

supporting
inclusion
in your
community





**if you are committed to
inclusion, then we can help**

1 out of 10.

That's the number of Victorians excluded from participating in the community because they are living with disability.

If you want to change this, we can show you how.

stand up for change

Do you care about your community?

Are you keen to make a difference?

Embracing inclusion is one of the most powerful statements you can make about who you are and what you stand for.

Welcoming people with disability into your sports club, special interest group or community organisation shows an authentic commitment to human rights. It shows courage, integrity and a sense of fairness. It highlights your organisation as a leader in building a better tomorrow for all.

enjoy the benefits of inclusion

Groups and organisations that we have supported often say that welcoming participants with disability has enriched them immeasurably. Some of the advantages of inclusion:

Expand your group's skills base

Encouraging greater diversity brings in new voices, experiences and approaches. For example, people with disability bring knowledge about how to make services, organisations and communities accessible to everyone.

Increase membership and popularity

Being welcoming and inclusive promotes your club in a positive light and makes it more appealing to potential participants, volunteers, sponsors and other supporters. New members are more likely to join in and contribute if they see that your organisation respects diversity and values a wide variety of contributions.

Access funding opportunities

Governments and private funders favour organisations which actively promote inclusion. By reaching a wider audience through inclusion, you are able to access new funding opportunities and networks.

Contribute to a just and fair society

- Build recognition of the skills, merits, abilities and capacities of people with a disability to contribute positively to their community
- Promote active and creative role models for people with a disability
- Encourage more innovative approaches to sport, music, dance, theatre etc.
- Incorporate the experience of living with disability into community life and cultural expression
- Facilitate social interaction between people of all abilities
- Raise awareness and foster respect for the rights and dignity of persons with a disability
- Combat stereotypes, prejudices and harmful practices.

“One of the things that stood out for me was how patient and polite everyone was not just to Simon, but to one another. It gave the club a friendly energy that really made me feel welcome.”

Alice B., new club member

fostering a more inclusive community

Inclusion Melbourne is Victoria's oldest day service for people with intellectual disability. We have always been guided by the fundamental belief in the worth and value of every person, and their right to be recognised as an equal citizen. We believe that people with a disability should be able to live in an inclusive community and have the same opportunities to participate in community life.

We support people with intellectual disability to:

- Take part in activities and experiences that improve their quality of life.
- Develop practical skills to live as independently as possible.
- Develop interpersonal skills necessary to form relationships.
- Make choices and decisions about their own lives.
- Live fulfilling lives and to become fully included in their community.

We are changing community attitudes about disability... and making a difference for thousands of Victorians

Our personalised support service is leading the way in promoting the inclusion of people with intellectual disability in the community. We support people to live a fulfilled life, to participate in activities based on their own needs, wants and interests, and to develop meaningful friendships within the local community. Through linkages with businesses, community groups and volunteers, we are playing our part to transform the world we live in – fostering understanding and acceptance of a more diverse society.

We can help you to enjoy the benefits of inclusion... while building a better world for all.

“Our group tries to make a difference to our community, and by involving Cara as a volunteer, we are doing just that.”

Wendy, op shop volunteer

is your club, special interest group or community organisation committed to becoming more inclusive of people with a disability?

If the answer is yes, then we can support you to...

Create a more disability friendly environment

Attract and welcome new members

Provide disability awareness training to your existing membership

Improve communications

Promote your club's inclusive programs and opportunities

Develop appropriate policies and procedures

Respond appropriately to any issues which may arise.

We've supported the following community groups and organisations to embrace inclusion:

Elwood St Kilda Neighbourhood Learning Centre

Ashburton Support Services

Youth Now, Sunshine

Vinney's Op Shop

Collingwood Children's Farm

Monash Aquatic centre

The Avenue Neighbourhood House

Hobsons Bay Mens Shed Network

Cora Graves Centre

Camberwell Uniting church

Police Citizens Youth Club

Phoenix Park Library, East Malvern

South Yarra Stonnington Library

St Marys Primary School, Ascot Vale

Sundowner Centre

Temple Beth Israel

South African Shop

Prahran Library

Hampton Community Centre

MCG

Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre

Monash Public library

Clayton Community Centre

Balwyn Library

Palace Cinema

The Wellness Gym

Brimbank City Council

St Kilda Sea Baths

Kingston Art Centre

Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre

MECWA Opportunity Shop

Bay Side Nursery

Fire Services Museum

Prahran Neighbourhood House

South Melbourne Market

Irwin Consultants

Waverly Community Learning Centre

West Care, Sunshine

Lentil as Anything, Abbotsford

join us in building a more inclusive community

By contributing to a more inclusive community, everyone benefits.

If you would like to find out more about how we can support your club, special interest group or community organisation to include someone with a disability, please call (03) 9509 4266 or email includeme@im.org.au.

“Having David on the team has truly enriched our club. It made me appreciate the potential of every person.”

Harvey P., club member

Cover acknowledgement: 2014 Gawith Orator Richard Bernstein is a distinguished American disability rights advocate. Inclusion Melbourne hosted Richard's 2014 Australian Tour.



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