

Your Advocacy Rights

We recognise that sometimes parents and carers need support to advocate for their children's rights. This is especially true when involved in an incident or in the process of making a complaint.

Who are advocates?

An advocate:

- acts at the direction of the person with disability, reflecting the person with disability's expressed wishes, will, preferences and rights
- provides independent advocacy for the person with disability, to assist the person with disability to exercise choice and control and to have their voice heard in matters that affect them
- is independent of the Agency, the Commission and any NDIS providers providing supports or services to the person with disability
- is free of relevant conflicts of interest

For further information or to **find an advocate** see the link below:

<https://www.ndiscommission.gov.au/participants/disability-advocacy>

Local Advocacy Services

Rights Information and Advocacy Centre (RIAC)

A not-for-profit organisation that builds the capacity and wellbeing of individuals, families, carers and communities through advocacy and support services. RIAC seeks to encourage achievement and acceptance of all individuals (irrespective of age, religion, race, sexual identity, culture or disability) through the provision of quality support and service. To also ensure an understanding of the life difficulties (of all areas) of diversity and disability.

Address: 11/23-31 Gheringhap Street, Geelong 3220

Phone: 03 5222 5499

Website: <https://riac.org.au/>

Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service Inc.

Villamanta is a Community Legal Centre operating throughout the state of Victoria on disability related legal and justice issues. Their focus is on intellectual disability. Villamanta's mission is to protect and advance the rights of Victorians with a disability by advising, informing and representing them and acting as an advocate on disability related legal and justice issues.

Address: Deakin University, Waurn Ponds Campus
Building IB, Level 3,

75 Pigdons Road Waurn Ponds VIC 3216

Ph: (03) 5227 3338

Email: legal@villamanta.org.au

Website: <http://www.villamanta.org.au/>