

Advocacy is about making sure you have choice and a voice to ensure you can exercise your rights.

RIAC provides information and Advocacy to people with all types of disabilities, their families and carers, including

- Culturally and linguistically diverse communities; and
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders.

RIAC is accredited under the National Standards for Disability Services and the Victorian Government Department of Human Services Standards.

Shepparton

72 Wyndham Street, Shepparton.
Postal: PO Box 1763, Shepparton, 3630
Phone: 03 5822 1944 / Fax: 03 5831 1610

Geelong

Office: 1/92 Gheringhap Street, Geelong, 3220.
Phone: 03 5222 5499 / Fax: 03 5222 5677

Bendigo

Office: 31 MacKenzie Street, Bendigo, 3550.
Postal: PO Box 2219
Bendigo Delivery Centre, 3554
Phone: 03 5443 0550 / Fax: 03 5443 5178

Mildura

Office: 272 Eleventh Street, Mildura, 3500.
Postal: PO Box 2641, Mildura, 3502
Phone: 03 5021 0265 / Fax: 03 5023 6208

Swan Hill

Office: 73 Beveridge Street, Swan Hill 3585.
Phone: 0497 333 114

Horsham

Office: 185 Baillie Street, Horsham 3402.
Phone: 0437 710 032



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www.riac.org.au

RIAC's Advocacy program is supported by the Australian Government Department of Social Services and the Victorian Government.

ADVOCACY

your rights, your voice

Rights Information & Advocacy Centre Inc.
(RIAC)

'SPEAKING UP FOR
YOUR RIGHTS'

A FREE CONFIDENTIAL &
INDEPENDENT SERVICE
SUPPORTING PEOPLE

advocacy

What can a RIAC advocate do?

An advocate is someone who will stand with you to help you make a decision and ensure your voice is heard, so that you are treated fairly.

An Advocate may:

- Assist you to advocate for yourself,
- Provide information about other agencies / services that may be of assistance to you,
- Assist you to resolve problems / complaints,
- Ensure your voice is heard at meetings,
- Write a letter with / for you.

Understanding advocacy

ADVOCACY – to stand up for the rights of another person or a group of people.

INDIVIDUAL ADVOCACY – advocacy which focuses on upholding the rights of an individual.

SELF ADVOCACY – to stand up for your rights.

SYSTEMIC ADVOCACY – advocacy which involves changes in systems and focuses on upholding the rights of a group of people.

SOCIAL JUSTICE – a concept of equity whereby individuals in society have access to goods and services regardless of race, gender, disability, age, culture or socio-economic status.

RIAC Advocates service these local government areas (LGAs):

Victoria

- Greater Shepparton
- Moira
- Strathbogie
- Mitchell
- Murrindindi
- Mildura Rural City
- Swan Hill Rural City
- Gannawarra
- Campaspe
- City of Greater Bendigo
- Mount Alexander
- Macedon Ranges
- Central Goldfields
- Loddon
- Buloke
- Greater Geelong
- Borough of Queenscliffe
- West Wimmera
- Hindmarsh
- Yarriambiack

New South Wales

- Wentworth Shire
- Balranald Shire



The history, culture, diversity and value of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, their Elders and Respected Persons are recognised and acknowledged.