

AMIDA NEWS

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May, 2019



AMIDA (Action for More Independence & Dignity in Accommodation) is a disability advocacy group that works on housing issues. This means we speak up for people with a disability or help them to speak up for themselves about problems they have with their housing.



Raising Our Voices Radio show on 3CR

June is 3CR radiothon time. We need to raise \$650 to keep 3CR community Radio and our program on the air.

All donations appreciated.

How can Supporters Pay a pledge?

DETAILS:

You can make your tax-deductible donation by:

Paying online at: www.3cr.org.au;

CLICK DONATE

By calling (03) 9419 8377 OR Text

0448 809 855

Drop into the station at 21 Smith St, Collingwood, Monday-Friday 9-5pm

Post a cheque or money order made out to 3CR - PO Box 1277 Collingwood Vic 3066

Deposit the money in the 3CR Bank Account

Name: Community Radio Federations Donations Account: BSB: 313 140

Account Number: 1205 9465

If paying directly into account, notify us of your payment via email admin@3cr.org.au so we can send you a receipt and allocate your donation to the correct show.

Listen on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 6.00 – 6.30pm or podcast www.3cr.org.au/raisingourvoices or at www.amida.org.au

AMIDA is Planning Ahead

Recently the AMIDA committee of management met to make sure we are well set up to achieve our goals, plan for the next 12 months and prepare for the future.

Here is a snapshot of the work we are doing.

Housing Advocacy

AMIDA continues to assist people with a disability with our Housing Advocacy Service.

We provide individual advocacy, self-advocacy support and systemic advocacy. Our systemic efforts resulted in particular mention of AMIDAs concerns in the Accessible Housing Options Consultation Report. We have also contributed input to the revised Disability Act and the terms of Reference for the Royal Commission into Abuse in Disability Services.

We have also been very busy and working hard to meet an increasing need for individual advocacy. Our waiting lists had to close, as we could not keep up with the need.

We hope to be able to take on new cases soon.

NDIS Appeals Advocacy



Are you unhappy with your **ndis** plan, or a decision made by the **ndia**?

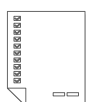
If so, NDIS Appeals Advocacy at AMIDA can help.



What could you be unhappy about?

The NDIA said you can't get support from them (you're not eligible)

Your plan isn't right (you need more or different supports)



How does the service work?

It's **free**. Contact us to request our assistance.

email: appeals@amida.org.au or phone: **9654 2103**



PROJECTS

Opening Doors is a project creating films that we hope will be helpful to people with a disability looking to rent. People with a disability are telling us their stories and helping guide the filmmaking. We will put the films on a website. Stay tuned!

Self-Advocacy Resource Unit (SARU)

The **SARU** continues to do fantastic work resourcing self advocacy groups. Recently the **Voices Together** website was launched. It has been 1 year in the making and has had involvement from self advocacy groups all over Australia. Check it out.



<https://www.voicestogether.com.au/>

Voice at the Table



We continue to provide training to government and community groups about being more inclusive of people with a disability. The web site has many great resources to do this. The VATT project has recently been successful in attracting funding for work with the Innovative Justice Centre and “being on boards training” for people with disability in the Mitchell and Murrindindi Shires.

<https://voiceatthetable.com.au/>

Partnerships

We are partnering with a number of self advocacy groups to assist them to manage funding for projects across Victoria. These include;

Positive Powerful Parents group who are building a parenting network and a website,

Rainbow Rights who are raising awareness, and building a website,

New Wave self advocacy who are building the strength of three groups across Gippsland in Morwell, Wonthaggi and Leongatha.

All Abilities Advocacy who are building an information technology-sharing network for self-advocacy in the states west.

The Changing Community Project will aim to work with self-advocacy groups to build partnerships in the local community with mainstream groups.

Transitions will keep spreading the word about Why Self Advocacy Matters.

We have made a number of other funding submissions, and will report in the AMIDA NEWS if these are successful.

Exciting times!

WANTED - New Committee members

AMIDA is looking for people with a commitment to human rights and an interest in improving the lives of people with a disability to support us by joining our committee of management.

Our committee has a majority of members who have a disability but we have a number of vacancies for anyone who shares our aims and can contribute to governance of our organisation. This involves helping with our policy and practice, monitoring finances and budgets, receiving worker reports and contributing to the planning of the group so that we work best to meet our aims. We hold inclusive meetings and encourage people with a disability to participate. Check out the diagram on the next page, which shows the benefits of participation from people with lived experience.

Committee meetings are at Ross House, 247 Flinders Lane, Melbourne on the first Tuesdays of every month from 10.30am to 1.30pm. You are welcome to attend a committee meeting or phone AMIDA on 9650 2722 to find out more. We also have a website www.amida.org.au.



If you receive a paper copy of the AMIDA NEWS, but would prefer to receive your AMIDA NEWS by email, please let us know: 9650 2722 or amida@amida.org.au.

Of course, we are very happy to continue to post you the AMIDA NEWS if that is your preference.



or

Benefits of Consumer Participation

Everyone benefits when people with disabilities help shape decisions about services



People with cognitive disabilities



Governments & Organisations



Share ideas, challenges and expertise



Listen to the experts of their lived experience



Experience is recognised and valued



Influence policy and make change



Fresh ideas and different ways of doing things



Insight into the perceptions, experiences and barriers of people with cognitive disabilities



Increased confidence



Better quality Services



Higher satisfaction scores



More inclusive practices that benefit people of all abilities



Relevant policies



Ongoing opportunities



Ongoing consultation and collaboration

May, 2019



The AMIDA office is usually open:

Monday - Thursday - 9.30 - 5.00
Friday 9.30 - 3.00

Please phone AMIDA for an appointment: 9650 2722

Email: amida@amida.org.au

Web: www.amida.org.au



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All information contained within is as accurate as possible and is provided in good faith – however it is not guaranteed.*

AMIDA receives funding from the Commonwealth Department of Social Services, and the Victorian Department of Health & Human Services

You can offer any comments you have on AMIDA Policy or Newsletter by phone, email or writing:

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