

ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND OF WA (INC.)

**COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION AND INTEGRATION
POLICY AND PROCEDURE**

POLICY

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This policy ensures that the Association's services are designed and delivered in ways that offer opportunities for the physical and social integration of its clients in the general community. The policy has been framed around Standard 5 of the Disability Services Standards (1993).

This policy applies to staff involved in the delivery of client services.

2.0 STATEMENT

The Association is committed to ensuring that, wherever possible and practicable, those of its clients who so wish:

- i) have access to the same places as the rest of the community.
- ii) receive their services in community settings alongside other members of the community.
- iii) have the opportunity to socialise and build relationships with members of the wider community.

Margaret Haydon
Acting/Chief Executive Officer

03.10.06
Effective Date

First Adopted 2003

PROCEDURE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The following procedures are to be implemented to enable the Association to meet its policy objective of ensuring that clients enjoy maximum participation and integration in and with the community.

2.0 PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND STRATEGIES

The Association will:

- i) structure its programs and services to be provided in a way that facilitates the integration and participation of clients with other members of the community; and
- ii) build into its programs, strategies to make the greatest possible use of community facilities and services; and
- iii) use community facilities and services in a manner and at times that coincide with those of the wider community; and
- iv) avoid large group activities for clients that are likely to have the unwanted effect of stigmatising or excluding them from community contact, acceptance or involvement.

2.0 INVOLVEMENT OF NON-STAFF

The Association will:

- i) select volunteers on the basis of their own involvement and connection with the wider community, amongst other attributes; and
- ii) involve other members of the community in the integration of the Association's clients in participative community activities; and
- ii) collaborate with other community groups, and their members, to facilitate the inclusion of Association clients in their activities.

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