# Review of the National Disability Advocacy Program

# Consultation Report

Easy English

This is the text only version of the Easy English document.  
  
This factsheet has some hard words.

The first time we write a hard word it is in blue. We write what the hard word means.

This booklet is written by the Department of Social Services.

When you see ‘we’ it means the Department of Social Services.

The Australian Government gives money to the National Disability Advocacy Program.

We will call this the program.

The program gives a person with a disability an advocate.

An advocate can help you

* make decisions
* make a complaint
* understand information.

The aim of the program is to help you

* join in the community
* know your rights.

Rights are everything that you should be able to

* get
* have
* do.

# Ideas

In 2016 people told us how to make the program better.

More than 150 people told us their ideas.

Many people said

* We should give more help to people who
* are Indigenous
* are from a country that is not Australia
* speak a language that is not English
* live in the country
* do not have family or friends to
* help them
* find it hard to communicate
* need help with the law.

For example, they need to go to court.

* We should provide interpreters.

An interpreter changes a message from one language to another.

For example, Vietnamese to English.

* Advocates should help you in different ways. For example
* help you fix a problem
* teach your family how to help you
* go to new places to see if new people need help.
* Your advocate should not be the same person who gives you other help. For example, a person that works in your house.
* We need to know about the type of problems people have. Advocates can try to change things that make problems for lots of people.
* Advocates should not work at the National Disability Insurance Agency.
* Money for advocates should not go to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

In the future

We will

* use the ideas to make the program better
* tell you when we change the program.

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