

What is an advocate?

An advocate is a person who can provide information, advice or practical assistance to you if you choose.

An advocate can:

- go to meetings with you or for you
- write letters or make phone calls
- assist you to make a complaint or
- help you to advocate for yourself.

Every person has the right to an advocate

When do I need an advocate?

You may need an advocate if you have a serious and urgent issue. This could be with Innovate, another provider or a government department.

For example:

- You're not receiving services the way you like to receive them and you need some help in being able to talk about it
- you have tried raising an issue with a provider, but they did not listen.

We will talk to you about advocacy and you can ask for an advocate at any time.

What should I expect from an advocate?

An advocate will treat you with respect, as an individual and help you to make decisions and choices about your life.



For more information please contact:

Phone: 0487 086 686

Email: info@innovatecs.com.au

Website: www.innovatecs.com.au





How do I contact an advocate?

There are a range of advocacy services available for people with disabilities, older people and carers. These details are listed below:

Ability Advocacy

Call 1800 657 961 or visit www.abilityadvocacy.org.au

Disability Advocacy NSW

Call 1300 365 085 or visit www.da.org.au

Family Advocacy

Call 1800 620 588 or visit www.family-advocacy.com

Intellectual Disability Rights Service NSW

Call (02) 9265 6300 or visit www.idrs.org.au

Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association of NSW

Call 1800 629 072 or visit www.mdaa.org.au

People With Disabilities Australia Inc

Call 1800 422 015 or visit www.pwd.org.au

Self Advocacy Sydney Inc

Call (02) 9622 3005 or visit www.sasinc.com.au

Side By Side Advocacy Inc

Call (02) 9808 5500 or visit www.sidebyside.org.au

South West Sydney Tenants and Advocacy Service

Call (02) 4628 1678 or visit www.tenants.org.au

Spinal Cord Injuries Australia

Call 1800 819 775 or visit www.scia.org.au

Indigenous Disability Advocacy Service

Call (02) 4721 1536 or visit www.srac.ngo/idas

Synapse

Call or 1800 673 074 visit www.synapse.org.au



Innovate may help you make a complaint, talk to a service provider or find an advocate.

It is important to get assistance from an advocate if you have a serious and urgent issue with a service provider or government department.