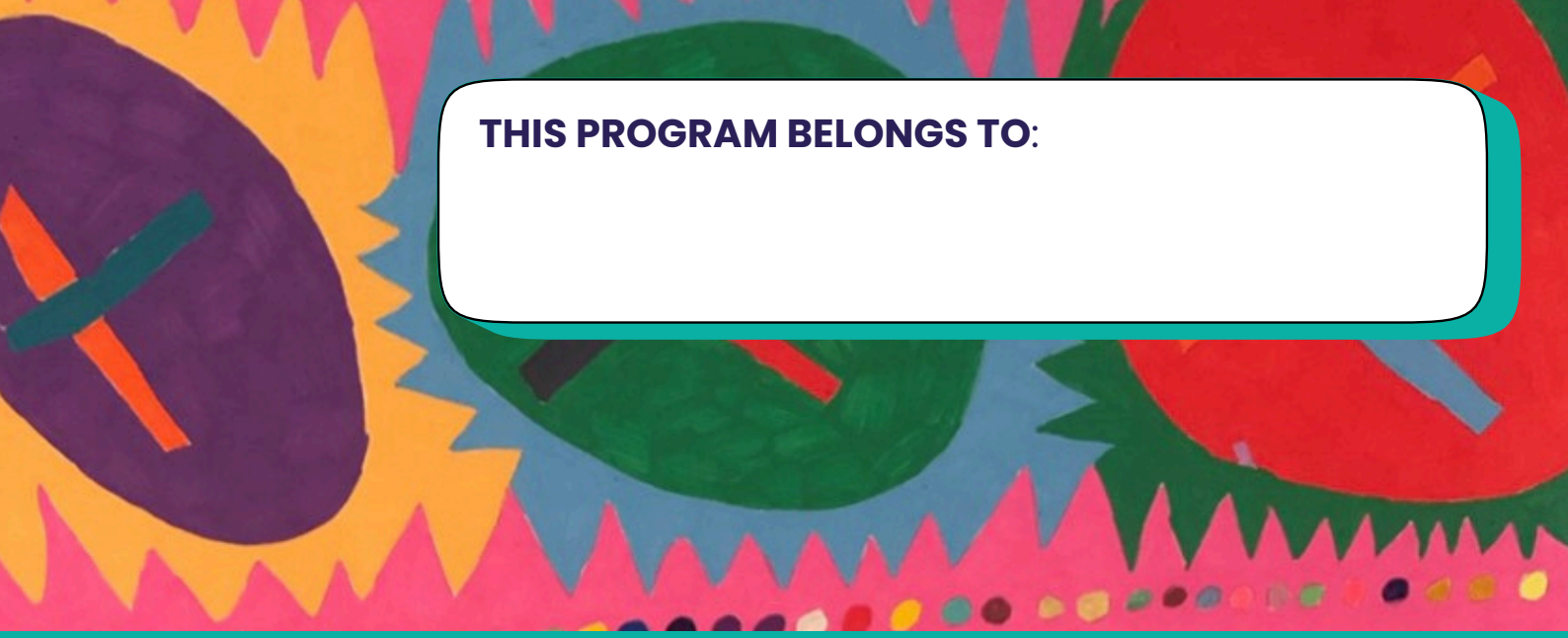


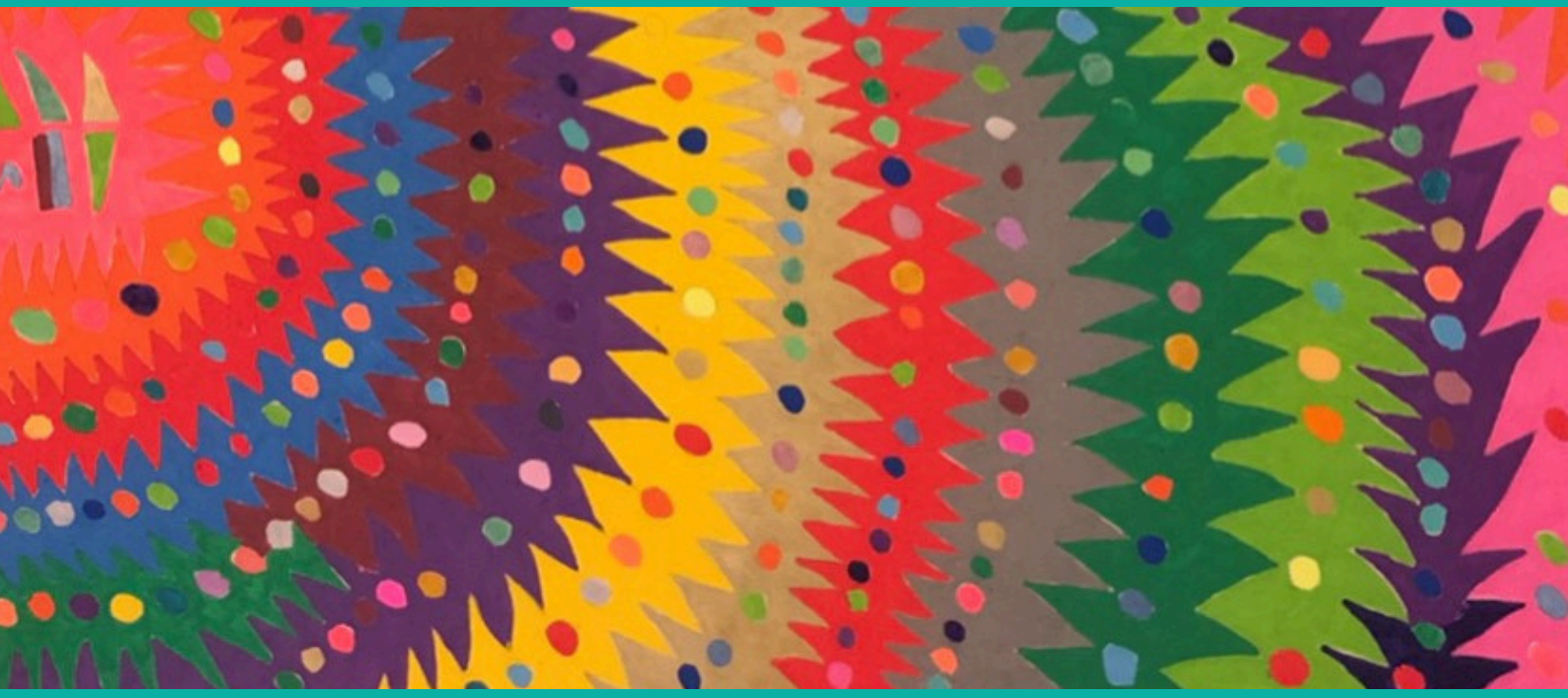
THIS PROGRAM BELONGS TO:

asid 2025 Conference

Learning from the Past, Shaping the Future

12 - 14 NOVEMBER 2025 | AERIAL FUNCTION CENTRE, SYDNEY, NSW

PROGRAM



asid research to practice

Inclusion Australia

ASID 2025 Conference: *Learning from the Past, Shaping the Future*
CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Note: The following program is provisional and subject to change without notice at the discretion of the ASID 2025 Conference Organising Committee

