

# DISABILITY POSITION PAPER 2018

## POLICY STATEMENT

Family Planning NSW respects and upholds the right of people with disability to have autonomy to control and decide freely on all matters related to their reproductive and sexual health, free from coercion, discrimination and violence.

We work alongside people with disability, and the organisations that represent them, to promote disability inclusion and advocate for their right to optimal reproductive and sexual health.

The reproductive and sexual health and rights of people with disability must be included in health and education policy, research agendas, clinical service provision, international development projects, data collection and workforce development strategies.

Family Planning NSW adopts the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disability and is a member of the Australian Disability and Development Consortium and the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability.

## SCOPE

All Family Planning NSW.

## POLICY DETAILS

Family Planning NSW recognises that:

- People with disability have the same rights as any other member of society including in the area of their reproductive and sexual health
- They have the capacity and the right to form consensual relationships, to express their sexuality, and to make informed decisions regarding their reproductive and sexual health
- They experience high levels of discrimination and abuse
- Women with disability are particularly vulnerable to having their reproductive and sexual health rights abused and to experience exploitation and violence

- Aboriginal people and people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds with disability may face additional barriers to achieving their rights
- There is a lack of research and protocols in reproductive and sexual health for people with disability.

Family Planning NSW is committed to:

- Working in partnership with people with disability
- Delivering inclusive clinical services
- Providing accessible reproductive and sexual health information and resources for people with disability
- Providing information, resources and support for parents, paid and unpaid carers, and services
- Designing and implementing international projects that aim to progress disability inclusion and promote reproductive and sexual health rights
- Providing training for clinicians, health care workers, organisations and individuals on sexuality, human rights, and reproductive and sexual health for people with disability
- Advocating for the reproductive and sexual health rights of people with a disability
- Supporting and conducting research aimed at enhancing the reproductive and sexual health of people with disability.

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United Nations. Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities.

UNFPA, 2009. A Situational Analysis of the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Women with Disabilities