Raising the voices of people with intellectual disabilities and changing systems

How CID has helped make change

February 2018

This is an easy to read summary of a report about CID by Professor Christine Bigby and Dr David Henderson at La Trobe University.

For many years CID has done advocacy work to make sure experiences and issues of people with intellectual disability are heard.

CID’s advocacy work might not happen anymore because the NSW Government wants to close down disability advocacy services.

La Trobe University looked at CID’s advocacy work and why it is important.

They interviewed

- CID staff and members
- University researchers
- Senior people from the government.

They used this information to make this report.
CID includes

No other organisation does what they do as effectively as they do.

CID is led by people with intellectual disability.

Other people and organisations like what CID do. Service providers and the government are prepared to listen to CID.

They’ve walked the talk.

CID works hard to include you in

- Advocacy campaigns.
- Leadership. For example, on the Board and Governance Committee.
- Facilitating workshops and public speaking.
- Telling us what you think about issues and projects.

Speaking up

CID gives us a voice in the way of making sure certain people are listening to us.

CID supports you to speak up and participate in advocacy work.

CID listens to your experiences. They keep them in mind when planning and doing their work.
**CID knows what is going on**

The observer of what’s going on.

CID knows what’s going on for people with intellectual disability.

CID gives information and advice on these issues to the government.

For example CID tells the government about your experiences with

- NDIS
- Health
- Criminal justice

People with intellectual disability are a group that misses out.

CID knows issues and challenges for people with intellectual disability are often different to people with other types of disability.

CID knows you are often forgotten about and do not get to speak up.

CID helps you to speak up and be heard so the government knows what is going on.
Making change

Not just putting problems out there but finding a way forward.

CID works hard to find ways for you to feel more valued and included in the community.

They do this by working with other people and organisations.

This includes people with intellectual disability.

Work CID has done

CID has done work in many areas. For example

- Supporting you in the criminal justice system
- Improving health services for people with intellectual disability
- Telling the NDIS not to forget intellectual disability
- Changing how the community thinks about participation
- Supporting you to be a leader and be more confident

CID works hard so you are not forgotten by the government.

The government would lose a very important organisation if CID closed.

The report by La Trobe University will help CID fight to keep funding and keep doing advocacy work.

For more information contact CID at info@nswcid.org.au