



Annual Report 2025





Who is on the cover page photo

Members of the DDWA Advisory Council and The Hon Hannah Beazley, Minister for Disability Services

Back row left to right

Liam Flynn, Johnathon Hines, Kyal Fairbairn, Michelle Silver, Shariq Sharma, James McNulty

Front row left to right

Peter Bluett, The Hon Hannah Beazley, Kristy Marsiglia, Georgie George, Justin Storen

Hard words in this book are shown in **blue** and in **bold**. Then we say what the words mean.

About DDWA

We help people who were born with a disability and need help to understand things.



We help you to stand up for yourself or your family.



We help you to learn new things to make your life better.



We help make the community a better place for people with disability to live.

Thank you to our

Organisational Members – Premium Plus



Organisational Members – Premium



Organisational Members – Standard



Our Board



Kieron Flynn is the **Chairperson**.

A **Chairperson** is the leader of the Board.

The **Board** are the group of people who make big decisions about DDWA. He is the dad of 2 sons with disability.



Trish Sullivan is the **Deputy Chairperson**. A

Deputy Chairperson is the leader when the Chairperson is away. She is the mum of a son with disability.



Alan Langford is the **Treasurer**.

A **Treasurer** is someone who makes sure we look after our money. He is also the Chairperson of the **Finance And Risk Management subcommittee**. The short name is the FARM. They make extra sure we use our money well and do not take big risks. He is the dad of a daughter with disability.



Mia Huntley is a Board Member. She is the State Manager at genU. They used to be called Activ.



Mary Choy is a Board Member.
She is the mum of a son with disability.



Sandra Fedele is a Board Member.
She is the mum of a son with disability.

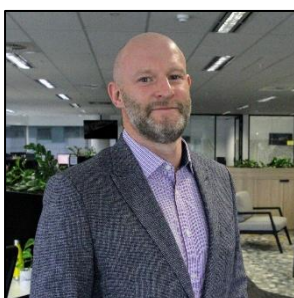


Natasha Russell is a Board Member.
She is the mum of a son with disability.



Andrea Williams is a Board Member.

She is the Manager of Support Services at Intelife. She is also the Chairperson of the Future Planning committee. They make sure we make good plans for our future.



Mike Duncan is a Board Member.

He is the dad of a daughter with disability.



Kate Grayson is a Board Member.

Kate is the Principal at a school and the mum of a daughter with disability.



Peta Kennedy is a Board Member.

She is the mum of 2 children with disability and works at a school with families.

We work with



We get funding from



Chairpersons Report



My name is Kieron Flynn. I am the **chairperson** and have been a board member since 2013.



DDWA has again done a lot this year in helping people with developmental disability and their families.



The Advisory Council still give great feedback to the board and to the office staff. They make sure we are doing the important things.



The On the Couch sessions are a good way for DDWA to hear from people with developmental disability.



These two things mean people with developmental disability have a real voice at DDWA. They help guide what we do.



The CEO and staff work very hard to help our

- members
- other people with developmental disability
- their families.



Workshops about planning for the future have been very popular with families.

This shows parents and carers worry a lot about who will help their child when they die.



The WA and the Australian governments are still not funding all of our work. The CEO and the board keep asking for more funding.



The governments say our work is important and that we do a good job. We still need to keep asking for funding so that we can do all of our work.



This year was our 40th birthday. It was good to look back on all the good work we have done.



Lots of people have helped DDWA over the last 40 years. These people have made a difference in the past and are still making a difference now.



They make DDWA much more than just another organisation.



I have always been very proud to be part of DDWA and all the great people it brings together.

CEO Report



My name is Mary Butterworth. I am the **Chief Executive Officer**. The short name is CEO. My job is to make sure DDWA runs well and people get help.



This year we had our 40th birthday party for members and staff. Lots of people who have known DDWA for a long time came.



We wrote a short history book. The book shows all the big things that have happened over the last 40 years. You can ask us for a copy.



We also made some wall panels for outside our office. They show what happened every 10 years.



