

Sustainability

Ability Links NSW, in all its community development activities, builds in strategies for sustainability beyond the program's involvement. It is an important part of Ability Links' work that all community development activities it becomes involved with are ultimately owned by the community. The following strategies for sustainability were developed:

- Identify and engage community groups which have crossover participants, and work together to cross-promote, and organise crossover events and meetings
- Ensure the Facebook group page is managed by group members
- Ensure resources are shared on Facebook group page, for example: posters, other community groups
- Enter into formal partnership arrangements for on-going support, e.g. ACON, Twenty10, Northcott, CID, Family Planning
- Identify natural leaders within the community group, support and build their capacity to take on a leadership role in the group.
- Partner with Council for Intellectual Disability to deliver group facilitation training for the community group members (this training is run state-wide).
- Share project information and resources with a broader audience to support the development of peer led LGBTIQ+ /Disability networks in other regions.
- Establish a core organising committee for the group. Community members who were identified as leaders sent out an Expression of Interest to the wider Facebook group page. They established SQuAD Core from this EOI. The organising committee ensures there are key



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people responsible for management of the group and its growing numbers, coordinating events, and engaging with stakeholders.

- Assist the group to scope out opportunities where they can advocate for their community - connect them into organisations that may need assistance to transform their disability and/or queer inclusion.
- Assist members of SQuAD Core to seek out leadership opportunities. As an example, Ability Links NSW provided funding for two members of SQuAD Core to undergo LGBTIQ+ Leadership Training provided by Melbourne based Equality Project - this training is run in different locations throughout Australia.
- Assist the group to get an ABN and research options for potential charity status or incorporation. Provide them with options, and let them decide which path they would like to take.

Q: How will you ensure the community group you create will continue beyond your involvement?



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