

HOW CITIZEN ADVOCACY CAN WORK?

Having a citizen advocate can help a person have greater control of their life.

“Without Kate I would not have my children anymore”

A person with an intellectual disability may be feeling lonely or facing difficulties.

A person may need an independent person to help them understand information so that they can make their own decisions.

Melissa attends a doctor's appointment with Clare so that her symptoms are clearly understood, and she can make decisions about her health care.



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Scan QR code for further information

North East Citizen Advocacy is funded by the Department of Social Services

CITIZEN ADVOCACY

**ONE TO ONE SUPPORT
FOR PEOPLE WITH
INTELLECTUAL
DISABILITY**



North East Citizen Advocacy

WHY IS CITIZEN ADVOCACY NEEDED?

People with disabilities often do not get the support and assistance they need. They often face rejection, isolation, and are particularly vulnerable to being treated unfairly and exploited. Some are subject to abuse and neglect.

Citizen advocacy provides an opportunity to improve quality of life through providing support, having a spokesperson, and involvement in each other's lives.



HOW DOES CITIZEN ADVOCACY WORK?

The NECA team seek out vulnerable people in the community with little or no family or informal supports.

We help by matching individuals with a volunteer who becomes their friend and advocate.

We call this person a citizen advocate.

We conduct a thorough process of checks before they join us and we provide the volunteer training and on-going support.

**Our service is
completely free.**

If you or anyone you know might benefit from having an advocate, please contact us.

ABOUT US

North East Citizen Advocacy (NECA) is a community-based organisation that was established in 1986.

We support adults with an intellectual disability with a range of advocacy programs for people who reside in:

- Banyule
- Darebin
- Whittlesea, or
- Nillumbik

Our citizen advocacy program matches a volunteer with a person in need and helps to improve the quality of their life through;

- becoming a friend
- being a spokesperson
- empowering them to make their own decisions and choices in life
- helping someone reach their goals