Position statement about Supported Decision Making



This document is a position statement.



A **position statement** says what an organisation thinks about a topic.



The position statement is from the Council for Intellectual Disability.

CID for short.



This position statement is about supported decision making.



Supported decision making means to help someone take steps to make their own decisions.

Our goal



Our goal is that people with disability get support to make their own decisions.



The support must be about

- what people want
- what people need



Some people need another person to work out what their decision is.



All people have the right to be involved in decisions as much as possible.



You can read more about our work on supported decision making.



www.cid.org.au/resource/our-positionstatement-on-guardianship-law-reform

The right to make decisions



People with disability have the right to make their own decisions.

The same as everyone else.



People have the right to get support to make decisions.



The right to make your own decision is in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disability.

CRPD for short.



Australia has signed the CRPD.



This means Australia has promised to make the rights of people with disability happen.

The challenge



People have rights.

The challenge is how to put supported decision making into action.



Supported decision making should be done by

services

- government
- the community

Laws about Supported Decision Making



In Australia there is no law that says you have the right to make your own decisions.



There is no law that says you have the right to get support for decisions.



Someone could be asked to make decisions for you.



But support is important.

With the right support you may not need someone to make decisions for you.



CID wants a new law about the right to supported decision making.

Supported Decision Making and the NDIS



Supported decision making is not a part of the NDIS.

NDIS means National Disability Insurance Scheme.



The NDIS sometimes allows other people to make decisions for people with disability.

These people are called nominees.

What CID wants



CID wants some important things to happen.



We want people with disability to

- have their say
- make decisions about all parts of life



CID wants the government to work with people with disability to make supported decision making happen.



CID wants the community to respect people with disability as decision makers.



CID wants people with disability to make decisions from an early age.

Education should help people learn skills to make decisions.



We want the government to give money to make supported decision making better in the community.



There are laws that say you have the right to reasonable adjustments.

Reasonable adjustments are

- a ramp for wheelchair access
- information in Easy Read



CID wants supported decision making to become a reasonable adjustment.

This is to make sure you always get offered support to make your own decisions.

CID wants the government to make new laws and rules to make supported decision making happen.



You can read more about the laws CID wants.



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