

3.4

Can the Department of Human Services (DHS) help?

The **Department of Human Services** (DHS) is the starting point for many disability options. They may be able to assist you with things such as:

- Information, advice and assistance
- Referral to community supports
- Crisis response
- Individualised Planning
- Short-term case management
- Funding for programs and care including in home support
- Equipment and home modifications
- Long-term accommodation

For further information contact **DHS Intake and Response Team** on 1800 783 783. .

Who else can I contact?

<http://www.cmag.org.au>

Planning for the future?

What is the Disability Support Register (DSR)?

The Disability Support Register (DSR) is a way of recording a person's current and ongoing support needs. The Register also helps with future planning for the needs of people with a disability.

You can approach any disability service provider or DHS Intake and Response Team and they can assist you to access disability supports.

Call **DHS Intake and Response** on 1800 783 783 and advise them of your needs.

Do you need legal advice?

Villamanta Legal Service specialises in assisting people with a disability, particularly intellectual disability. eg Wills

It offers state-wide assistance (although it is based in Geelong) on disability related legal issues and can be contacted on 5229 2925.

Is there a carer that may not be able to continue their role?

If there is a carer in your family that is ageing or may not be able to continue in their caring role there are resources to help with planning for the future.

The **Office of the Public Advocate**, with **Victoria Legal Aid** has produced an easy to follow guide "Securing Your Future", covering issues with securing the future of family members with a disability.

If you need information on enduring powers of attorney, guardianship, wills and estate planning then this is a very good point of information.



Victoria Legal Aid can be contacted on 9269 0120 to request a free copy of "**Securing Their Future**"

Or visit www.legalaid.vic.gov.au

The **Office of the Public Advocate** promotes the interests, rights and dignity of all Victorians with a disability. They offer advice and information on topics such as guardianship, medical consent, advocacy and financial administration. Their contact number is 1300 309 337 or TTY 9603 9529.