



Strategic Plan 2024 - 2028

We work alongside people with
Down syndrome and families to reach their
potential and 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 a range of services and supports to people with Down syndrome, families and professionals across the lifespan, including: general support, prenatal support and information for expectant parents and health professionals, resources and information, workshops and training, education support and services, a dynamic events calendar, and much more.

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.

BRENDAN EDWARDS
PRESIDENT DSV

DANIEL PAYNE
CEO DSV

MATTHEW O'NEIL
CHAIR DSV ADVISORY NETWORK



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 families to reach their potential and live the life they choose.

Goal

People with Down syndrome

People with Down syndrome have the autonomy to live the life they choose through providing information, fostering inclusion and facilitating opportunities for personal growth and vocational development.

Strategies

- Create opportunities to learn and develop new skills for key life stages
- Increase social, community and professional connections supporting meaningful inclusion across the lifespan
- Create and support opportunities and choice for economic participation, self-determination and independence
- Strengthen and cultivate opportunities and engagement in regional and rural contexts
- Inspire and facilitate personal growth by assisting individuals to navigate the NDIS

Families and Carers

To foster a culture where families and carers are well-informed, confident and supported.

- Provide, promote and advocate for current and evidence-based information, training and support
- Provide personalised support to navigate all life stages
- Engage leading professionals and researchers in a variety of fields to inform and guide our community
- Develop innovative activities and events to connect members in new and engaging ways
- Strengthen and cultivate opportunities and engagement in regional and rural contexts
- Inspire and facilitate personal growth by assisting families to navigate the NDIS

The Community

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

- Actively seek and grow networks, professional relationships and partnerships that align with our vision and mission
- Increase community recognition and awareness as to the individual rights, abilities and needs of people with Down syndrome
- Provide systemic statewide advocacy addressing critical issues impacting people with Down syndrome
- Actively collaborate with the Down Syndrome Australia Federation on national opportunities including advocacy, research and the NDIS
- Develop future leaders within our community

Foundations to achieve our strategy

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



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**