



Upper Great Southern Family Support Association Inc

Policy On
**PARTICIPATION
AND
INCLUSION**

Date Adopted: July 2002

Date Last Revised: April 2013

Review Date: April 2014



**Upper Great Southern Family Support Association Inc
Policies and Procedures**

Policy and Procedure: Participation & Inclusion	Date Adopted: July 2002
NUMBER OF PAGES: 3	Date of Last Review: April 2013
RELATED DISABILITY SERVICE STANDARDS: 1,2,3,4	Review Date: April 2014

Participation and Inclusion

Purpose of this policy

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that the organisation's services are designed and delivered in ways that offer opportunities for physical and social integration in the general community. The policy has been framed around Standard 5 of the Disability Service Standards, (1993).

This policy applies to all of the organisation's programs and activities.

The Policy

The organisation is committed to ensuring that, wherever practicable, Service Users:

- Have access to the same places as the rest of the community.
- Have their services provided in community settings alongside other members of the community.
- Have the opportunity to socialise and build relationships with members of the wider community.

The Procedure

The Organisation will:

1. Structure its programs and services to be provided in a way that facilitates the inclusion and participation of clients with other members of the community.
2. Develop strategies to make the greatest possible use of community facilities and services.
3. Use community facilities and services in a manner and at times that coincide with those of the wider community.
4. Select volunteers and staff on the basis of their commitment to this philosophy and their own involvement and connection with the wider community, amongst other attributes.
5. Involve other members of the community in the inclusion of Service Users in participative community activities.
6. Collaborate with other community groups, and their members, to facilitate the inclusion of Service Users in their activities.
7. Avoid large group activities for Service Users that are likely to have the unwanted effect of stigmatising or de-individualising as this may lead to their exclusion from community contact, acceptance and/or involvement.

Review of the Policy

This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis. However, if at any time the legislative, policy or funding environment is so altered that the policy is no longer appropriate in its current form, the policy shall be reviewed immediately and amended accordingly.