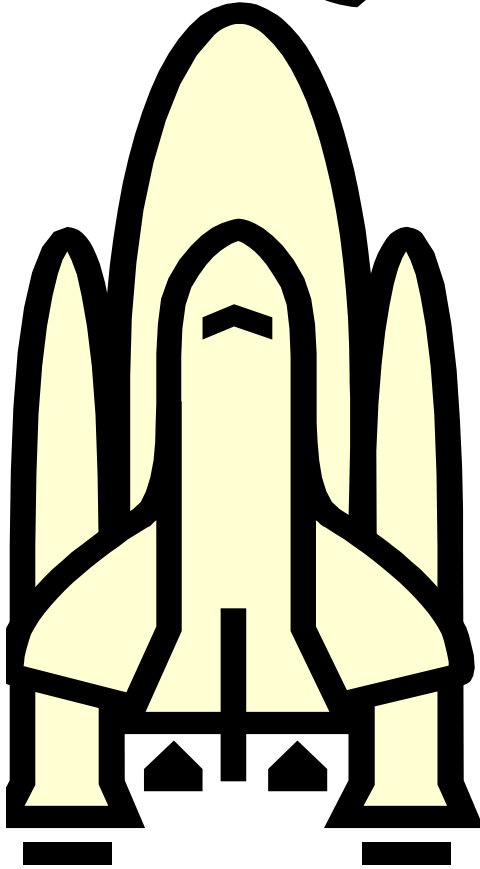


QPPD



Annual Report 2007-2008

*Queensland Parents for People
with a Disability (QPPD)
vigorously defends justice and rights
for people with disabilities by exposing
exclusionary practices, speaking out
against injustices and promoting
people with disabilities as respected, valued
and participating members of society.*

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QPPD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE 2007-2008

President	Phil Tomkinson
Vice President	Bill Butler
Secretary	Deborah White
Treasurer	Carol Tomkinson

QPPD STAFF MEMBERS 2007-2008

FULL TIME

Coordinator Administration Officer	Jan Steffan Stephanie Pratt
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PART TIME

Administrative Assistant Paid Individual Advocate Cleaning	Sally Barone Leeann Milne Anita Rooney
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CASUAL

Mailout Support	Donna Best
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Jan Steffan



Stephanie Pratt



Sally Barone



Leeann Milne



Anita Rooney

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President's Report

Phil Tomkinson

Change is a challenge for any organisation. It makes us feel uncomfortable and uncertain and causes us to question our ability to continue on the path we have chosen. It is however unavoidable, so we must deal with it as best we can.

This year has presented us with more than our share of challenges. We continue to struggle to find sufficient parents to tackle the many issues that deserve immediate attention. This concern has always been with us, it is just exacerbated by the increasing demands on our time. Unfortunately there seems to be no letup in the numbers of issues arising; abuse, assault and neglect continue to have a severe impact on the lives of vulnerable people.

The requirements dictated by the National Disability Advocacy Review have altered and become less onerous. We also have more time to complete the changes. But our efforts to remove the requirement to do individual advocacy have not been fruitful. The time required to establish this service within our organisation has come at a cost to our other activities. It also has a cost to the person we employ as an advocate. In deciding which people receive advocacy we take first those at greatest risk, people being harmed by assault and abuse. We do not have the resources to adequately support our advocate when we send her into the environments in which these people live. For that we will have to rely on other organisations. Both SUFY and AMPARO have already assisted us greatly in the implementation of our individual advocacy program and the committee would like to express its appreciation for their assistance.

