

1.2 Participation And Inclusion

Effective Date: 29 September 2021
Version 4.0

Industry Standards

National Disability Standards: Standard 2

Attendant Care Industry Standards (2018): Level 1 Part 1

NDIA Practice Standards and Quality Indicators: Core Module 1 & 3

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline the right every person has to feel valued in both their public and private life. Every person should have the opportunity to participate in community life as they wish. This means being actively involved and engaged and developing meaningful relationships with any number of people - be it through family, friends, other social opportunities, recreational opportunities, work, studies or other community based activities. These take into account the person's age, gender and culture. The organisation will support people to be included and participate in community life as they want, joining in with everyday life, sharing experiences and going to places.

The organisation will seek innovative ways to enable genuine participation and inclusion in all aspects of community life. This practice extends across all aspects of service delivery - every person receiving services from Community Connections Australia (CCA) is encouraged to make an active and meaningful contribution to their own support.

Policy Statement

Community Connections Australia (CCA) believes that every person receiving supports should be active, visible and independent within their support service, their community and society in general. Each person is encouraged and supported to contribute to social and civic life in their communities in the way they choose. This will require the organisation to provide options and resources to promote opportunities to maximise independence and support those choices made by each person in being an active and meaningful member of their chosen community.

Scope

This policy applies to all current and potential people receiving services and to all CCA staff members.

Policy Principles

1. CCA recognises the importance of each person's values and beliefs and personal lifestyle choices and will provide services and supports that are respectful, in a fair manner and without discrimination or favouritism.
2. CCA treats every person receiving support in a positive manner, recognising their skills and achievements, and shows them in speech, attitudes and action the respect due to them as with any other member of society.
3. CCA will promote inclusion in all aspects of service delivery.

4. CCA will work collaboratively with people to ensure they participate in their chosen community.
5. CCA will support such participation through a range of options which include skills acquisition, the development of social networks, active involvement in any cultural, religious, recreational activities according to their aspirations and backgrounds.
6. Each person can determine the level of involvement from their family, carer, significant other or advocate to promote their connection, inclusion and participation in the manner they choose.
7. CCA will link people to other services within their local and area-based communities so as to provide an integrated and flexible service that effectively meets the person's needs.
8. CCA promotes through role modelling and example standards of behaviour and personal presentation which enhance community perceptions, understanding and support for people with a disability.
9. CCA shall develop and maintain community networks that will support each person to maintain and further develop connections with the community so that the person is included and valued.

Prepared: 
(Chief Executive)

Date: September 2021

Approved: 
(Chair - on behalf of the Board)

Date: September 2021

Related CCA Overarching Policies:

1. Human and Legal Rights
2. Governance and Service Management
3. Service Access & Delivery
4. Service Environment

Refer to CCA Table of Contents for full list of operational policies and procedures applying to this policy.

Document History

Note: Reviewed and rewritten policies and procedures took effect on 1st December 2016. For preceding policies and for revision history prior to this date, contact the Company Secretary.

| Version Number | Review Date | Revision Details |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| 1 | 2016 | Original Policy |
| 2 | 2017 | Document Review- NDIA standards |
| 3 | 2018 | ACIA 2018 and NDIA Standards referenced |
| 4 | 2021 | Revised policy statement and principles (<i>previous Policy 2.1</i>) |

Next Review Date: October 2022

Participation and Inclusion Flowchart

