

Disability Royal Commission

An update from *family*

A D V O C A C Y

The Disability Royal Commission is finishing soon – now is the time to share your story!

The Disability Royal Commission (the Commission) was set up to investigate what needs to be done to:

- prevent and better protect **people with disability** from experiencing **violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation**
- promote a **more inclusive society** that supports people with disability to be **independent**

The Commission is looking at the experiences of anyone with a disability

- any disability, however acquired
- any age
- all settings and contexts (schools, workplaces, jails, hospitals, community, etc)
- and the multilayered experience given a person's sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, intersex status, language, cultural background and particularly of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

People with disability have the same human rights as everyone else including the right to:

- be safe
- feel like they are valued
- dignity – to be treated with respect.

The Commission is looking at the quality and safety of services, including informal supports and including the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) and the NDIS Quality and Safeguarding Framework.

There is a particular focus on how government, institutions and the community encourage **reporting** of harmful practice and then effectively **investigate and respond** to these reports.

The Commission needs **your voice of experience** to understand what works well and where things need fixing. You can share with the Commission in any language and in any way that works for you.

If you have something the Commission should know, there are free supports available to you:

- free Counselling support – contact Blue Knot 1800 421 468
- free Legal advice and support – Your Story Disability Legal Support 1800 77 1800
- free Advocacy support - Call us on **(02) 9869 0866 or 1800 620 588.**

Family Advocacy has two advocates who are available to support you. We:

- answer any questions you have about the Disability Royal Commission
- explain the different ways you can share your experience
- provide support on how to get started (and how to get over barriers)
- assist by recording your experience on video or audio if that will make it easier.

Find out more at <https://www.family-advocacy.com/royal-commission/>

Now is a historic opportunity where your voice can be influencing social change.

Submissions must be in by the end of 2022.