



Down Syndrome  
Victoria

Supporting Victorian families since 1978

# Strategic Plan 2021-2023

**We work alongside people with  
Down syndrome and their families to reach  
their potential & live the life they choose.**

Down Syndrome Victoria (DSV) is Victoria's statewide peak association representing people with Down syndrome and their families. We are a community-based, not-for-profit membership association who has a proud history of supporting individuals, families and the community since 1978.

DSV provides information, training, general support, education support and services with and for people with Down syndrome, their families, professionals, and the wider community. This includes prenatal support and information to expectant parents and health professionals.

DSV advocates with and for people with Down syndrome to have access to the same opportunities, supports and community activities as other Victorians. We work within a human rights framework, consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disability.

We want to live in a society where people with Down syndrome are valued, and enjoy social and economic inclusion.

Together, we can and will create this inclusive community.

KATRINA ENOS  
PRESIDENT DSV

MATT O'NEIL  
CHAIR DSV ADVISORY NETWORK

DAN PAYNE  
CEO DSV



## Our Vision

A society where people with Down syndrome are valued, reach their potential and are equal in every aspect of life.



## Our Mission

We work alongside people with Down syndrome and their families to reach their potential & live the life they choose.

### Goal

#### People with Down syndrome live the life they choose

To foster inclusion through community connections and facilitate opportunities for personal growth and vocational development

### Strategies

- Formulate and facilitate opportunities to learn and develop new skills for key life stages
- Increase social and community connections and participation for all ages
- Create opportunities and choice for economic inclusion and independence
- Facilitate the widening of individual's circle of support through social, community and professional connections
- Increase regional and rural opportunities, engagement and participation
- Develop, support and promote self-advocacy and independence

#### Support families and carers

To empower families and carers to be well informed, confident and supported.

- Provide current and evidence-based information, training and support
- Provide personalised support to navigate all life stages
- Engage leading professionals in a variety of fields to inform and guide our community
- Provide and/or facilitate peer support groups and connections to meet individual needs.
- Develop innovative activities and events to connect members in new and engaging ways
- Help navigate the NDIS for participants to achieve their goals
- Increase regional and rural opportunities, engagement and participation

#### Shifting community attitudes

To play a lead role in shifting attitudes through the collective power of people with Down syndrome and the community

- Actively seek and grow networks and professional relationships that align with our vision
- Increase community recognition and awareness as to the individual rights, abilities and needs of people with Down syndrome
- Provide statewide systemic advocacy through the Victorian government, health, education and the community
- Actively collaborate with the DSA Federation on national opportunities including NDIS.
- Develop future leaders within our community

## Foundations to achieve our strategy

**Our people • Our values • Leadership & Governance • Financial stability**



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# Our Values

## Do the right thing

We are honest, ethical and trustworthy. We take accountability for our actions to deliver in the best interest of people with Down syndrome and their families

## Passion for members, families and communities

We exist for our members and community. We listen, lead, create opportunities and take action to ensure an inclusive future

## Respect for people

We develop lifelong relationships based on value, trust, compassion and respect



Our values shape our actions