Wednesday, 12 November 2025					
Start	Finish	Program			
8:00 am	7:30 pm	**Registration *(Foyer, Aerial Function Centre)***			
		Morning Plenary Sponsored by DSC			
9:00 am	9:15 am	**Welcome to Country** Brendan Kerin | *Arrernte and Barkindji Elder, Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council*			
9:05 am	9:15 am	**Conference open** Christine Bigby AO | *Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability*			
9:15 am	10:00 am	**Keynote address: After normalisation – service developments in Scandinavian countries** Jan Tossebro | *Norwegian University of Science and Technology*			
10:00 am	10:30 am	**What do you Know About Disability Institutions? Don't Forget and Learn from the Past!** Linda Steele, Jack Kelly & Phillippa Carnemolla | *University of Technology Sydney*			
10:30 am	11:00 am	Morning tea and networking break in exhibition area			
11:00 am	12:30 pm	**SESSION 1: Parenting with intellectual disability**	**SESSION 2: Language and accessibility**	**SESSION 3: Housing**	**SESSION 4: Observing Practice Quality**
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
Session Chair		Morrie O'Connor	Hilary Johnson	Allyson Thomson	Christine Bigby
11:00 am	11:30 am	1.1 Hiding in plain sight: Using population research to better target policies to improve outcomes for mothers with intellectual disability and their children *Susan Collings, Western Sydney University*	2.1 Access to written information. An update on the evidence. *Cathy Basterfield, Access Easy English*	3.1 From vacancy management to person-led living: a practical approach to enhancing choice, voice, and living arrangements for people with disabilities *Rainbow Yuen & Renata Kincis, Life Without Barriers*	4.1 Using the Observing Practice Quality tool to observe and assess the quality of staff support *Lincoln Humphreys, La Trobe University*
11:30 am	12:00 pm	1.2 Grief for Good: The Transformative Power of Participatory Research with Parents with Intellectual Disability *Margaret Spencer, University of Sydney* *Susan Collings, Western Sydney University*	2.2 Plot Play: How Easy Read books support inclusion of adults with intellectual disability *Casey Gray, By Ed* *Ben Brown, Self Advocacy Sydney Inc*	3.2 My Housing Options: Planning conversations and path to my place *Michelle Moss, Queenslanders With Disability Network*	
12:00 pm	12:30 pm	1.3 'Small but mighty' How a small group of mums with intellectual disability are making a big difference *Renee Mills, Crystal Richardson, Maggie Williams & Rhiannon Derzsi, Community Living Association*	2.2 What does it mean for information to be accessible for people with intellectual disability? *Ariella Meltzer, Centre for Social Impact UNSW*	3.3 Richard's Story – Improving Quality of Life Through a Practice Framework *John Willis, Golden City Services* *Alex Cotterell, Golden City Services*	
12:30 pm	1:30 pm	Lunch and networking break in exhibition area			
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
		SESSION 5: Health services	**SESSION 6: Relationships** ***Sponsored by Life Without Barriers***	**SESSION 7: Quality services reflection** ***Sponsored by Achieve Australia***	**SESSION 8: Experiences of self advocacy**
Session Chair		Michelle King & Daelle Bunker	Cat Lancaster	Alan Hough	Catherine Alpine & Kalena Bos
1:30 pm	2:00 pm	5.1 Educating for Inclusion: Transforming Disability Nursing in Australia *Natasha Jojo, University of Canberra*	6.1 What the Research Says About Supporting LGBTQ+ People with Intellectual Disability *Gene Lim, La Trobe* *Nathan Despott, Inclusion Melbourne*	7.1 Strategies for excellence – Navigating compliance and evidence based practice *Melinda Kubisa, Community Living Options* *Rabecka Stokes, Community Living Options*	8.1 My journey from school to work *Juliana Benvenuto, Council For Intellectual Disability* *Alexander Elliott, Council For Intellectual Disability*