This year was better than last year because the Australian government gave us money for some of our services.



We still do not have money for advocacy services. We have been telling the State Education Minister and the State Disability Minister this is a big problem.



The government are looking at the money they give out for advocacy. We think there needs to be less paperwork so advocates can spend more time helping people.



We have \$1 064 920 in our **reserve**. Our **Reserve** is the money we have saved. We will need to use this if we do not get any government money.



The **NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission** gave us money for our Voice and Choice Rights Project. The **NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission** try to make sure disability services are good.



We have been helping staff in disability organisations to make sure people who cannot talk know

- about their rights
- how to stand up for themselves.



The **National Centre for Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health**

works to make sure people with intellectual disability get better health care.



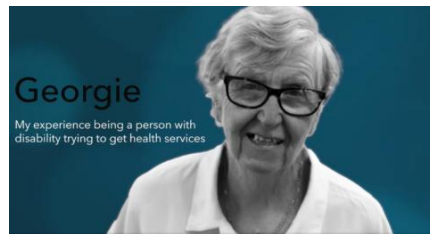
They gave us money to help tell the Western Australian government we need better health care services.



Some of our members did videos to tell their stories about health services.



You can see their videos on our website.



We finished our **Social Connections** project to help teach students about things like

- keeping up with their friends when they leave school.
- what things to do with friends in the local community.



We got money from Lotterywest for our Talking Forms project.



We will be able to send a talking message to members phones.

Members can answer questions by talking back to their phone. The talking form will write down what they say.



Our **Support Coordinators** helped 437 people to get NDIS services. A **Support Coordinator** helps you to get the services you need. They spend lots of time fixing NDIS problems.



National Disability
Insurance Scheme

Families also tell us they are still having lots of problems with the NDIS. I said the same thing in my report for the last 2 years.



We have been working with Inclusion Australia on 3 projects



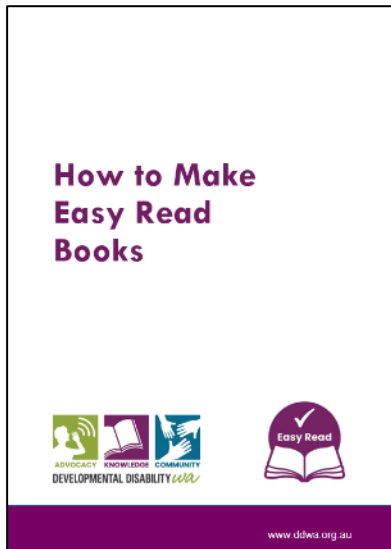
- Supported Employment Advocacy Project



- Speaking up in the bush



- Self Advocacy Hub

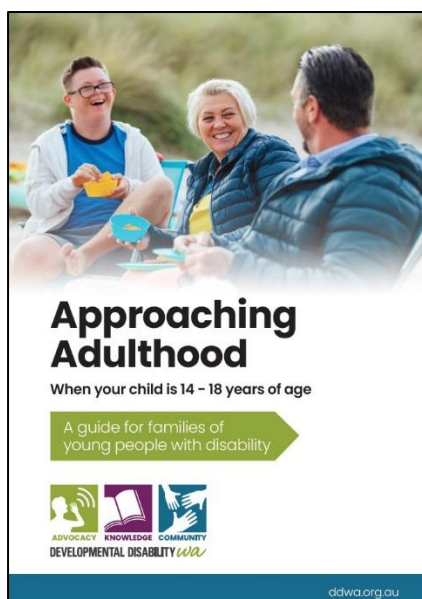


We have been doing lots of workshops with government staff about how to write in Easy Read.

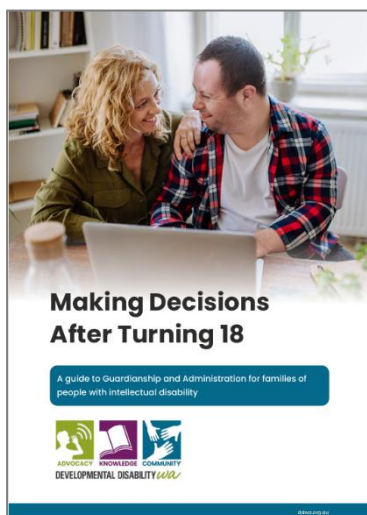


We have been doing lots of workshops for families about things like

- Guardianship and Administration.



