



Association for
Children with a
Disability

www.acd.org.au

Strategic Plan

2024-2027



Our vision

An inclusive community where children with disability and their families thrive.

Our mission

We empower families, build inclusive practice and advocate for children with disability and their families.

Who we work with

Our focus is families raising children with disability or developmental delay in Victoria, from birth to 18.

We support all disability. We work with families because children do best when their family is supported.

We work to ensure the families we support reflect the diversity of the Victorian community.

We work in partnership with professionals who support children and families.

Our goals

1

Families have the knowledge, skills, and confidence to advocate for their children.

We empower families to advocate for their children. We do this through three services that span childhood ages and stages:

- Information and resources
- Workshops and peer support
- Support line

We focus on engaging families in the early years, so they are supported from the start of their journey.

We grow our reach by ensuring our services are accessible and relevant to the diversity of Victorian families.

2

There is inclusive practice across sectors and among professionals who work with children with disability and their families.

We build knowledge and skills across sectors and among professionals who work with children with disability and their families.

We work in partnership with other organisations to increase our reach and impact and we offer training on how to be inclusive of children with disability and how to work together with families.

3

The rights of children with disability are realised and advanced.

We influence public policy to realise and advance the rights of children with disability and their families.

We work for positive impact and systemic change. We are forward-looking, sharing what works.

Our advocacy recognises the expertise and experiences of families.

We value and amplify the voices of children with disability.

Priority areas

Safety of children

Children with disability have the right to grow up in a safe and fair environment, protected from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect.

We support families to raise and address safety concerns.

We highlight the specific safety concerns for children with disability in all our advocacy.

Early learning and school

All children should have access to quality inclusive education.

We empower families to speak up for their children's right to access education and learning, and to prepare for life after school. We promote inclusion in quality early learning, and we work to make schools inclusive of children with disability.

Our advocacy aims to improve learning outcomes for all children with disability.

National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)

The NDIS is important in assisting children with disability and their families to access the supports and services that meet their needs.

We keep families informed of changes to the NDIS, through clear and practical information.

We take part in national advocacy to speak up for an NDIS that works better for children.

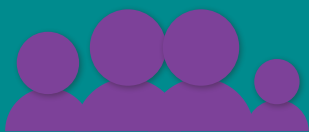
Inclusive communities

Inclusive communities for children with disability begin with playgrounds and playgroups and continue into after-school activities, sport, and recreation.

We connect families to inclusive fun in their local community and celebrate the representation of children with disability in children's books, TV, and media.

We partner with others to raise awareness and create more inclusive spaces and play.

How we work



We are family-led

We include all disability

We achieve change through representing the experiences of children and families

We are trusted, constructive and solutions-focused

We celebrate the achievements of children with disability and their families

We amplify the voice of children with disability and their families



What enables our success

People

Our board and staff are representative of our community, with the skills and experience to govern and pursue our purpose.

We support the engagement, talent, and succession planning of our board, staff, and volunteers.

We extend our impact by growing the number of volunteer Community Champions.

We value the expertise of families and children with disability.

Partnerships

We collaborate and work in partnership with researchers, community sector leaders and government to increase our impact.

We offer unique services, and don't duplicate or compete with what others already do well.

We work with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations as they lead change for Aboriginal communities, families, and children.

Impact measurement

We describe what we do through our Theory of Change, and this informs how we measure impact.

Technology

We have the technology needed to deliver services and to protect privacy and data security.

Financial sustainability

We pursue government and philanthropic funding to grow our impact.

Brand

We sustain and build our reputation as a source of credible and trusted support, advice and positive change.