2:00 pm	2:30 pm	5.2 How do multidisciplinary service models help improve health outcomes for people with intellectual disability? *Stephanie Searle, SA Intellectual Disability Health Service (SAIDHS)*	6.2 'Accessible PrIDe': a project to make life better for LGBTQ+ People with Intellectual Disability through Participatory Action Research and co-design *Matthew Parsons, Tahnee Bainbridge, Jacob Simmons, Micheal Castro & Jack Richardson, Thorne Harbour Health*	7.2 Long-term effects of institutionalisation: Comparing current outcomes for people who were institutionalised with people never institutionalised *Roger Stancliffe, University of Minnesota*	8.2 Alishia's journey through work to advocacy *Liz Evans, Down Syndrome Australia* *Alishia Lindsay, Down Syndrome Australia*
2:30 pm	3:00 pm	5.3 Supporting the mental health of siblings of children with intellectual disability: What are their support needs and preferences? *Kate Dorozenko, The Kids Research Institute Australia* *Dr Emma Glasson, The Kids Research Institute Australia*	6.3 Relationships, Intimacy and Sexuality – Core to the Human Experience *Jacqui Astolfi, Life Without Barriers* *Daniel Johnston, Life Without Barriers*	7.3 What makes a Good Life? How measuring Quality of Life helps Disability Services learn what matters most – and improve the support they give *Janice O'Connor, The Onemda Association*	8.3 My Journey as an Employment Ambassador *Elizabeth Christodoulou & Lachlan Gapes, Down Syndrome Australia* *Alison Maunder & Ellen Maher, Down Syndrome NSW*
3:00 pm	3:30 pm	5.4 Supporting people with intellectual disability and complex health care needs *Stella Koritsas, Scope (Aust)* *Caroline Hart, Scope (Aust)*	6.4 "Nothing about us without us": Co-designing a psychosexual safety program for people with ID *Natasha Jojo, University of Canberra*	7.4 Real Voices Real Homes, Reimagining SIL *Michelle Haddon & Mary Mallet, Inclusion Australia*	8.4 Navigating Care: Family Carers' Support Needs in Managing Flexible Funding *Anita Nicholls, Open Polytechnic*
3:30 pm	4:00 pm	Afternoon tea and networking break in exhibition area			
		SESSION 9: Rights	**SESSION 10: Health practices**	**SESSION 11: Quality services research** ***Sponsored by Team DSC***	**Session 12: Talking about death** ***Sponsored by Sunnyfield***
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
Session Chair		Donna Best and Michelle Moss	Bronwyn Newman & Maya Tokutake	Evie Naufal	Sam Frain
4:00 pm	4:30 pm	9.1 Voices seldom heard: Hearing and connecting with people with intellectual disability who have complex support and communication needs *Bernadette Curryer, Kim Roots & Shu Hua Chan, Side By Side Advocacy* *Michelle King, University of Queensland* *Daelle Bunker, Advocate* *Jenny Cush & Leigh Creighton, Hunter Circles*	10.1 Preparing People with Intellectual Disability for Healthcare Interactions Using AI-Based Virtual Reality *Stefan Michalski, UNSW*	11.1 Federal Court of Australia cases about harm to people with intellectual disabilities in service provision: Lessons for safe support *Alan Hough, Purpose At Work*	12.1 Talking about the end of life with people with intellectual disability *Michele Weise, Western Sydney University* *Roger Stancliffe, University of Sydney*
4:30 pm	5:00 pm		10.2 Helping People with Disability Get the Care They Need: A New Way to Use Sedation in Health Services *Michelle Templeton, Monash Health*	11.2 Left behind - Decreasing quality of support for people with intellectual disabilities in group homes *Christine Bigby, La Trobe University*	
5:00 pm	5:30 pm		10.3 Access to Health Care: Outcomes of a Hospital-Based Anaesthesia Service for People with Intellectual Disability *Stephanie Searle, SA Intellectual Disability Health Service (SAIDHS)*	11.3 Examining two elements of good Active Support: Technical and Interpersonal skills *Lincoln Humphreys, La Trobe University*	
5:30 pm	7:30 pm	**Welcome Reception** ***Sponsored by Northcott***			

