

# Principles of Advocacy

- Advocacy is speaking, acting, and/or writing on behalf of, and in the best interests of, the disadvantaged person or group to promote, protect and defend their welfare and justice.
- Advocacy remains loyal and accountable to the disadvantaged party over the long term where necessary.
- Advocacy strives to be:
  - independent
  - autonomous
  - on the side of the disadvantaged party (partisan)
- Advocacy focuses on the fundamental human needs and/or rights of people with disability
- Advocacy minimises conflicts of interest
- Advocacy has a clear values base of social justice and strives for:
  - equity
  - justice
- Advocacy's goal is for people with disability to be included and seen as contributing/participating members of the community
- Advocacy is emphatic, vigorous and costly, or likely to be costly, to the advocate or the advocacy group
- Advocacy is distinct from service delivery
- Advocacy is not service provision or personal care support