alliance</b>	The National LGBTI Health Alliance is the national peak health organisation in Australia for organisations and individuals that provide health-related programs, services and research focused on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex people (LGBTI) and other sexuality, gender, and bodily diverse people and communities