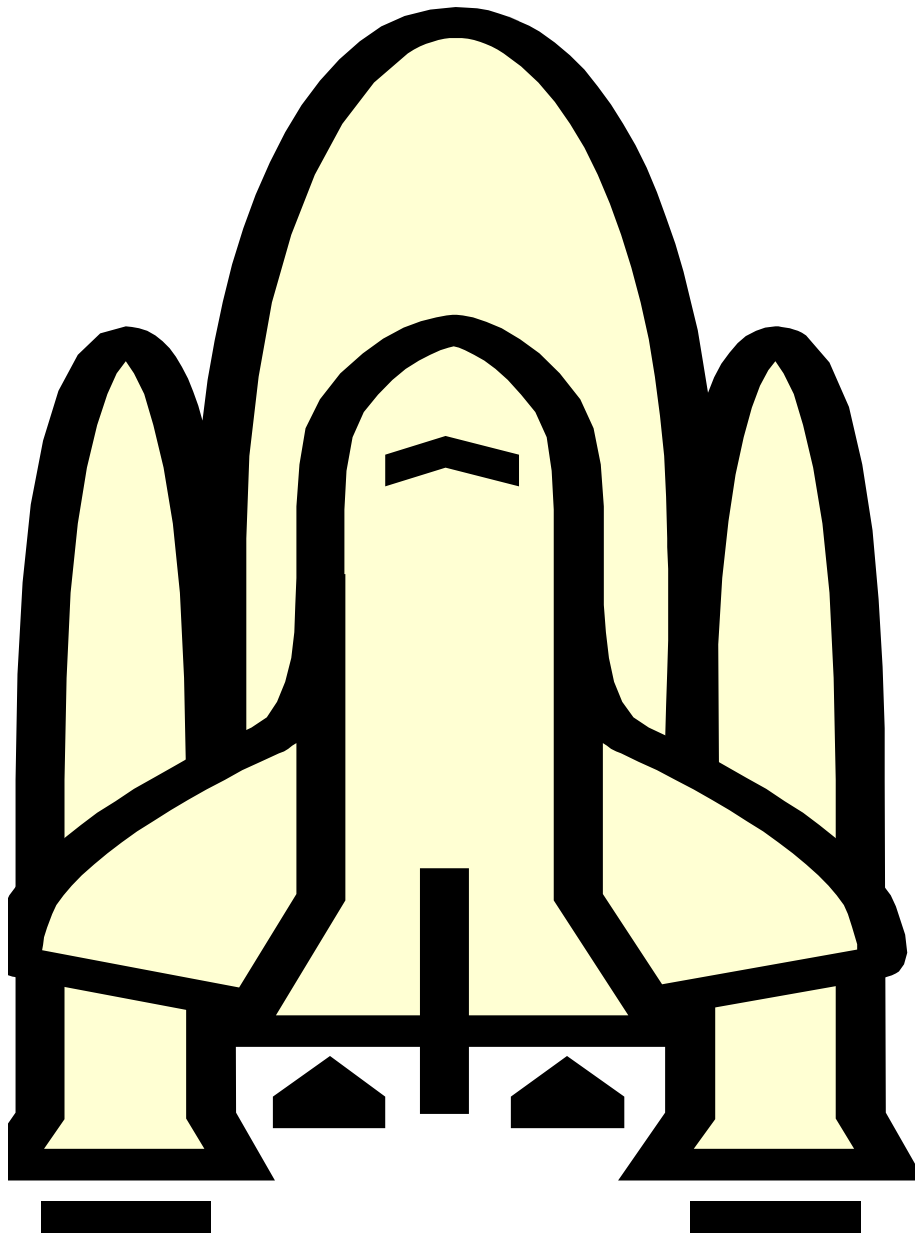
One of the most physically noticeable changes about to occur will be our relocation. Increased rents mean that the Paddington area is effectively now out of our price range. Most of the inner city area falls into the same category. We continue to explore options but the reality is that there are no cheap alternatives. We may not have the convenience of having both office and meeting space in the same building in the future. Other advocacy organisations are experiencing similar pressures. Some have been reducing staff hours to remain within budget.

Finally I wish to thank all those members and staff who have contributed towards our efforts during the year. That we have achieved what we have is a tribute to their dedication to the organisation.

Phil Tomkinson

“To see what is right, and not do it, is want of courage or of principle.”

Confucius



COME ON!!!!

JUMP ON BOARD AND HELP US
LAUNCH INTO THE FUTURE

Principles

QPPD's advocacy work is based on the following advocacy principles:

