



**Inclusive
Leisure Victoria**
A program of Action for Community Living

ABOUT INCLUSIVE LEISURE VICTORIA (ILV)

Inclusive Leisure Victoria (formerly the Victorian Network on Recreation and Disability - VICNORD) was established in 1991 by a group of people with disabilities and their advocates to lobby for improving the range of sport and recreation opportunities available to Victorians with disabilities.

Inclusive Leisure Victoria continues to have a key role to play in promoting the benefits of sport and recreation participation for people with disabilities.

Funded by Sport and Recreation Victoria, ILV is now well placed to influence and shape policy, planning and practice across government, business and within local communities to build more inclusive sport and recreation planning and development.

VISION *“Victorians with a disability are able to access and participate in the sporting, recreational and leisure activities of their choice”.*

MISSION To advocate for the inclusion of all Victorians with a disability in sport, recreation, and leisure through:

- Raising awareness and community education
- Creating progressive and dynamic partnerships
- Building community and organisational capacity
- Promoting community membership and inclusion

KEY PROGRAM AREAS

Program Area One: Inclusive Sport and Recreation

Developing initiatives that build inclusive sport and recreation is core business for ILV. A range of activities have been identified as future priorities, including partnerships with key industry stakeholders such as Sport and Recreation Victoria, VicHealth, VicSport and Aquatics and Recreation Victoria, industry training and development programs; and, stronger networking with Access for All Abilities (AAA) and RuralAccess and MetroAccess programs.

Program Area Two: Leadership and Development Opportunities for people with disabilities

ILV is in a unique position to develop leadership initiatives targeting the sport and recreation industry. A stronger focus on leadership represents a new element of the ILV strategic framework.

ILV recognises that Access for All Abilities, RuralAccess and MetroAccess and advocacy programs all have key roles in supporting the development of leadership opportunities for people with disabilities. Many people with disabilities are already engaged in leadership and other civic participation initiatives. Strategies that strengthen this leadership work will be an important feature of the leadership program area.



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Program Area Three: Recreation in Disability and Mental Health Services

Disability support and mental health services have an important role to play in the development of inclusive sport and recreation. ILV will facilitate links between disability, and mental health services, and sport and recreation providers. This also includes promoting stronger links between relevant government agencies including DHS, Office for Disability and Sport and Recreation Victoria. This is a new role for ILV which is timely given recent developments in disability and mental health policy focusing on community strengthening, social inclusion and a range of other sector reforms.

Program Area Four: Planning and Advocacy

Operating under the auspice of Action for Community Living, ILV can draw on the support of local, regional, state and national advocacy services/effort to position and profile the important role of sport and recreation in the lives of people with disabilities.

Promoting whole of government and whole of community planning that links the efforts of key sport, recreation and disability stakeholders is a key challenge for ILV. This work will be supported by research which develops a stronger evidence base for policy and planning, as well as advocacy to promote the important role of sport and recreation across community and all levels of government.

Program Area Five: Strengthening management and governance of ILV

ILV will strengthen organisational and management capacity, and develop key strategic alliances and partnerships to increase its impact on the sport, recreation and disability sectors.

SOME CURRENT INITIATIVES:

Inclusive Leisure Initiative This exciting initiative funded by VicHealth, sees ILV working in partnership with Aquatics and Recreation Victoria to develop inclusive practice in 13 leisure centres across the state.

Linking Disability Support and Recreation ILV is developing a range of strategies for engaging the disability support system in recreation planning and practice. This includes the development of a recreation and disability services network, planning and partnerships with regional DHS Disability Services teams and the development of strategies for linking recreation with individualized planning and support initiatives.

Recreation in Mental Health Services ILV recently conducted a recreation and mental health think tank and is now planning a major forum which will target sport and recreation providers, mental health services and people with a mental illness

Contacts:

For more information please contact the ILV team on acl@afcl.org.au