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Disability Advocacy Policy

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Subject: National Disability Advocacy Framework (NDAF) 2022 – 2025

Thank you for providing an opportunity to review the draft National Disability Advocacy Framework. Mental Health Coordinating Council (MHCC) commend the development of a framework which supports people living with disability by ensuring their rights are maintained, promoted, and respected. We value the demonstration of a shared commitment to disability advocacy between the Commonwealth, state and territory governments to ensure access to advocacy services for all people living with disability.

We support this simple and succinct framework which will allow governments to work towards the alignment of advocacy services and standards to improve outcomes and access for people with disability.

This framework builds on earlier work but will better enable people with disability to actively participate in decisions and processes, which in turn will advance their rights, wellbeing and interests. For some people with disability this includes access to advocacy support services in order to participate in the decisions that affect many aspects of their lives, particularly around access to services and support, and to be actively involved in their communities of choice.

In answer to all the questions posed about the NDAF, MHCC support the framework, and are satisfied:

- that it meets the needs of existing and emerging responsibilities, reform and policy directions
- that the principles outlined are appropriate for guiding advocacy in a changing disability environment, including in the context of the NDIS
- that the outcomes are very clear and achievable, and
- that it identifies what is needed in the current and future disability environment

MHCC look forward to seeing the final NDAF endorsed by Disability Reform Ministers being made available to share with members and the mental health psychosocial supports services sector in NSW. To discuss this submission or related matters please contact Corinne Henderson, Principal Policy Advisor at [corinne@mhcc.org.au](mailto:corinne@mhcc.org.au)

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Carmel Tebbutt'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carmel Tebbutt  
CEO, MHCC