Thursday, 13 November 2025

Start	Finish	Program
8:00 am	7:30 pm	**Registration** Foyer, Aerial Function Centre
		Morning Plenary Sponsored by Achieve Australia
9:00 am	9:15 am	**Day 2 open and housekeeping** Stuart Wark | *Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability*
9:15 am	10:00 am	**Mental health in children and young people: From longitudinal studies to treatment and supports** Prof. Kylie Gray | *University of Birmingham*
10:00 am	10:30 am	**Making friends: supporting connection and inclusion with people with intellectual disability** Leigh Creighton & Jen Cush | *Hunter Circles*
10:30 am	11:00 am	Morning tea and networking break in exhibition area

		SESSION 13: Supported decision making ***Sponsored by Living with Disability Research Centre***	**SESSION 14: Post school options** ***Sponsored by NDRP***	**SESSION 15: Behaviour support**	**SESSION 16: Experience of self advocacy**
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
Session Chair		Christine Bigby	Sam Arnold	Brent Hayward	Morrie O'Connor & Paul O'Dea
11:00 am	11:30 am	13.1 Do goals get in the way of good support for choices? *Charity Sims-Jenkins, La Trobe University*	14.1 Doing it Together: Co-Designing Inclusive Employment Training for Jobseekers and Employers *Vivienne Riches & Ryan David Andriesz, Centre For Disability Studies, The University Of Sydney* *Victoria Ascaino, Juliana Benvenuto & Ben Alexander, NSW Council for Intellectual Disability*	15.1 Reducing Chemical Restraints: Navigating the Medical Maze to Drive Real Change in Client Care *Shay Cornell, Casa Services* *Clare Scott, Veritable*	16.1 Promoting human rights, quality of life and wellbeing for people with disability through promoting lived experience evidence bases. Researching the impact of lived experience co-produced tertiary education *Debbie Lobb, Curtin University* *Eli Dickenson, Microboards Australia* *Jaqueline Mills, Microboards Australia*
11:30 am	12:00 pm	13.2 "Shake it Off": Can NSW public guardians overcome an outdated system to meet Disability Convention obligations? *Jenna Macnab, Living with Disability Research Centre, La Trobe University*	14.2 Making work work for us: Inclusion Australia's Policy Reference Group on supported employment *Cameron Bloomfield, Shaun McKee, Judy Huett, Justin Storen, Melinda Brown, David Maund, Brooke Canham, Luke Nelson & Gregory Tucker, Inclusion Australia*	15.2 Removing Restrictions: Evidence from Clinical Literature Using Multi-Element Behaviour Support *Rebecca Beights & Matthew Spicer, The Centre For Positive Behaviour Support (CPBS)*	16.2 Becoming a 'Gems Ambassador': co-designing a peer mentoring role to support athletes with intellectual disability to join regional netball academies. *Kym Lawson & Katelyn Mitchell, Netball Queensland*
12:00 pm	12:30 pm	13.3 Enhancing Financial and Legal Decision-Making: Integrating Supported Decision-Making into Victoria's Guardianship and Administration Framework *Craig Dent, Swinburne University*	14.3 A scoping review of postschool learning programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities *Sarah Carlon, Special Teaching and Research (STaR)* *Jessica Zanuttini, University Of Sydney*	15.3 Beyond Removing to Adding: Case Examples of Meaningful Outcomes with Removal of Restrictive Practices *Becca Beights & Matthew Spicer, The Centre For Positive Behaviour Support (CPBS)*	16.3 Being self-determined – Being the boss of my life *James Carrey, Jack Kelly, Ben Alexander, James Carrey & Jarred Mellish, Council for Intellectual Disability*
12:30 pm	1:30 pm	Lunch and networking break in exhibition area			