- Approaching Adulthood.
- What if I die tomorrow?



Big thankyou to Gilbert + Tobin lawyers who wrote our book about Guardianship and Administration.



They also met with lots of our members to help them write a **will**. Writing a **will** is when you write down who you want to have your money and your things when you die.



We have been doing workshops with our members with disability about things like

- On line safety
- How to cope with stress
- How to vote



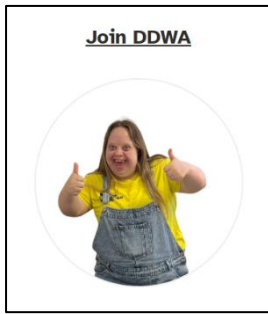
The Side by Side team have been helping parents of people who find it hard to be calm. Parents say everyone is calmer and less stressed when their needs are met.



They had two great family camps this year at Serpentine and Bullsbrook.



They now have **Regional Coordinators** in Geraldton and in the South West. **Regional Coordinators** can help families who live in these areas.



We have been talking to the Advisory Council about some ways to make our website better. A student took lots of photos of our members for the website.



Lots of the team have been working at DDWA for 10 years or more.



Only two people from the 2015 team have left DDWA.



Big thank you to the board advisory council and staff members. They all worked very hard this year and did a really great job.

Advisory Councils Report



We have had a busy year with lots of meetings.



Kristy Marsiglia was voted in as the new chairperson in March 2025.

She helps run the meetings and makes sure everyone gets to have their say.



Shariq Sharma is the new vice chairperson and runs the meeting if Kristy is away.



Michelle Silver stepped down from the chairperson role. She did a great job as chairperson.

She is now on the Australian Our Voice committee.



James McNulty is now the secretary.

He takes all the meeting **minutes**.

Minutes are the notes about what happened in the meeting.



Justin Storen is on the Inclusion Australia **Policy Reference Group**.

They make sure that policies and the law support the rights and interests of people with disability.

We have a new three card system at meetings



- A red card means I do not agree.
Can you slow down? Can we stop the meeting?



- A yellow card means I have a question. I do not understand.



- A green card means I agree.



We did some **consultancy** work for government and other groups.

Consultancy means they pay us to tell them what we think. We have done consultancy work with the



Department of
Education

- Department of Education who wanted us to tell them what needs to be in the new Education Act.



- Law Reform Commission who wanted us to tell them what to put in the new Guardianship and Administration Act.



- Department of Premier and Cabinet wanted us to look at their easy read book about What Is a Vaccination.



- Inclusion Australia. They wanted us to tell them about providing more services and support to people with disability.



- Department of Communities who wanted us to look at their easy read complaints form.



- Curtin University who asked us about people with intellectual disability attending university.



- Department of Finance who asked us about ways to find and keep a job.



- Road Safety Commission who talked to us about their new Safety Camera Project. They wanted to know how we could make it easier for people with disability.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Health

- Department of Health who asked us to look at their easy read End of Life Care plan.



- Dr Sarah Bernard from Sir Charles Gairdner hospital asked us about how things could be better in hospitals.



- Department of Justice asked us to look at their easy read Disability Access and Inclusion plan.



We had some guest speakers at our meetings.

- Krispin Roberts from Inclusion Solutions
- Senator Jordon Steel-John
- Simone Steele from the Road Safety Commission
- Sam Garlett WA Aboriginal Leadership Institute



We have worked this year on the **governance** of our meetings.

Governance is about how we make decisions and who makes the rules in our group.

Some of the things we have worked on are



- The rules of our group
- Our dress policy. We are going to get tshirts for staff to wear.
- **Code of conduct.** The **code of conduct** is the rules about how we need to behave in meetings.



