



**Disability
Advocacy
Victoria Inc.**

2022-2023

Annual Report

Disability Advocacy Victoria Inc

ABN: 15 557 421 367

admin@disabilityadvocacyvic.org.au

www.disabilityadvocacyvic.org.au

Board Members 2022-2023



Karryn Goode

Chairperson
(Jul-Dec 2022)



Julie Phillips
Disability
Discrimination Legal
Service

Chairperson
(Jan-Jun 2023)



Melanie Muir
Leadership Plus

Secretary



Greg Ferrington
Disability Resources
Centre

Treasurer



Deidre Griffiths

Board Member

Staff 2022-2023

Jo Kitch

Administration

Chair's Report

As the peak body for independent advocacy agencies in Victoria, Disability Advocacy Victoria has worked in the last year to ensure our strategic directions are in line with the most pressing issues facing our members.

Education, NDIS and Social Housing are three of our priorities. We have been pleased to see some movement on social housing in very recent times. While we have also been pleased to see the new federal government roll up its sleeves and tackle the fraud, misconduct and exploitation within the NDIS, the violence and abuse against people with disabilities, particularly young people, has left us aghast, appalled and downhearted. It's hard to imagine that we are part of a culture that engenders such a lack of respect and regard for the disability community and allows this treatment.

Part of the answer lies in the "othering" of people with disabilities, which starts in segregated education. To that end, we support recent calls by Disabled Persons Organisations to end all segregation of people with disabilities, as per Australia's requirements pursuant to the *Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*.

Victorian disability advocacy agencies have continued to struggle since the advent of the NDIS, which while for many people with disabilities has allowed freedom and independence, at the same time has created an entirely new set of problems for which people with disabilities need advocacy assistance.

What is even more difficult for advocacy agencies is when areas such as education do not improve, and therefore advocates continue to fight on all fronts, without, regrettably, seeing any systemic improvement after decades of advocating about the same issues.

While not technically receiving the report of the Disability Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation in the 2022/2023 year, it would be remiss not to mention this momentous occasion, occurring just a few weeks ago. The fact that the report is so voluminous, evidences how vast the problem of violence against people with disabilities is, in all areas of their lives. The fact that most of this violence occurs at the hands of people paid to provide services to people with disabilities is horrifying, as it casts aspersions on entire workforces -teachers, integration aides, disability support workers, and those responsible for them. The challenge for state and federal governments, is how to quickly and competently address a problem of this magnitude.

One thing that is clear to us, is that regulation of the sector is not effective. This is particularly of note given the recent diminishing of the Disability Worker Commissioner's powers at the insistence of the Department of Education, removing the Commission's ability to regulate teachers. This marks a return to the status quo,

a status quo that has resulted in violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of hundreds of students with disabilities.

The importance of having people with disabilities at the head of bodies that regulate services to people with disabilities cannot be underestimated. Disability Advocacy Victoria looks forward to supporting our members in what we fervently hope are some significant changes for the disability community in the next few years.

We were sad to see Karryn Goode leave her role as Chairperson of Disability Advocacy Victoria due to a change of job. Karryn was an enthusiastic and competent Chair and we are so glad that she continues to be a member of our organisation.

Thank you to all members of the Disability Advocacy Victoria Board, who managed to find the time to contribute to our organisation in addition to their roles within the disability advocacy sector.

Julie Phillips

Chair

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to present the Treasurer's report for Disability Advocacy Victoria for the fiscal year ending June 2023. Our financial statements have been audited once again by Barco and Associates to ensure transparency and accuracy in our financial reporting.

Financial Performance

This year, I am delighted to report on another year of strong financial performance for our organization. We have achieved a healthy surplus of \$10,129, which marks a significant increase of \$5,745 compared to the surplus we achieved in the previous fiscal year. This positive financial outcome has resulted in an accumulated surplus of \$95,499, which strengthens our financial position and provides us with increased flexibility for future endeavours.

Cash at Bank

Our cash at the bank has seen substantial growth, increasing by over \$10,000 during the fiscal year. This increase in liquid assets provides us with the means to meet our financial obligations promptly and supports our ability to invest in strategic initiatives and projects that align with our mission.

Future Considerations

Considering our continued financial success and to ensure the long-term sustainability of our organization, it is worth considering the establishment of a cash reserve or investment policy. Such a policy can help us further grow our financial assets, mitigate risks, and provide a buffer for unforeseen financial challenges. I recommend that our committee initiate a discussion on this matter to explore the benefits and implications of such a policy.