		SESSION 17: Adult issues	**SESSION 18: Families and schools**	**SESSION 19: Behaviour support practices**	**SESSION 20: Health, co-design, and self advocacy**
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
Session Chair		Vivienne Riches	Hilary Johnson	Maeve Kennedy & Sarah Byrne	Prue Lennox
1:30 pm	2:00 pm	17.1 Delivering High Quality Care through Skills Assessments *Tina McManus, Esther Conway, Maureen Espadero & Paula Wallis, Achieve Australia*	18.1 Establishing Therapeutic Relationships with Immigrant Families of Disabled Children: A Scoping Review *Sarah Fenn, University of Canberra*	19.1 Behaviour Support Plan Quality: Evaluation and Recommendations from Multi-Element Behaviour Support *Becca Beights & Matthew Spicer, The Centre For Positive Behaviour Support (CPBS)*	20.1 The National Roadmap for Improving the Health of People with Intellectual Disability – promise, progress and key challenges *Jim Simpson AO, Council For Intellectual Disability and National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health* *Judy Huett, Speak Out Advocacy*
2:00 pm	2:30 pm	17.2 Involving people with lived experience of intellectual disability - in reviewing and monitoring services *Patricia O'Brien, University of Sydney* *Bruce O'Brien, Centre for Disability Studies* *Sarah Butler, Toastmasters*	18.2 Value creation by mothers of primary school aged child with intellectual disability using the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). *Jane Adams, UNSW*	19.2 The Positive Behaviour Support Plan Quality Assessment (PBSP-QA) - A brief introduction to its development and psychometric properties *Maria Vassos, School of Education, The University Of Queensland*	20.2 Working together and speaking up to make health care better for people with intellectual disability *Aaron Byrne, Melinda Brown & Stephanie Searle, South Australian Council On Intellectual Disability (SACID)*
2:30 pm	3:00 pm	17.3 Fragile X care supporting the future for adults with Fragile X syndrome *Wendy Bruce, Fragile X Association of Australia*	18.3 The forgotten nurses in Australian special schools *Brent Hayward, Monash University*	19.3 'Giving In' and Giving More as Rights-Affirming Practice: A Research Replication-Extension *Nicole McKillop, The Centre For Positive Behaviour Support (CPBS)*	20.3 Just include me – Health stories that matter Presenters: *Catalina Voroneanu (panel facilitator), Manon Bilawczuk, & Pamela Darling, Council for Intellectual Disability*
3:00 pm	3:30 pm	17.4 My Lived ID: Co-creating a digital hub to promote mental health and wellbeing for people with intellectual disabilities *Michelle Templeton, Monash Health* *Megan Stewart, Centre for Developmental Disability Health*	18.4 From "eureka" to "bunkum": Survey of speech pathologists' views on Gestalt Language Processing and Natural Language Acquisition for minimally- or non-speaking children or adults. *Bronwyn Hemsley, UTS*	19.4 Developing an Objective Tool for Measuring Challenging Behaviours in Behavioural Outburst Incidents *Matthew Spicer, The Centre For Positive Behaviour Support (CPBS)*	20.4 A mental health toolkit for people with intellectual disability by people with intellectual disability *Morag Kelly, Eleanor Taylor, Jessica Tattersall, Jadon Ujdur, Bruce O'Brien & Suzanne Jessep, The Inclusive Research Network*
3:30 pm	4:00 pm	Afternoon tea and networking break in exhibition area			

		SESSION 21: Safety, harm and stress ***Sponsored by Northcott***	**SESSION 22: Children's health**	**SESSION 23: Reducing restrictive practices**	**SESSION 24: Disability Data and Sensory Support**
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
Session Chair		Alan Hough	Michele Weise	Stuart Wark	Henrietta Trip
4:00 pm	4:30 pm	21.1 Working together to find and fix everyday harm: The Everyday Cafe *Tyra Buteux, Northcott* *Hannah Zsigoszki, Northcott* *Eleanor Watson, Flinders University* *Rachel High, Flinders University* *Ruby Nankivell, Flinders University*	22.1 Lessons in developing CPD-QI programs to improve staff skill and confidence within a paediatric emergency department. An action research study. *Natalie Ong Bee Hwa, The Children's Hospital at Westmead and the University of Sydney*	23.1 Finding a better way: research informing policy and practice reform to reduce and eliminate physical restraints in disability services *Keith McVilly, University of Melbourne*	24.1 New Zealand's Integrated Data Infrastructure and what it tells us about people with an intellectual disability, their families and whānau. Shara Turner, Ihc