1. Advocacy strives to be:
 - Independent
 - Autonomous
 - On the side of the disadvantaged party
2. Advocacy focuses on the fundamental human needs and/or rights and interests of people or persons by prioritising those needs/rights that have the greatest potential to minimise the person or person's vulnerability.
3. Advocacy has a clear value base of social justice and inclusion of people with disability as contributing/participating members of community.
4. Advocacy is about striving for justice.
5. Advocacy is about striving for equity.
6. All advocacy strives to minimise actual or perceived conflict of interest.
7. Advocacy remains loyal and accountable to the disadvantaged party over the long term where necessary.
8. Advocacy needs to remain independent and distinct from service delivery to ensure minimal conflict of interest and clarity of focus.
9. Advocacy is NOT service provision, case work, change agency, guardianship, a complaints/mediation/arbitration service, community development, case management, service co-ordination, friendship, support work, information and referral services, advocacy development, or representation on peak bodies.
10. Advocacy is emphatic, vigorous and costly or likely to be costly to the advocate or advocacy groups.
11. Advocacy agencies model positive interactions, interpretations and imagery, with and of, people with disability.
11. Advocacy groups have clarity of purpose and remain focused on their specifically funded advocacy work

...guiding QPPD's work

In addition, QPPD is guided by the following principles

1. The Principle of Enrichment by Diversity
Society is enriched by diversity of its members and their shared humanity.
2. The Principle of Participation and Contribution
People with disabilities are members of society and, like anyone else, need opportunities to participate and contribute to ordinary life.
3. The Principle of Positive Futures
The future of people with disabilities and their families lies in the willingness of all of us to find better ways of supporting ordinary life.
4. The Principle of Recognition of Vulnerability
People with disabilities are more vulnerable when they are not supported to belong to families, neighbourhoods and wider communities.
5. The Principle of Speaking Out for Others
Advocacy provides a voice for people with disabilities when they face ignorance, fear, abuse and rejection of their community membership.
6. The Principle of Strong Independent Advocacy
Advocacy is strengthened when it is independent and as free as possible from conflicts of interest.
7. The Principle of Family Legitimacy
Parents have a natural vested interest and a legitimate role in safeguarding the lives of family members and can be effective advocates for them and with them.
8. The Principle of Joining Together
Parent advocacy is established and strengthened by sharing ideas and experiences, supporting one another and working towards a common vision for sons and daughters.
9. The Principle of Collective Strength
The collective voice of families, joined together in advocacy, influences the direction of governments, services, and wider community attitudes and responses.
10. The Principle of Joining with Allies
Joining with others with a similar vision strengthens the advocacy voice of people with disabilities and their families.

Organisational Goals and Objectives

GOAL 1

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH THE GRASS ROOTS

QPPD has an excellent understanding of the concerns of families throughout Queensland and of the struggles in which they are involved.

Objectives

- Take opportunities to talk with members, potential members and other allies about their concerns, in order to understand the general issues that affect people with disabilities and their families throughout Queensland.

GOAL 2

ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT WITH FAMILIES

QPPD creates a climate which supports families to be effective advocates for their sons and daughters.

Objectives

- Gaining information and informing families on issues of importance in the lives of their sons and daughters.
- Encourage and support families to be good advocates on behalf of their sons and daughters.
- Publish and distribute a newsletter to inform families about what is happening in Queensland in relation to advocacy for better lives for people with disabilities.
- Maintain a web site.
- Bring families together collectively to discuss issues of importance to them and to develop a sound knowledge of advocacy principles and skills.
- Support of parent leadership through increasing knowledge and applying advocacy principles, so that a strong voice of families is being acknowledged, locally, statewide and nationally.

GOAL 3

SYSTEMS ADVOCACY

QPPD influences political, bureaucratic, social and service systems about important issues in the lives of children and adults with disabilities.

Objectives

- Within QPPD's priorities monitor policies and practices in the government and non-government sectors.
- Within QPPD's priorities, attempt to influence the policies and practices of governments.
- Within QPPD's priorities, attempt to influence the policies and practices of the disability sector
- Within the scope of QPPD's priorities, respond to current issues.

GOAL 4

INDIVIDUAL ADVOCACY

QPPD contributes by protecting and defending vulnerable people in the community.

Objectives

- The paid Individual Advocate will speak, write and act for an individual in order to try to improve their fundamental needs.

GOAL 5

GENERAL ADVOCACY DEVELOPMENT

QPPD contributes to the development, maintenance and safeguarding of strong independent advocacy in Queensland and Australia.

Objectives

- Support the continuation of advocacy development in Queensland.
- Develop and maintain strong connections to the advocacy movement in Queensland and Australia.

GOAL 6

MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY

QPPD operates a viable and accountable organisation which reflects in its operation the values and beliefs underpinning its mission.

