

If you need even more help you can contact the Barwon Disability Resource Council (BDRC),



5221 8011

or the Office of the Public Advocate (OPA) can help you



1300 309 337

## Contact Us



You can call the office 5231 1573



You can visit the office at 6/58 Hesse Street Colac.

Or you can write to the office P.O Box 370, Colac.



## COLAC OTWAY DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION Inc. ADVOCACY

This brochure is in **Easy English**. This information is based on the CODA Advocacy policy.

## What is an advocate?

An advocate is someone who can speak on your behalf.



An advocate can help you

- Maintain your rights



- Participate in making decisions that affect you.



- With problems or complaints about services (for example CODA, Day Programs, Doctors)



## When might you need an advocate?

- When making a complaint about a service.
- If you feel you have been discriminated against.
- Talking to a Doctor about treatment.



- Talking to your bank about the types of accounts you need.



- Talking to Centrelink about your payments.
- Talking to your boss about your job.



## Who can be your advocate?

- Paul or Jess, our local advocates, from Colac Otway Region Advocacy Service Inc.
- A support person.
- A friend.
- A parent / brother / sister / Aunt / Uncle / cousin
- A neighbour
- A teacher
- **Someone you trust.**

You can ask someone from CODA Inc or CODA Inc will help you find an advocate.

To talk to Paul or Jess our local advocates



You can call their office 5232 1009



You can visit their office at 50 Rae Street Colac.