

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP TERMS & CONDITIONS

Belonging Matters is a not for profit community, education and advisory service developed by families who have a passion for social inclusion. We are people friendly and values-driven. Our purpose is to provide a range of useful resources that aim to inspire and build the knowledge of people with a disability, their families and allies to enable people with a disability to have opportunities and pathways typical of other citizens - lives that are personally fulfilling, unique, socially inclusive and empowering.

You're invited to become a member of the Belonging Matters' Association and

- Support the work of Belonging Matters.
- Contribute to our collective voice and strengthen our mission to create an inclusive society
- Receive a 10% discount on Belonging Matters events and products
- Join our mail list and receive updates on our events and publications

Association Membership Terms and Conditions

1. The rules of the Association only permit membership of individuals. This means only individuals have voting rights
2. Membership is subject to Board Approval. Once approved and payment received, applicants will be notified and informed of access to benefits
3. Belonging Matters is covered by public liability insurance.
4. Belonging Matters may modify the Association Terms, conditions and fees if such changes are reasonably necessary to address and protect legitimate concerns or interest of Belonging Matters. Member's will be notified of such changes via email

Membership Fees

1. All memberships and benefits are valid for 12 months from the date of joining/paying or renewing/paying
2. The member gets a discount on Belonging Matters' products e.g events , periodical, books
3. ONLY the member gets a discount ie not on multiple event tickets
4. Concession rates only apply to: Health Care Card Holders, Family Members of Health Concession Card Holders and Student Concession Card Holders
5. Standard rates apply to: professionals and all others not included in concession
6. Member's need to enter a code to claim Your membership fee includes GST.
7. Association Membership fees are non-refundable and non transferable
8. Please contact us if you are unable to afford the membership fee.

OUR VISION: *A community strengthened by the inclusion of all.*

OUR MISSION: *To inspire, educate and build capacity at the grass roots to assist people with disabilities to live valued lives in community.*

OUR PRINCIPLES:

Belonging Matters believes that people do better when they have:

- The same opportunities as their fellow citizens
- Belonging and social inclusion in the community
- Valued social roles
- Lifestyles that enhance their individuality and uniqueness
- Self-determination and empowerment
- Lifestyle arrangements that focus on their strengths, abilities, interests and passions
- Freely given relationships from people who love and care about them (family and friendships)
- Respect, self-worth, dignity and self esteem
- Compassion
- Welcoming people and environments
- Responsive, flexible and creative supports and opportunities
- Support processes that are people friendly.

BELONGING MATTERS' OBJECTS & AIMS

Members of Belonging Matters agree to the following objects of the Association as defined in the Constitution of Belonging Matters Inc.

The purpose of Belonging Matters is to:

1. Educate, inform and inspire people with disabilities and their families and supporters to pursue lives that are typical and included in the life of their communities through:
 - 1.1 Conducting conferences, workshops and retreats that are affordable and accessible for people with disabilities and their families and supporters to gain information and inspiration to pursue inclusive lives in the community.
 - 1.2 Publishing a quarterly periodical to widely disseminate information and examples of what is possible.
 - 1.3 Maintaining an up to date website with relevant information.
 - 1.4 Having a range of publications available for sale or loan.
2. Provide advice and support to individuals with a disability and their families and supporters to help create individually tailored, community inclusive, and empowering options to enhance their life in the community by:
 - 2.1 Conducting individual consultations to help build a vision and a plan for what would be a good life for the person with a disability.
 - 2.2 Assisting with the implementation of the plan.
 - 2.3 Encouraging and recommending the creation of alternatives to congregated and segregated options.
 - 2.3 Creating typical responses and supports that foster community inclusion and opportunities that are available to all citizens, building on people's strengths and abilities.
 - 2.4 Supporting the development of friendships and informal (unpaid) connections with a range of people in the community with shared interests.
 - 2.5 Facilitating the development of circles of support.

- 2.6 Empowering people to have control over their own support arrangements through self-direction.
 - 2.7 Helping families to plan for longer term supports and safeguards for their family member.
 - 2.8 Advising on strategies for inclusive educational opportunities.
 - 2.9 Assisting people to create opportunities for mainstream work, volunteering or micro-business.
 - 2.10 Analysis of key needs and how these needs may be met through informal responses and generic community resources.
3. Provide opportunities for individual and family leadership development to enable them to support and mentor other individuals and families seeking to pursue socially inclusive lives in the community by:
- 3.1 Providing educational opportunities through workshops and retreats.
 - 3.2 Mentoring people in leadership roles such as public speaking.
 - 3.3 Supporting the development of consumer and family governed collectives.

To apply for membership please complete the membership form by going onto our web site

www.belongingmatters.org

For Further information email info@belongingmatters.org Or phone (03) 97398333