In conclusion, the financial health of Disability Advocacy Victoria remains robust, with a growing surplus and increased cash reserves. I would like to express my gratitude to our members and committee members for their unwavering support, which has contributed to our continued success.

Thank you for your attention, and I am open to any questions or discussions regarding the financial status of our organization.

Sincerely,

Greg Ferrington

Treasurer



**Disability
Advocacy
Victoria Inc.**

2022-2023

Audit Report

Disability Advocacy Victoria Inc

**DISABILITY ADVOCACY
VICTORIA INC**

ABN 15 557 421 367

Financial Statements
For the year ended 30 June 2023

BARCO & ASSOCIATES
45 JOHNSON STREET
RESERVOIR VIC 3073

Phone: 94603076 Fax: 94605605
Email: admin@barcoassociates.com

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC
ABN 15 557 421 367

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DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

Committee's Report**For the year ended 30 June 2023**

Your committee members submit the financial accounts of the DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Committee Members

The names of committee members at the date of this report are:

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: PEAK BODY FOR INDEPENDANT ADVOCACY ORGANISATIONS.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The profit from ordinary activities after providing for income tax amounted to

Year ended	Year ended
30 June 2023	30 June 2022
\$	\$
10,129	4,384

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee on:

22 September 2023

Julie Phillips



23/08/2023

12:37

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

Income and Expenditure Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2023

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Income		
DARU Grant	5,000	5,000
Memberships	616	349
P'ship costs reimbursed	7,600	7,600
Interest received	95	86
Total income	<u>13,311</u>	<u>13,035</u>
Expenses		
Administration fees	1,800	2,695
Audit fees	455	400
Consultants fees		4,695
Printing & stationery	149	
Subscriptions	95	176
Website development	684	684
Total expenses	<u>3,183</u>	<u>8,651</u>
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax	10,129	4,384
Income tax revenue relating to ordinary activities		
Net profit attributable to the association	10,129	4,384
Total changes in equity of the association	10,129	4,384
Opening retained profits	85,371	80,987
Net profit attributable to the association	10,129	4,384
Closing retained profits	95,499	85,371

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

Detailed Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Current Assets			
Cash Assets			
Cash At Bank - Bank Australia #4542		96,300	86,265
Cash on hand		150	150
		<u>96,450</u>	<u>86,415</u>
Total Current Assets		<u>96,450</u>	<u>86,415</u>
Total Assets		<u>96,450</u>	<u>86,415</u>
Current Liabilities			
Current Tax Liabilities			
GST payable control account		1,260	1,260
Input tax credit control account		(309)	(216)
		<u>951</u>	<u>1,044</u>
Total Current Liabilities		<u>951</u>	<u>1,044</u>
Total Liabilities		<u>951</u>	<u>1,044</u>
Net Assets		<u>95,499</u>	<u>85,371</u>
Members' Funds			
Accumulated surplus (deficit)		<u>95,499</u>	<u>85,371</u>
Total Members' Funds		<u>95,499</u>	<u>85,371</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC**ABN 15 557 421 367****Statement by Members of the Committee****For the year ended 30 June 2023**

The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Committee the Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Financial Position, and Notes to the Financial Statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC as at 30 June 2023 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The Committee is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the accounting records and the disclosure of all material and relevant information.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee by:

Julia Phillips



23/08/2023

12:38

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC (the association), which comprises the Statement by Members of the Committee, the Income and Expenditure Statement, Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2023, a summary of significant accounting policies and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the association.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the association as at 30 June 2023 and [of] its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the association to meet the requirements of Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and for such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the committee is responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee either intends to liquidate the association or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the committee.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the committee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the association to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

23/08/2023

12:38

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC
ABN 15 557 421 367

Independent Auditor's Report to the Members

Signed on:

23-8-23

MRS LETIZIA BARCO, FCPA
BARCO & ASSOCIATES
45 JOHNSON STREET RESERVOIR VIC 3073

DISABILITY ADVOCACY VICTORIA INC

ABN 15 557 421 367

Certificate by Member of the Committee

For the year ended 30 June 2023

I, of [ENTER ADDRESS] certify that:

- a. I attended the annual general meeting of the association held on .
- b. The financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 were submitted to the members of the association at its annual general meeting.

Dated