
Disability Services – Active Participation Strategy

Strengthening and Building Participatory Practice Project

Newsletter Number 1 July 2005

Please distribute to people with a disability, families and disability support service staff

Project Objective

To identify, strengthen and build the active participation of people with a disability and their families in the planning, delivery, monitoring and review of government and non-government disability support services. In particular the project will:

- Encourage people with a disability and support organisations in each DHS region to share ideas and information about ways to encourage participation
- Result in a 'Framework for Participation Practice' as a guide to organisations on ways to encourage and support the participation of people with a disability and their families.

Thank you!

We have received over 700 replies from people with a disability, family members and service providers to our questionnaires and feedback phone line. So far over 50 people with disabilities have come to focus groups and told us about their experience of active participation in decision-making about the services they receive, and the ways they would like to participate in future.

Next step - An invitation to a Participation Expo

We are holding eight Participation Expo's around Victoria. Come along if you would like to:

- **Support people with a disability** who use your services to talk with other people with a disability about their experiences of active participation, and how they want to participate
- **Share your organisation's experience** and ideas in the area of active participation
- **Find out** what other service providers in your region are doing about active participation
- **Hear the preliminary results** from your questionnaire replies, interviews and focus groups, including how people with a disability want to participate and what disability support organisations are doing to encourage and support people with a disability to participate.

RSVP

PARTICIPATION EXPO LOCATIONS	DATES	RSVP CONTACT
Ballarat	Wednesday 3 rd August	Jill Lane 9376 3849
Nunawading	Wednesday 10 th August	Liz Dimitriadis 9509 6972
Northcote	Friday 12 th August	Dymphna Laurie 9690 1950
Springvale	Monday 15 th August	Liz Dimitriadis 9509 6972
Echuca	Monday 15 th August	Jill Lane 9376 3849
Benalla	Wednesday 17 th August	Dymphna Laurie 9690 1950
Sale	Thursday 18 th August	Liz Dimitriadis 9509 6972
Geelong	Thursday 18 th August	Jill Lane 9376 3849

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Participating in Decision Making

We are a group of people called Service Quality Australia - LDC. The Victorian government has asked us to talk to you and find out if you think the services you use help you to participate. We want to know what you think about participating, making decisions and having a say about your services. Active participation is about being involved in decisions in your life, your services and your community.

Thank you for telling us what you think!

Thank you for answering our questions, or coming to a meeting, or talking to us on the phone. Lots of people with a disability have told us about active participation, making decisions and having a say about services. We will write a report about what you said.

Invitation to a Participation Expo

Come to a Participation Expo in August and share your ideas about how you participate in decisions about your services. Talk to other people with a disability, family members and service providers about what they are doing about active participation and making decisions, about services. The Expo will be fun!

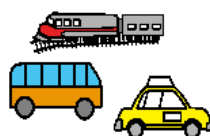
Let us know you are coming

Please choose one of the Expo's. The dates and places are on the front of this newsletter. Phone Jill, Dymphna or Liz to let us know you are coming. Let us know what support you need when you ring up. We will be able to help you with the cost of transport and attendant care or interpreters if needed.

Do you need help



transport



personal care attendant



hearing impaired