4:30 pm	5:00 pm	21.2 Safety for All *Fiona Still, National Disability Services*	22.2 Enabling systems change to improve identification of children and young people with intellectual disability in hospital. The embedding of the hospital passport and TOP 5 into electronic health records and alert systems. *Gail Tomsic, The Children's Hospital at Westmead and Professional Association for Nurses in Developmental Disability Australia (PANDDA)*	23.2 Increasing Agency to Reduce Restrictive Practices *Melanie Ingham, Community Living Options* *Michelle Browning, Decision Agency* *Edward Jenkinson, UniSA*	24.2 Disability led data and research to drive better lives for people with intellectual disability/ies *Mary Sayers, National Disability Research Partnership* *Catherine McAlpine, Inclusion Australia*
5:00 pm	5:30 pm	21.3– What can disability support organisations do to limit disability support worker (DSW) stress in the workplace? Perspectives from an Australian DSW wellbeing survey *Maria Vassos, School Of Education, The University Of Queensland*	22.3 Blended Simulation Education Program for ED Interdisciplinary health providers in Managing Behavioural Escalation in Children with Intellectual Disability *Karl Pobre, Sydney Chlildren's Hospital Network*	23.3 Co-designing a Framework for Listening to People with Disabilites Experiences of Restrictive Practices *Linda Steele, University of Technology Sydney* *Dariane McLean, Inclusion Australia* *Luke Nelson, Inclusion Australia and VALID* *Julian Laurens, People with Disability Australia*	24.3 Engaging soothing sensory inputs for complex needs; an interactive online guide for support workers *Geoffrey Ellery & Marie Lucas, Senseplanner.com*
5:30 pm	6:00 pm	**Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability 2025 Annual General Meeting (Room 1)**			
5:30 pm	9:00 pm	**ASID & Inclusion Australia's Anniversary Celebration** ***Sponsored by Life Without Barriers***			

