

Easy Read – Advocacy

What does advocacy mean?

Prepared for:

Name	
Address	
Date	





This document will help you understand **advocacy and who an advocate is**.

Advocacy is when a person publicly helps to promote, provide and protect your human rights.

Advocacy can help **your voice be** heard and your wishes met.

Advocacy can be used to help you become part of your community.





Sometimes you might find it **hard to say what you want.** You might want someone to:

- support you
- speak up for you
- be your voice.



An advocate can be that person.

An advocate is someone who provides a public voice for you if you cannot or do not want to speak up yourself.



An advocate should be fair and treat everybody in the same way.



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You can ask someone **you trust** to be your advocate, like your:

- mum or dad
- brother or sister
- close friend.



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Or you can ask a **professional**, **independent advocate** to help you and to be your voice.

They can help you make good decisions and choices that are right for you.

Your advocate should always:

- listen and support you
- take your side
- help you make your own good
 choices and decisions.



 Your advocate can help you: get ready for meetings tell people/providers what you want by signing documents for you.
Importantly, your advocate can represent you and speak on your behalf.
Your advocate can help you make a complaint if you are not happy with:

- supports provided
- the way you have been treated.









Talk to the Practice Manager at Territory Therapy Solutions. Call: 08 8947 4180 They will help you find an advocate.



Our Practice Manager can also help you go online to use **the** <u>NDIS</u> <u>Disability Advocacy Finder</u>