Objectives

- Support and maintain a strong committee of management.
- Support and maintain good planning, operational management and review processes.
- Keep accurate finances and efficient administration systems.
- If necessary, employ staff with clear work roles, award conditions and supportive practices.
- Meet funding bodies' expectations for accountability.
- Explore and obtain alternative sources of funding as required.
- Promote the role, image and function of QPPD.

*Advocacy is a marathon not a sprint.
Racing flat out for 100 metres is fine if you
know the course is definitely that distance
but real life doesn't come with those
certainties.*

*Advocacy is almost always a marathon
requiring perseverance and endurance. ...
it's easier to cover the distance if you have
allies alongside you, sharing the journey.*

*Robbi Williams 2008
Link Magazine August 2008*

Overview of 2007-2008

QPPD is a parent based, systems advocacy organisation which aims to vigorously defend justice and rights for people with disabilities by exposing exclusionary practices, speaking out against injustices and promoting people with disabilities as respected, valued and participating members of society.

During the year 2007-2008 we responded to **168** requests for information, support or advice. This is down on 2006-2007 year and could be due to QPPD not being promoted as much as we would have like. Our data collection reflects that 109 callers were from parents or family members, 32 were service providers, 5 from people with a disability, 17 from advocacy agencies and others, 4 student and one from a government agency. 65 people requested and were sent information, whilst others were linked with a QPPD parent member, subcommittee member, management committee or referred to another source of support or information.

QPPD advocates primarily at a systems level by:

- * Collecting information about what is happening in the lives of people with disabilities and their families from around the state
- * Promoting the vision of quality lives for people with disabilities and their families
- * Conducting research, analysing and monitoring legislation, policies and practices regarding people with disabilities and their families
- * Speaking out about systems that oppress, segregate and reject people with disabilities
- * Lobbying people in positions of power to make positive changes
- * Promoting disability as a human rights issue

QPPD develops and supports advocacy by parents by:

- * Providing and sharing information about advocacy and issues facing people with disabilities and their families
- * Bringing parents and allies together to discuss advocacy issues and to share ideas and strategies

Our systems advocacy work involved:

12 consultation activities (teleconferences around issues, discussions and attendance at disability consultations and consultations with FaHCSIA)

72 campaign activities (meetings with senior bureaucrats/Ministers, advisory meetings, media interviews, meetings with disability groups/service groups)

12 publications (submissions, reports, Staying in Touch and newsletters)

Our advocacy development work involved:

21 activities including advocacy development workshops for families in Brisbane and the regional areas in Queensland

During the year parents and staff were supported to attend events identified as providing opportunities for advocacy development. Events included the CAGQ conference; Social Role Valorisation training; Bob Jackson workshops; workshops in Dalby, Chinchilla and Roma; National Disability Advisory Conference; Creative Thinking workshop.

Systems Advocacy

This form of advocacy is primarily concerned with influencing and changing the system in ways that will benefit people with a disability as a group within society. Systems advocates will encourage changes to the law, government and service policies and community attitudes. Usually systems advocacy do not do individual advocacy. To do so can cause conflict around the use of resources, focus and purpose. Queensland Advocacy Incorporated, Queensland Parents of People with a Disability are examples of organisations in Queensland that take a systems view.

(taken from the Advocacy Development Network Workbook, 1999)

Education Subcommittee

2007-2008 has been another busy year for the Education Subcommittee. Both Lynn Walmsley and Maria McCaffrey have worked tirelessly. Lynn has been representing the Education Committee on the Ministerial Advisory Committee with backup from Maria and she has been on the Curriculum Reference Group (of Education Queensland), providing guidelines to schools to provide better access to the curriculum by students with disabilities.

Furthermore in November 07 a 3 day workshop with Professor Bob Jackson was organised for teachers on Including Students with Disabilities in Education. This was facilitated by Maria with other committee members and staff assisting also. Approximately 40 teachers attended over the 3 days showing that there is still a great demand for gaining skills in how to include children with disabilities into the regular school environment. In April 08 a Bob Jackson workshop for parents was held to extend the parents' knowledge of inclusive education and their ability to obtain this for their children, again facilitated by Maria and assisted by other members. Comments from the 19 parents all stated the workshop was very helpful and that they came away with information and practical strategies to use.