We have enjoyed being part of the Advisory Council. We want to make things better for all people with intellectual disability.

About DDWA in 2025



We have 5969 members and 9486 contacts



4474 people follow us on facebook



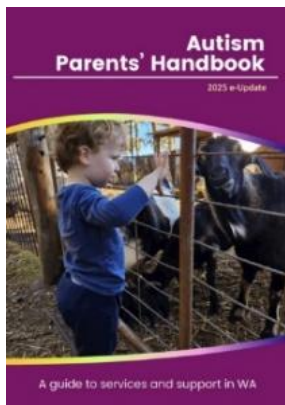
370 people follow us on our Side by Side facebook group



725 people rang to get help from an advocate



437 people got help from our Support Coordinators



Our most downloaded book from our website is the Autism Parents Handbook



1362 people came to our workshops



132822 pages were looked at on our website

Treasurers Report

Balance Sheet

1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Money we have (called Current Assets)	
How much money we have in the bank	\$1,660,373
How much money people owe us	<u>\$ 265,261</u>
Our Current Assets	\$1,925,634
Money we owe (called Liabilities)	
How much money we owe other people	\$ 814,069
Money we keep to pay others in the future (called provisions)	<u>\$ 126,364</u>
Our Total Liabilities	\$ 940,433
Things we own (called Non-Current Assets)	
How much money we would get if we sold the things in our office that we own	\$ 79,719
Total Funds (called Equity)	
How much money would be left if we sold everything we own and pay all the money we owe	\$ 1,064,920

Income Statement

1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

Income	Income is how much money we got in from others	\$3,274,962
Expenses	Expenses are how much money we spent on something	\$3,140,095
Surplus	How much money is left over after we pay for everything we need	\$ 134,867

Auditors Report



DDWAs money has been checked and approved by money people called **auditors**. An **auditor** is the person who checks that our money is spent well.



DDWAs auditors are AMW Audit.



Members can ask for a copy of the auditors report.

Big thank you to our team

Administration

Mary Butterworth

Chief Executive Officer

Sue Birch

Finance and HR Manager

Teresa Pracilio

Administration Manager

Cath Brindley

Quality Manager

Lynn Bradshaw

Admin and Finance Officer

Valentina Gonzalez-Herrera

Admin and Finance Officer

Lydia Gallant

Communications Manager

Jessica Toster & Zoe Paul

Office Assistants

Advocacy

Leticia Grant

Advocacy Manager

Maxine Drake

Senior Advocate

Laura Jones

Communications Consultant

Projects

Beth Marchbank

Project Manager

Theresa McDonnell

Project Manager

Caitlin Murphy

Training Program Presenter

Family Peer Support (Side By Side)

Bronwyn Pike

Side by Side Manager

Maggie Visser

Side by Side Manager

Alicia Kimberley

Geraldton

Regional Family Coordinator

Tarna Bulman

South West

Regional Family Coordinator

Self Advocacy Leaders

Michelle Silver (Our Voice Rep.)

Shariq Sharma

Kristy Marsiglia

Justin Storen

Peter Bluett

Liam Flynn

James McNulty

Georgie George

Ella Coombes

Lorraine Sequerah

Johnathon Hines

Support Coordination

Anne Livingston

Support Coordination Manager

Sijith Ponnappan

Support Coordinator (Specialist)

Vellar Lim

Support Coordinator (Specialist)

Kanau Sion

Support Coordinator

Dolina Sapolu

Support Coordinator

Sarah Connellan

Support Coordinator

Tino Mangwana

Support Coordinator

Linda Hurley

Support Coordinator

Patricia O'Dwyer

Support Coordinator (Specialist)

Mark Ajak

Support Coordinator

Anthea Winter

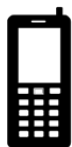
Support Coordinator



Developmental Disability WA team



Developmental Disability WA



(08) 9420 7203



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West Perth WA 6005



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www.ddwa.org.au



facebook.com/DDCofWAlnc/



Instagram.com/ddwa_ _



developmental disability wa

61 889 503 484

Australian Business Number