



Fairholme Disability Support Group Inc.

THE Fairholme Disability Support Group [the Group] aspires to achieve a lasting and positive impact for people with disability, their families and carers by contributing to the public good. As a responsible Group it conducts itself in a way that benefits all and also reflects fundamental values that include integrity, openness, fairness and accountability. To achieve this the Group has established strong governance, which is guided by strategies, assessment of its outcomes effectiveness as well as fostering high level of ethical conduct. This is complimented by the welcoming public interest and open communication.

The Group has been well recognised for its achievements and contributions (for over 25 years) at all levels including individual, residential, group and Government including Australian, State and Local. In addition the Group has well-established networks, which have been most beneficial in achieving some very positive outcomes. This is coupled with excellent consultative processes, good will, advocacy and respect for each other, cooperation and understanding in particular with Disability Services Commission [DSC] and other associated groups who the Group has formed strong and lasting partnerships and as a

consequence been able to deal with issues in a timely, efficient and effective manner.

The Group encourages people who wish to support people with a disability, families and carers to become a member of the Group. Currently the Group has two types of membership, they ordinary member [voting] and affiliate member [non voting] with the latter usually a friend and/or extended family member who does not play an active role.

If you are a person with a disability, parent, family member, guardian, carer, service provider and are interested in the advancement or maintenance of people with disability, the Group urges you to make yourself known to the Group. The Group will also assist with any concern/issue that you may have as the Group has well experienced members to deal with the majority of matters that may arise. So do not be afraid to ask because in the majority of cases the concern/issue is not new. All matters that are dealt with are kept confidential. As such the Group can expand your knowledge of facilities, services and group support options available for example but not limited to people with a disability in our community residing either at home or in group accommodation.

In conjunction with our network of support service providers the Group can assist you to make contact with groups who provide such things as leisure activities, alternatives to employment and advocacy services.

The Group therefore seeks your support no matter how small it may be to enable all to further enhance and/or ensure ongoing improvements to the quality of life for our loved ones. Also your support will provide greater strength

and capacity within the Group to ensure for example that when parents are not available to support their loved one that other dedicated and special people will step up and assume that role in the same devoted and caring manner. Strength can only be gained by having unity and focus on achieving greater and more positive outcomes.

The Group is a member and has established strong partnerships with the following organisations, which provide services to people with disabilities:

- DDC - Disability Council of Western Australia
- DADAA WA Inc – Disability in the Arts, Disadvantage in the Arts Australia (WA) Inc.
- WorkPower Incorporated
- PWD - People With Disabilities WA Inc
- ACROD – National Industry Association for Disability Services
- CarersWA
- Optimum Leisure
- Sport and Recreational Network Inc.
- Swan Friendship Club of WA
- TAFE

The Group's Constitution and Code of Conduct govern its activities.

To enable the Group to remain strategic and focused the key elements of the **Constitutional Objects**, which translates into continuing positive outcomes that are in the best interests of people with disability, families and carers, are as follows:

- **Safeguarding rights through strong advocacy and consultation on behalf of individuals and groups;**
- **Promoting equality by way of inclusion to enable**

individual needs to be met;

- Enhancing quality of life [all aspects]
- Developing and maintaining strong partnerships;
- Advancing knowledge and lobbying for change;
- Encouraging action on both individual and systemic issues; and
- Raising of funds to provide but not limited to amenities and services, including recreational and leisure.

At the General Meetings a wide range of topics are covered concerning people with disability. To ensure that the most effective outcomes are achieved the following sub committees cover issues such as:

- Accommodation
- Alternatives to Employment/Recreation and Leisure
- Guardianship and Administration
- Advocacy and Advice
- Constitution, Legislation and Policy
- Public Relations and Membership; and
- Fund Raising and Events

The Group meets quarterly and conducts a general meeting [third Saturday in the months of February, May, August and November] and in addition, the Management Committee meets on average two times between each general meeting. The Management Committee comprises of the Group's five office bearers and three general

members elected at each Annual General Meeting.

The role of the committee is to research, advise and consult as widely as is practicable on any issues or recommendations requiring decision at general, extraordinary or annual general meetings. Matters dealt with by the Management Committee are reported to all members at each general meeting.

Since the Management Committee structure has been put in place it is considered that the majority of matters have been dealt with in a more timely, effective and efficient manner. If you are a person with a disability, parent, family member, guardian, carer or service provider and wish to enhance the everyday quality of life for people with a disability.

The Group strongly encourages you and your family to make contact, join us and become a member of the Group to make a difference. Collectively we can achieve a great deal.

In addition you are encouraged to visit the Group's website which provides you with detail of some previous annual reports as well as some storyboards and other detail.

Contact details:

Chair

Bevan Dellar

Telephone: 08 9455 2865

Mobile: 0417 17 6446

Email:

bevandellar@bigpond.com

Secretary

Rachel Ivic

Telephone: 08 296 9330

Mobile: 0413 01 1610

Email:

tilz@ellenbrook.net

Treasurer

Jan Ricks

Telephone: 08 9388 8388

Mobile: 0408 95 9990

Email:

cosmicreality@bigpond.com.au

Residents Advocate

Les Goode

Telephone: 08 9479 4413

Mobile: 0427 35 5441

Email:

lmgoode@iprimus.com.au

Website:

www.fairholmedsg.com