

# Finding an advocate

Speaking on your behalf.



**ICLA** 

Independent Community  
Living Australia  
Everyday life changing

# Speaking on your behalf



## What is an advocate?

An advocate is a person or organisation who can **legally represent** you.

### Who could be your advocate?



A family member, friend or a significant other



A legally appointed guardian who has decision making powers in your life



An advocacy service like those listed in this booklet

### What can an advocate help you with?



Receiving the services and resources you need



Protecting your rights and other's rights






Ensuring service providers treat you with respect






Challenging barriers and discrimination

# Advocacy services






## Council for Intellectual Disability

-  **Level 2, 418A Elizabeth St, Surry Hills NSW 2010**
  -  **1800 424 065**
  -  **cid.org.au**
- The Council for Intellectual Disability (CID) is a peak body representing the rights and interests of people with intellectual disability. CID is a disability rights organisation led by people with intellectual disability.

## Family Advocacy

-  **PO Box 502, Epping, NSW 2121**
  -  **(02) 9869 0866  
1800 620 588**
  -  **family-advocacy.com**
- Support and information for families to assist in advocating on behalf of people with intellectual disability.

## Inner City Legal Centre

-  **50-52 Darlinghurst Rd, Kings Cross 2011**
  -  **(02) 9332 1966  
1800 244 481**
  -  **iclc@iclc.org.au**
  -  **iclc.org.au**
  -  **Mon-Thurs: 10-6pm  
Fri: 10am-5pm**
- Urgent legal advice is provided by telephone to victims of domestic violence.
- In-person advice provided by appointment in the following areas: apprehended violence orders, criminal matters, debit/credit, discrimination, employment, family law, juvenile justice, victim's compensation and other areas of general law.
- Provides referrals and assistance to people who live and/or work in the inner city and surrounding areas. Also participate in community legal education and law reform.
- Tues and Wed evenings  
6pm-8pm by appointment**

## Intellectual Disability Rights Service

-  **Suite 204, 370 Pitt St, Sydney NSW 2000**
-  **(02) 9265 6300  
1300 665 908**
-  **idrs.org.au**

### Legal Advice

Legal advice and information is provided for people with an intellectual disability or others acting on their behalf within NSW. Initial advice is provided over the phone by appointment.

### Justice Support

The Justice Support team provide a free service for people with an intellectual disability who have been involved in any type of criminal matter as a victim, witness or defendant.

### Priority Issues

The priority issues are Criminal Justice and Parents with an Intellectual Disability.




### Education

Education and training is provided to people with an intellectual disability, their carers, service providers as well as employees and volunteers in the legal system.

### Information

IDRS produces a number of publications and distributes useful resources, including fact sheets, books, brochures and training materials.

## Mental Health Advocacy Service

-  **Level 4, 74-76 Burwood Rd, Burwood NSW 2134**
-  **(02) 9745 4277**
-  **legalaid.nsw.gov.au**

The Mental Health Advocacy Service is part of Legal Aid NSW and provides free legal advice and assistance about mental health law.




Telephone advice is available for all areas of mental health law. Relatives and friends can also call for advice.

The service can provide advice and may be able to refer you to the right place for your problem.

The Mental Health Advocacy Service represents people in hearings that relate to their detention and treatment in hospitals and the community, and the management of their money. They also provide representation for people with disabilities before the Guardianship Tribunal.





## Multicultural Disability Advocacy Association

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-  **10-12 Hutchinson St,  
Granville, NSW 2142** Information and advocacy for people with intellectual disability from a range of cultural backgrounds.
-  **(02) 9891 6400  
1800 629 072**
-  **mdaa.org.au**



## National Ethnic Disability Alliance

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-  **PO Box 971,  
Civic Square,  
ACT 2608** NEDA advocates at the federal level for the rights and interests of people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds with disability, their families and carers so that they can participate fully in all aspects of social, economic, political and cultural life.
-  **(02) 6262 6867  
0407878933**
-  **office@neda.org.au** NEDA provides policy advice to the federal government and other agencies to secure equitable outcomes for people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds with disability, their families and carers. NEDA undertakes projects relating to the culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) and disability communities.
-  **neda.org.au**
- NEDA works closely with its state and territory member organisations to ensure that its policy advice reflects the experiences of people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds with disability, their families and carers. NEDA undertakes development work to try to establish a structure that can support and represent people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds with disability, their families and carers.




## NSW Ombudsman Office

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-  **Level 24, 580 George St,  
Sydney, 2000** The NSW Ombudsman help agencies to address problems with their performance. These problems may be uncovered by complaints from the public or by people who work for those agencies. Problems may also come to their attention through their work in scrutinising agency systems, overseeing investigations or reviewing the delivery of services.
-  **(02) 9286 1000  
1800 451 524**





## People with Disability Australia (PWDA)

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-  **Level 8, 418A Elizabeth St,  
Surry Hills, NSW 2010** PWDA work with people with all types of disability. They empower people with disability to take control of their own lives by providing information, education and support.
-  **(02) 9370 3100  
1800 422 015**
- Abuse and neglect  
hotline:  
1800 880 052**
-  **pwd.org.au**
- Personal advocacy support is available to people with disability. This could include going to meetings, writing letters, making phone calls or assisting a person to lodge complaints.

## Redfern Legal Centre

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-  **73 Pitt St, Redfern  
NSW 2016** Free advice and advocacy service for individuals and community organisations in the Sydney, Botany and Leichhardt Council areas. Assistance to people who cannot afford a lawyer, do not qualify for legal aid and live in the catchment area listed above, or are approved by the Centre.
-  **(02) 9698 7277**
-  **rlc.org.au**
-  **Mon-Thurs:  
9am-1pm, 2pm-6pm**
- Fri:  
9am-1pm, 2pm-5pm**

# Reach out

ICLA offers services that are targeted at supporting individuals to achieve their personal goals, increase their confidence, independence and opportunity for social and community connection.

## **How you can reach us:**

-  (02) 9281 3338
-  [info@icla.org.au](mailto:info@icla.org.au)
-  Suite 76, Level 7, 8-24 Kippax Street  
Surry Hills NSW 2010 Australia