Professor Bob Jackson has tremendous expertise both as an academic on Inclusion and in developing practical solutions to overcome barriers to inclusion within schools and we greatly appreciate his support as an ally of QPPD. He is currently preparing a Literature Review as a lobbying tool

Systems Advocacy continued...

as research demonstrates that students do better academically and socially in mainstream settings. The Literature Review will be launched in the future and then placed on the QPPD updated website.

In 2007 parents were surveyed in order to provide current examples across all disabilities/ages/geographic locations to monitor how parents are finding Inclusion and to gather their issues and feed these personal experiences back to Education Queensland and to the Minister. Maria and Lynn used this material to demonstrate to the Ministerial Advisory Committee in a CD presentation "Marrying Policy and Practice" that whilst policies have improved, there is a huge gap between policy and the actual practice that occurs in schools.

QPPD's information on Education is currently being updated so as to reflect the new policies and guidelines that have come into effect. A Position Statement on Inclusive Education is being developed, as well as a Parent Brochure to give important current information to parents and a promotional CD on "Inclusion in Practice". The website will also be updated with the current information. Hopefully these new resources will be useful in assisting the ongoing work of improving the access and quality of Inclusive Education for our children.

It is also intended that further research will be done in the near future, the capacity of parents permitting, to see what the current situation is given the new policies. This will update the research we have done in the past, such as "Small Choice in Rotten Apples" which we have found to be a valuable lobbying tool.

Both Maria and Lynn have also engaged with allies to guide the work around

Education and have welcomed the valuable input and assistance they have been given. In August 08 another Bob Jackson workshop will be held aiming to bring parents and allies together in order to "Plan strategy to safeguard the important systems advocacy work around Inclusive Education in Queensland". This workshop is planned, as the future of systems advocacy around education in Queensland is in a very vulnerable position and its continuations needs to be safeguarded as a priority. This is an extremely important workshop and we trust that from this more people will take up the advocacy baton on behalf of children with disabilities as they continue to strive to move into mainstream education. Once again Professor Bob Jackson will be on hand to facilitate the workshop assisted by Maria.

QPPD wishes to acknowledge the crucial role that both Maria McCaffrey and Lynn Walmsley have had in the work of the Education Subcommittee for 2007-2008. They have both been very passionate in what they have been involved in this last year. After the August workshop Maria will step down from the Education Subcommittee and Lynn will be rethinking her commitment after developing the new lobbying and information tools. To continue this subcommittee it will be important for others to come on board and take over from the great work of both Lynn and Maria.

Jan Steffan
Coordinator
30th June 2008

Transition Sub-Committee

The Transition Sub-Committee members - Lisa Bridle, Carol Holt, Wendy Davies, Jenni Pidgeon, Michelle O'Flynn and Julie Stuart - have been working steadily over the past year towards our Vision and Mission:

Our Vision for young people with disability leaving school is that they will participate in the same range of opportunities and choices as all young people.

Our Mission is to advocate for the development and execution of strategies aimed at a systemic level, to ensure that young people with disability can pursue their chosen goals through work, further education, living an independent lifestyle.

To progress the Vision and Mission, the Sub-Committee developed a Strategic Plan which set goals for the year. These were:

- § To support parents and people with a disability to have a clear vision of the next stage of a meaningful life after school
- § To lobby all relevant Commonwealth and State Departments to develop a coherent, coordinated approach to transition and earning and learning
- § To encourage service providers to offer opportunities that are purposeful, individualised and valued

Goal 1 – support parents and people with a disability to have a clear vision of the next stage of a meaningful life after school

To put this goal into action a Questionnaire was sent out asking parents what lessons they had learned from their experiences during their son or daughter's transition process. The

purpose of the Questionnaire was to collate the information into a brochure to share with all parents. In April we held a Fork Dinner which was well attended and we enjoyed a good meal as well as a good discussion. We presented the work that we had done to date and the information collected, and asked the participants to provide us with further information to use in the brochure. We also outlined our goals and plans for the remainder of the year.

Another activity undertaken towards this goal was participation in a Transition Information Forum for families. Lisa Bridle in her role at Queensland Centre for Intellectual and Developmental Disability (QCIDD) invited Michelle O'Flynn to give the presentation. This led to more requests from schools and community groups for similar presentations.

The information gathered at these events was comprehensive and we found our brochure turning into a booklet. We called it *Handy Hints Booklet for Parents of Students with disability leaving school*.