Friday, 14 November 2025					
Start	Finish	Program			
8:00 am	7:30 pm	**Registration** Foyer, Aerial Function Centre			
9:00 am	9:15 am	**Day 3 Open** Christine Bigby | *Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability*			
9:15 am	10:30 am	**Panel discussion: Key policy issues for people with intellectual disabilities.** Chris Bigby, Dr Alan Hough, Jim Simpson , Justen Thomas , Catherine McAlpine, Heath Dickens , Dr Henrietta Trip , Belinda Epstein- Frisch & Leanne Johnson			
10:30 am	11:00 am	Morning tea and networking break in exhibition area			
		SESSION 25: Individualised funding	**SESSION 26: Complex health needs**	**SESSION 27: Behaviour support practice reflections**	**Session 28: Self advocacy .** ***Sponsored by Inclusion Australia***
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
Session Chair		Vivienne Riches	Michelle King	Brent Hayward	Mary Mallett & Amanda Hardie
11:00 am	11:30 am	25.1 School Life with ASD... a different perspective *Zarina Kumar & Jacob Lawrence*	26.1 Making and using a digital survey to collect Patient Reported Experience Measure (PREM) with and for people with intellectual disability – The Listen to Me Study *Beth Catlett, Macquarie University*	27.1 The ANS model. Implications for understanding behaviour and building capability of environments *Debbie Lobb, Curtin University*	*28.1 Making self advocacy groups stronger* *Mary Mallett,, Inclusion Australia* *Amanda Hardie, South Australian Council on Intellectual Disability (SACID)* *Tarli Sali & Maria Strong, Self Advocacy Resource Unit (SARU)*
11:30 am	12:00 pm	25.2 Better Support Through Individual Funding: Lessons from England *Alice Dunning, Sheffield University* *Liz Croot, Sheffield University*	26.2 An accessible Delphi study about the Listen to Me Patient Reported Experience Measure (PREM). *Bronwyn Newman, AIHI, Macquarie University*	27.2 People with Intellectual Disability Can Shape Their Present and Future Support Through a Co-Designed Therapeutic Approach as an Alternative to Behaviour Management *Francisco de Paula, The Calmer Approach*	
12:00 pm	12:30 pm	25.3 A model for elimination of restrictive practices for people with an intellectual disability and Services for One *Dariane McLean, Inclusion Australia*	26.3 Funding patterns of intellectual disability health research in Australia *Rebecca Christidis, National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health* *Lucy Reynhout, National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health*	27.3 Journeying Together: Building a Disability-Affirming Behaviour Support Service in Aotearoa New Zealand *Michelle Skelton, Explore Hāpainga Ora*	
12:30 pm	1:30 pm	Lunch and networking break in exhibition area			
		SESSION 29: Advocacy	**SESSION 30: Inclusive Research**	**SESSION 31: Aging issues**	**SESSION 32: Rights, Reform and Real-World Innovation**
Location		**ROOM 1**	**ROOM 2**	**ROOM 3**	**ROOM 4**
Session Chair		Morrie O'Connor & Paul O'Dea	Allyson Thomson	Chris Bigby	Bernadette Curryer
1:30 pm	2:00 pm	29.1 Advocacy and de-differentiation policies are not working for those with moderate to profound intellectual disability and complex needs *Mary Walsh, Our Voices Australia* *Mary-Lou Carter, Our Voices Australia*	30.1 Blending different approaches to make research work with and for people with intellectual disabilities *Alice Dunning, Sheffield University* *Liz Croot, Sheffield University*	31.1 "People should respect my wishes": enablers and barriers to advance care planning for adults with intellectual disability living in South Australia *Caroline Ellison, University of South Australia*	32.1 Supported Decision Making and Guardianship Reform *Carolyn Smith, Justen Thomas & Sabrina Forte, NSW Council of Intellectual Disability*
2:00 pm	2:30 pm	29.2 Meetings with key decision makers – why it is so important to include people with intellectual disability Nicole Ascaino & Laura Naing, Council for Intellectual Disability and National Centre of Excellence in Intellectual Disability Health	30.2 A course for people with intellectual disability to learn about research *Stella Koritsas, Scope (Aust)* *Caroline Hart, Scope (Aust)* *Mimari Hartono, Scope (Aust)*	31.2 What is different and what is the same? A comparison of health outcomes for older people with intellectual disability in Ireland and Australia *Stuart Wark, University of New England*	32.2 Talking about Restrictive Practices - a new resource to guide person-centred, rights-based conversations *Shailaja Menon & Debra Corfield, NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission*
2:30 pm	3:00 pm	29.3 Learn and Lead *Alison Richardson, Ana Nguyen & Andrew Tabakovic, Down Syndrome Australia*	30.3 The Valued Contribution Project: Cognitive Interviewing of the Easy English Valued Contribution Outcome Measure *Samuel Arnold & Sarah Butler, Western Sydney University*	31.3 More of the Same: A Critical Analysis of Government's Responses to Ageing with Intellectual Disabilities in Hong Kong *Kangwei Xun, La Trobe University*	32.3 What can AI Skilled Companions Offer In Terms of "safe to fail" but Authentic Learning in Disability and Human Services Supports *Caroline Ellison, University of South Australia*
3:00 pm	3:30 pm	29.4 How people with intellectual disability in formal care systems are supported to express agency *Morag Kelly, Sydney Centre for Healthy Societies*	30.4 "It is simple mate, you just have to treat us like we are humans:" Building generative research relationships between researchers with and without intellectual disabilities *Benjamin Garcia-Lee, UNSW* *Justen Thomas, Council for Intellectual Disability NSW*	31.4 Improving dementia diagnosis for people with Down syndrome through co-design *Madeleine Healy, Monash Health*	32.4 Bridging the Gap: Virtual Reality as a Tool for De-Escalation Training in Disability Support Settings *Caroline Ellison, University of South Australia*
3:30 pm	4:00 pm	Afternoon tea and networking break in exhibition area			