

# Media Release

**The Hon Lizzie Blandthorn MP**  
Deputy Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council  
Minister for Children  
Minister for Disability



Sunday, 3 December 2023

## ENSURING A VOICE FOR MORE VICTORIANS WITH DISABILITY

The Allan Labor Government is helping more Victorians with disability to get the support they need, ensuring they have choice and control when speaking up to assert their rights.

Coinciding with International Day of People with Disability, Minister for Disability Lizzie Blandthorn today confirmed the allocation of more than \$1.8 million in additional funding to help Victorians with disability and their families access timely and targeted advocacy support when they need it.

The investment will ensure disability support agencies under the Victorian Disability Advocacy Program continue to play a key role in creating a safer and fairer Victoria for all.

This funding boost builds on core advocacy funding of \$3.3 million, providing an additional \$1.8 million in funding in 2023/24 for the Victorian Disability Advocacy Program.

This will help support agencies respond to high and ongoing demand for their services.

The Victorian Disability Advocacy Program upholds people's rights and addresses discrimination and harm, through individual, self and systemic advocacy.

Twenty-three organisations from across Victoria will receive funding, including Barwon Disability Resource Council, EACH, Gippsland Disability Advocacy, Grampians Disability Advocacy, VALID and the Disability Advocacy Resource Unit at the Victorian Council of Social Service.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Disability Lizzie Blandthorn

*"I'm pleased to be able to confirm this investment which will ensure people with disability continue to have the support they need to speak up and to be heard."*

*"Disability advocacy is a key priority and we will continue to invest in organisations that protect and promote the rights, wellbeing and interests of Victorians with disability."*