5. Elder Rights Advocacy

Elder Rights Advocacy supports older people, their families and representatives address issues with Commonwealthfunded aged-care services.

Phone: 1800 700 600

Website: www.era.asn.au

6. Leadership Plus

Leadership Plus advocates for people with disability, with a focus on housing, employment, empowerment and independent living. This service also includes NDIS appeal support.

Website: www.leadershipplus.com

Phone: (03) 9489 2999

Youth Disability Advocacy Service

The Youth Disability Advocacy Service advocates for and works with disabled young people in Victoria aged 12-25.

Website: www.yacvic.org.au/ydas

Phone: 0438 638 734



WDHS is supported by the Victorian Government and the Australian Department of Health

Telephone: (03) 5551 8222 **Western District Health Service**

Incorporating

Hamilton Base Hospital National Centre for Farmer Health Coleraine District Health Service Merino Community Health Centre Penshurst & District Health Service Frances Hewett Community Centre & **WDHS Youth Services** Allied Health/Hamilton House Building **Grange Residential Care Service** The Birches Residential Care

PO Box 283 Hamilton VIC 3300 Ph: (03) 5551 8222 Fax: (03) 5571 9584 Email: ceo@wdhs.net Internet: www.wdhs.net



Advocacy Services

Ensuring your rights are respected

www.wdhs.net



Advocacy

What is an Advocate?

An advocate is someone who can act on your behalf if you need help accessing a health service or have issues relating to a health service provider.

Some of the common uses of advocacy services include:

- Access to disability services
- Guardianship issues
- Dispute resolution
- Legal problems
- Making a complaint

Accessing an Advocate

A family member or friend can advocate for you. Alternatively, WDHS can arrange an independent advocate for you.

You have the right to change your advocate or choose to advocate on your own behalf.

If you would like help accessing an advocate, please feel free to speak to one of our staff members.

Advocacy Services

1. Southwest Advocacy Association Inc.

Provides free general advocacy services for people with a disability in South West Victoria.

PO Box 480 Warrnambool 3280

Phone: (03) 5561 4584

Email: admin@swadvocacy.com.au

Website: www.southwestadvocacy.org.au

2. Office of the Health Services Commissioner

A free, confidential service to answer any concerns about a health service provider or your health privacy.

Phone: 1300 582 113

Website: www.hcc.vic.gov.au



3. Office of the Public Advocate

The Office of the Public Advocate provides services to protect and promote the rights, interests and dignity of people with disability living in Victoria.

Phone: 1300 309 337

Email: opa_advice@justice.vic.gov.au

Website: www.publicadvocate.vic.gov.au

4. State Ombudsman

The Victorian Ombudsman is an independent officer of the Victorian Parliament who investigates complaints about state government departments, most statutory authorities and local government.

Phone: (03) 9613 6222 or 1800 806 314

Website: www.ombudsman.vic.gov.au