

**STRONG WOMEN | STRONG VOICES** 

Strategic Plan 2019-22

# Vision

Women, girls, non-binary and feminine identifying people (hereafter referred to as women\*) with disabilities are valued in an inclusive society, living meaningful lives as part of the community.

# Mission

To promote equity for women\* with disabilities in all aspects of their lives by:

- Representing them in the ACT and region through feminist and human rights frameworks;
- Undertaking systemic advocacy on their behalf to address inequality and intersectional discrimination (multiple disadvantage);
- Facilitating networking amongst women\* with disabilities in the ACT and region, so that they are empowered to support each other to live lives of value and dignity.



### **Priority Areas**

#### 1. REPRESENTATION

Promote equitable access to the community, goods and services for women\* with disabilities through strong representation:

- Review and contribute to development of ACT government policies and programs to ensure that needs of women\* with disabilities are met
- Represent women\* with disabilities on relevant ACT government advisory boards to ensure the voice of women\* with disabilities is heard, understood and included.
- Identify inequalities which disadvantage women\* with disabilities and make representation to appropriate organisations to make positive changes.
- Similarly engage with civil society organisations and businesses in the ACT to address any inequalities affecting women\* with disabilities.
- Strengthening and supporting women\* with disabilities to act as representatives in the community





#### 2. HEALTH

Promote equitable access to health and wellbeing services for women\* with disabilities.

- Focus on gaps specific to women\*
   with disabilities in health services
- Promote accessibility to public and private health services, including addressing the cost of access and availability of transport
- Promote accessible information to public and private health services
- Promote the availability of affordable access to health care, including access to allied health professionals, and bulk billing in general practices
- Influence and inform public and private health services

## 3. VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Advocate for the safety of women\* with disabilities, violence prevention, and easier pathways to safety:

- Engage with relevant organisations and the ACT government to improve understanding of the barriers which prevent women\* with disabilities from seeking a pathway to safety
- Advocate for improved accessibility to women\* with disabilities for emergency short-term accommodation.
- Work with relevant agencies to reestablish the ACT Crisis Services
   Scheme to assist women\* with disabilities to leave a violent domestic environment, including women\* living in institutional accommodation, such as a group house.







# 4. URBAN DEVELOPMENT & SAFETY

Ensure that the voice of women\* with disability is heard in transport, public planning and environmental discussions

- Promote the development of low cost, accessible Transport systems across the ACT and region.
- Participate on advisory bodies looking at planning and development so that lighting is adequate and inductive to safety in public places.
- Request participation in Safety Audits undertaken for public events in the ACT to maximise the ability of women\* with disabilities to feel safe when they attend.



#### 5. HOUSING

Promote affordable and accessible housing options for women\* with disabilities, aligned with the Convention on the rights of Persons with Disabilities

- Work with the ACT government to promote the need for all dwellings, in private, public and social housing meet minimum accessibility standards, as outlined in Livable Housing Australia Gold Level.
- Work with ACT government, housing organisations and real estate agents to improve access to the rental market for women\* with disabilities in the ACT and region.



### Data

In all work, we:

Promote the collection of all data to include identification of women with disabilities in a uniform and consistent way, such that it can be disaggregated by disability and gender, so as to build a comprehensive and longitudinal picture of the situation for women with disabilities in the ACT and region.

Promote equitable access to the NDIS, My Aged Care, and other services, such that it reflects the demographic characteristics of people with disabilities in the ACT and region.

Promote the public, cost free availability of data.

### **Contact WWDACT**

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Membership is free.

Full membership is available to women with disabilities.

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