

Policy

PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION

1. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Aurora Support Services programs are designed and delivered in ways that offer opportunities for physical and social inclusion in the general community.

The policy has been framed around the National Standards for Disability Services 2013.

This policy applies to all of Aurora Support Services programs and activities.

2. Policy Statement

Aurora Support Services is committed to ensuring participants, where practicable :

- Have access to the same places as the rest of the community.
- Receive their services in community settings alongside other members of the community.
- Have the opportunity to socialise and build relationships with members of the wider community.

3. Procedures

The following procedures are to be implemented to enable Aurora Support Services to meet its policy objective of ensuring participants enjoy maximum participation and inclusion in and with the community.

Aurora Support Services will:

- 3.1 Structure its programs and services to be provided in a way that facilitates the inclusion and participation of participants with other members of the community.
- 3.2 Build into Aurora Support Services programs strategies to make the greatest possible use of community facilities and services.
- 3.3 Use community facilities and services in a manner and at times that coincide with those of the wider community.
- 3.4 Select volunteers on the basis of their own involvement and connection with the wider community, amongst other attributes.
- 3.5 Involve other members of the community in the inclusion of the Aurora Support Services participants in participative community activities.
- 3.6 Collaborate with other community groups and their members, to facilitate the inclusion of Aurora Support Services participants in their activities.
- 3.7 Avoid large group activities for participants which are likely to have the unwanted effect of stigmatising or excluding them from community contact, acceptance or involvement.
- 3.8 All participants and their families or advocates are to be provided with a Participant Information Pack on commencement of services and then annually highlighting the organisation's commitment to Participation and Inclusion via reference to the National Standards for Disability Services 2013.
- 3.9 All employees are to be provided with an overview of the organisation's policy on Participation and Inclusion during their induction and a staff copy of the policy is to be kept in each service outlet.

4. Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed on a two-yearly basis. However, if at any time the legislative, policy or funding environment is so altered that the policy is no longer appropriate in its current form, the policy will be reviewed immediately and amended accordingly.

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