ISSUES PAPER: “ENABLING AND PROTECTING: PROACTIVE APPROACHES TO ADDRESSING THE ABUSE AND NEGLECT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY”

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Many families report to Children with Disability Australia (CDA) that their children are subjected to limited opportunities, low expectations, exclusion, bullying, discrimination, assault, and violation of their human rights.

These concerns provided the impetus for the development of an issues paper on the abuse and neglect of children with disability. The paper draws upon recent research about abuse and neglect, and from national policy approaches in child protection and disability, to better understand the causes, experience and responses to maltreatment of children and young people with disability.

Taking a rights informed approach, the paper focuses on building more effective national responses to children and young people who are maltreated. A series of key concerns about abuse and neglect are raised to stimulate discussion and action which is in the interests of children and young people.

This paper received considerable media exposure including discussion on ABC National Radio Breakfast Show (podcast available here: http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/breakfast/disabled-children-more-likely-to-be-abused/4406424).

PROJECT TIMEFRAME

March – July 2012

PROJECT PARTNER

The preparation of this paper was funded by Children with Disability Australia

RESEARCH TEAM

Dr Sally Robinson