This Booklet, along with our *Position Statement and Issues and Recommendations Paper* (see below) was launched on 6th August at the State Library. We called our campaign *Launch into Life: planning great futures for young people with disability*.

The Launch was well attended and proved to be a great success with requests for multiple copies of the Booklet. It is intended that there will be wide distribution of the Booklet throughout Queensland, particularly to families, through School Transition Officers and Local Area Coordinators and others. It will also be placed on our website for easy downloading.

Transition Subcommittee continued...

Goal 2 - lobby all relevant Commonwealth and State Departments to develop a coherent, coordinated approach to transition and earning and learning

We continued our investigations into the area of transition and collated numerous research projects which had been undertaken over the past seven years. Carol Holt formulated this into a workable document, listing the key findings and recommendations which proved to be remarkably consistent in all the research – including our own. This document evolved into the QPPD Transition Sub-Committee *Position Statement*. The Sub-Committee also developed a document called *Issues and Recommendations Paper* and both will be used as lobbying tools in our advocacy efforts. It is intended to present these documents to politicians and bureaucrats who will either assist to further our cause, or who we feel need the education to gain a deeper understanding of the whole approach to this subject.

Wendy Davies and Michelle attended the Mental Health and Disability and Employment Strategy Consultation Forum presented by Bill Shorten, Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Children's Services. Following this Forum, the Sub-Committee wrote a formal submission to the Mental Health and Disability and Employment Strategy and also urged members and allies to write their own submissions.

We also wrote to Mr Shorten lobbying him about the need for cross-government collaboration and requested that he instigate a meeting between the relevant government departments and our members where we would have the opportunity to discuss our *Issues and Recommendations Paper* and encourage a commitment to this collaborative approach.

We also encouraged Mr. Shorten to adopt the broad, positive vision that people with cognitive or behavioural disabilities, not just those with physical and sensory impairments, have the right to opportunities to access open employment, not just "business services" as their only option. We continue to urge people with disabilities and their families to also write to Mr Shorten so that he may hear of alternative solutions, positive stories, or even the barriers to achieving dreams of an inclusive life.

Another letter was sent to Mr. Shorten to express our reservations about his consideration of awarding and promoting "business services". While we know that for many people with disability this is the only option available to them, we would hope that equal commendation would be awarded to people with disabilities, employers and services who follow an **inclusive** employment option. It was also hoped that our letter would provoke more proactive approaches by government to support people to move from "business services" to open employment.

With a view to lobbying for the education and training of young people with disability to be inclusive, the Sub-Committee made contact with an officer from the Department of Education Training and the Arts (DETA) who is involved with vocational education and training. We also contacted Education Queensland (EQ) and made enquiries regarding the re-registration requirements for teachers and the role of the Staff College for Inclusive Education.

Goal 3 - encourage service providers to offer opportunities that are purposeful, individualised and valued

We are currently working on the development of our own Home Page linked to the QPPD website as well as a power point

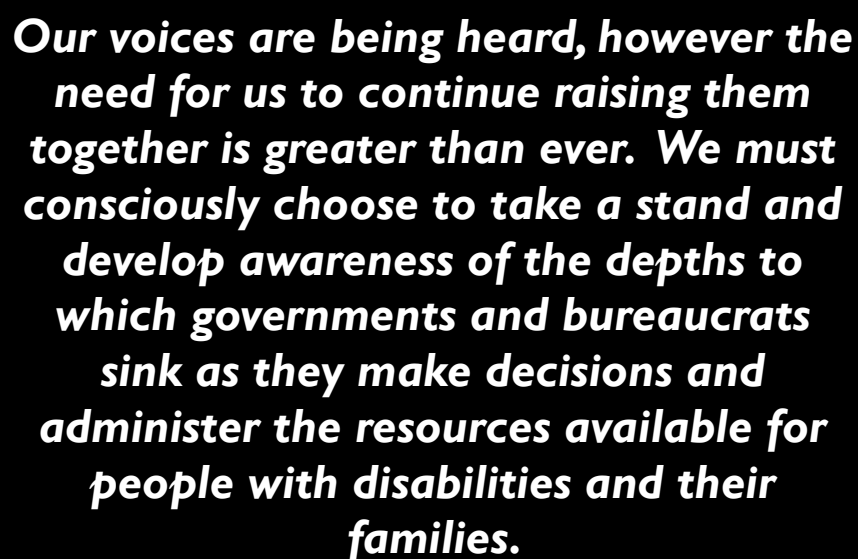
presentation that can be attached to an email. The intention is to use it as an advocacy tool in a few different ways - as a lobbying tool, to service providers, employment agencies and others, to highlight and promote positive stories and images of people being supported to work and live inclusively and interdependently in their local community, as well as to encourage people with disability and their families to develop a broader vision and to ask more from service providers than perhaps what they currently accept.

