



Parent to Parent

connect • inform • suppo

# What is Advocacy?



• The word "advocacy" comes from Latin and means 'to add a voice'

### Informed decision making



- What do we know?
- What do we need to know?
- How to get informed?
- Effective communication
- Next steps





Roles for ages and stages:

Child	Parent (guardian) is usually the strongest advocate
Young Adult	Encouraged to speak for themselves. Young person begins to let their preferences be known, particularly if this differs from those of the parent or carer.
Adult	As parents, we have to learn when to step in and when to step back.

### Key Elements



1. The right communication tool so information is presented in a way that is understandable.

2.Ensure the person is able to make an 'informed decision' – do they have all the information they need?

3. No set rules, the young person should be able to explore options and make their own decisions. The exception to this is where a decision could lead to serious risk, injury or harm to themselves or others.



4. Let the person learn for themselves – sometimes things don't work out, but that's ok.

5. Some young people may have had very little opportunity to make decisions.

Go at the person's pace and initially build on steps that lead to successful results. Building self-esteem can be an important building block in decision making.



IHC Advocacy run free Supported Decision Making courses around the country. If you're interested, call IHC Advocacy toll free on 0800 442 442, or email: advocacy@ihc.org.nz.

**People First** <u>https://www.peoplefirst.org.nz/</u> can also help people explore their rights and they have plain language resources on this topic.











Nothing About Us, Without Us





#### Resources



#### www.hdc.org.nz



When you use a health or disability service

You have rights

All people in New Zealand have these rights





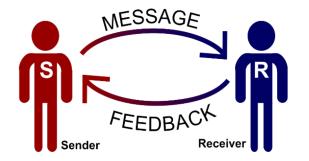
#### www.patrust.net.nz



0800 442 442 Email: advocacy@ihc.org.nz

### Getting the message across!

- D Describe the situation you want to change
- **E** Express (one emotion)
- S Specify what you would like different
- **C** Consequence, the positive outcome when the change has been made







#### LINKS;

#### **Enabling Good Lives Website**

http://www.enablinggoodlives.co.nz/about-egl/eglapproach/principles/

System Transformation – MidCentral Region only http://www.manawhaikaha.co.nz

Family Resource Information https://carematters.org.nz/

HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/CAREMATTERSNZ/



### Thank you!

## Please take the time to give us feedback.