

## The Having a Say resource manual:

- is for people with intellectual disability, aimed directly and personally at them, rather than being written for a group setting and aimed at support staff.
- provides practical advice and guidance staff and family members to assist them in 'empowering' people with intellectual disability to become strong self advocates.
- is easy to access for people with different support needs
- is easy to photocopy for lots of multiple uses
- is easy to update with new pages

The VALID Having a Say Resource Manual builds on the success of the Becoming a Self Advocate Program and offers three new, unique resources:

## Individual Workbook One: *Building Strong Self Advocacy*

The Building Strong Self Advocacy Workbook is aimed directly at people with intellectual disability. It is hoped that people with intellectual disability will make their own way through Building Strong Self Advocacy, drawing wherever necessary on support and assistance from staff, family members, friends or fellow self advocates.

The Workbook looks at six important 'Powers' that everyone needs to be a strong self advocate. It asks the reader to check whether they have these powers, and encourages them to become 'strong self advocates'.

## Individual Workbook Two: *My Life, My Service*

The *My Life, My Service* Workbook aims to:

- Support clients of disability services to learn about the Victorian Disability Service Standards
- Assist staff to do things in a way that the Standards say they should.
- Provide information for services and staff on whether they are doing a good job, so they can change things to make the service better for clients.
- Provide information to assist Services complete the client part of the 'assessment' for disability services

## **VALID-8 Your Service: Audit of Client Empowerment in Disability Services**

VALID-8 Your Service aims to give disability service agencies a tool for measuring their performance in relation to client empowerment. It provides indicators of eight important client empowerment measures, as recommended by VALID.

VALID-8 Your Service can be used by services as a guide to the things they should be doing to empower clients to genuinely *have a say which is heard*.

Services may also choose to engage VALID to give an independent audit of their service using the VALID-8 assessment. Services that are VALID-8ed will be given their own Certificate of Client Empowerment to proudly display.

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