This power point presentation as an email attachment will have the flexibility to be sent anywhere to anyone... people with disability and families, politicians, bureaucrats, service providers, employers, the community in general! We hope to be able to have this built in a similar fashion to some of the world's best known advocacy agencies such as Greenpeace, Amnesty International, and local organisations such as Get-Up. This would provide ease of use for people to send messages of their own, sign pro-forma letters or petitions, and send them to their local, state and federal members of government.

Conclusion

The Transition Sub-Committee have enjoyed a busy and productive year. We look forward to a year of furthering our goals by building on the ground work that has already been undertaken and continuing our advocacy efforts to bring about systemic change for the benefit of parents and for young people with disability going through the transition phase. We would like to acknowledge the contribution of all members of our Sub-Committee, as well as the of staff of QPPD for their support.

Michelle O'Flynn and Carol Holt
Transition Sub-Committee



Our voices are being heard, however the need for us to continue raising them together is greater than ever. We must consciously choose to take a stand and develop awareness of the depths to which governments and bureaucrats sink as they make decisions and administer the resources available for people with disabilities and their families.

Coordinator's Report

Jan Steffan

Since commencing in the role of Coordinator in May this year, I have been reading QPPD's publication "Daring to Dream...Stories of parent advocacy in Queensland." I admire the commitment of parents who intensely love their children and would fight the systems, which both knowingly and unknowingly continue to place wounds like bricks on the lives of people with disabilities.

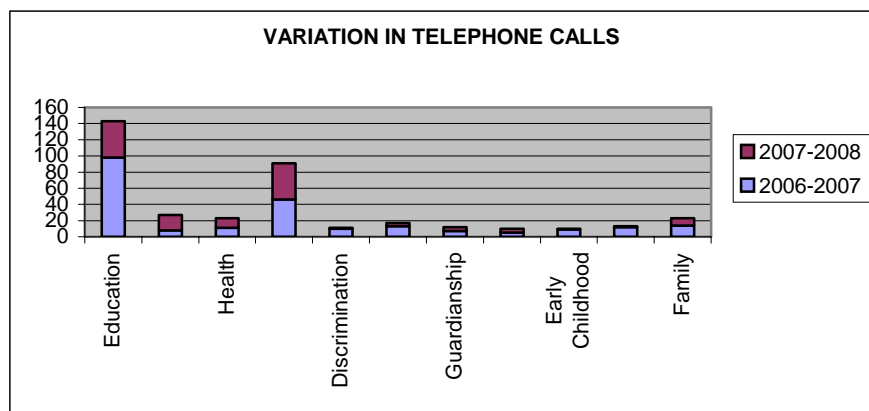
We must continue to remember that we live in an imperfect world with imperfect people who though may see the plight of the vulnerable, seem to put the problems experienced by people with disabilities in the too hard basket, or simply think they are doing the right thing. It continues to be those who know or have stepped into the shoes of the vulnerable that can see the issues and strive to open the eyes of those who are blind.

Since my arrival I have seen that 2007-08 year has been quite a difficult one for QPPD. There have been difficulties with not having a full-time Coordinator. The latter resulted in major challenges for both the Management Committee and the Office Staff. Despite these challenges, the work of QPPD has continued to move forward mainly due the commitment of management, staff and you the members of QPPD. I believe that because of this commitment QPPD has continued to remain focused on vigorously defending the justice and rights of people with disabilities.

Many of our parents have taken up the fight for people with disabilities by challenging the systems, which still seem to hinder the freedom and acceptance of people with disabilities in society itself. Our Transition and Education Subcommittees have been extremely busy this year. They have stayed focused on their systems work and have put their heart and soul into the mission of QPPD.

Those of us who work in the office and handle the many phone calls that come in from parents, have seen some changes in the issues that have been raised. Education still seems to be a huge issue for parents and those with disabilities as you can see from the table below. However other issues such as "Lifestyle" and "Accommodation" have increased in numbers.

The change to our funding body requirements to include Individual Advocacy has resulted in the need to rewrite policies and procedures to include Individual



Coordinator's Report Continued...

Advocacy. This has been done in order to comply with the new requirements and work with a few clients has commenced. Like Systems Advocacy there will be no easy fixes, but hopefully there will be some good outcomes for these clients.

You will also note that in future any of QPPD's brochures and publications that you receive will all have the following branding – "Funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs." This is now another requirement of FaHCSIA. As well as this our office staff are now required under the agreement to have either of the following – Blue Card or Criminal History Check. Each of the office staff now has the appropriate documents to comply with this requirement and copies will be kept on file in the office.

I wish to thank our office staff that worked tirelessly this year, particularly as they have assisted me since I stepped into the role of Coordinator in May this year. It is amazing to see how fast Sally Barone (Administrative Assistant) and Stephanie Pratt (Administrative Officer) work. Sally and Stephanie have done a remarkable job in teaching me how the office works and in helping me to keep my head above water. I believe they have been of great assistance in the running of the organisation by working with and for the Management Committee and two sub committees. I also need to acknowledge the help Leeann Milne (Individual Advocate) and Fiona Connolly have given QPPD with starting the Individual Advocacy Program. Leeann is doing wonderful work with the clients she is working with. The office staff also cannot forget the great help that Anita Rooney has given to us as our cleaner. She makes our work environment comfortable to work in. We also acknowledge Donna Best who willingly assists us to quickly deal with our huge mailouts.

I would also like to thank the Management Committee who have given me the unique opportunity to once again work along side those who advocate for the vulnerable. I also acknowledge Jane Sherwin and Sharyn Pacey who have assisted me to develop my skills in both advocacy and management. Thank you.

Continue to remember that the Office Staff and Management Committee members work for you the members of QPPD. In order to plan for the future, we need your input. We need to know what are the issues you and those with disabilities in your community are experiencing. Some have mentioned that previously QPPD's members sent in their stories for inclusion in the newsletter. I particularly like reading other people's stories as it gives me a greater understanding of where people are at, and it highlights the issues, which need addressing through systemic advocacy, which is QPPD's primary role. So start writing your stories and send them into us. Remember the stories don't always have to be the highlights but also sharing the low parts can encourage others that they are not alone in the struggles of caring and advocating for their loved ones.

Though the changes for people with disabilities have been slow, we still need to continue to remind ourselves what has changed and continue to move forward.

We all need to continue to dare to dream for those with disabilities and raise the awareness by speaking out against the injustices that continue to happen and promote all people with disabilities as respected, valued and participating members of society.

Jan Steffan

Treasurer's Report

Carol Tomkinson

The financial affairs of the organisation have been conducted in an orderly manner and we finished the year with net assets of \$123,040 and an under spend of \$24,744. This under spend includes membership and other non-funded income as well as a one-off grant from the Federal Government of \$10,000. This grant is to be solely used for capacity building and must be used by 30th September.

QPPD is currently funded by an operational grant from the Federal Government through to June 2009.

During this current year there are factors impacting on our operational possibilities.

As previously reported, we are required to divert 25% of our funding to individual advocacy. As of this date our rent for office accommodation continues to be steep.

The Management Committee still have the view that we will be forced to seek less expensive premises and have made efforts to find suitable premises. Our lease is up for renewal at the end of November and if we are unable to find premises at a reduced cost we may yet again have no option but to accept some curtailment of our advocacy work while we cope with this higher overhead.

*Most of the important things in the world
have been accomplished by people who have
kept on trying when there seemed to be no
hope at all.*

Dale Carnegie
American Author

Aussie Nick Vujicic was
recently interviewed on
Sixty Minutes,

"I know I have no arms, no
legs, but the definition of
disability is something
stopping you from being
able to do something. In my
life, there's hardly
anything I've found that I
can't do."

INCLUSIVE LIVES

POSTAGE
PAID
AUSTRALIA

SURFACE
MAIL

*A newsletter mailout to membership to support
advocacy on behalf of people with disabilities.*

Queensland Parents for People with a Disability Inc.

Newsletter/ Mailout

PO Box 470, Paddington Q 4064

Print Post Approved

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