

Down Syndrome Advisory Network

What support do I get to do my job as a DSAN member?



This information is written in an easy to read way. We use pictures to explain some ideas.

Some words are written in **bold**. We explain what these words mean.

This is an Easy Read version of another document. You can ask us for a copy of the other document.

You can ask for help to read this information.

A family member, friend or support person may be able to help you. Let us know if you need us to help you.



This information is for members of the Down Syndrome Advisory Network, or DSAN.

It tells you about the support you will get to help you do your **role**. The role is the work you do as a DSAN member.

This includes information, help to organise the DSAN and individual support for each member.





Information

We will make sure you get all the information you need to carry out your role. You can get it in Easy Read with pictures, or in writing without pictures, or in other ways. Let us know what is best for you.

Organising the DSAN

The DSAN has a person whose job it is to help organise meetings, including getting information to members and any other help the DSAN needs as a group.



Individual support for members

As a DSAN member you will also get support from a DSAN support person to help you do your role.



Your DSAN support person will get to know you so you feel comfortable working with them. They will listen to you and help you work out what support you need.

The support person will make sure you get all the information you need, help you to understand it and help you to work out your **opinion** on the information. Your opinion is what you think about the information, whether you agree or disagree with it, and what you want to say to other people about it.





Your support person will help you with DSAN meetings. This includes understanding how meetings work and supporting you to get more confident in taking part and having your say.



They will help you to use the computer technology to take part in online meetings.

They will also help you take part in face to face meetings, including help with travel to the meeting and any other support you need to take part.



Your support person will give you any help you need to write information or emails as part of the DSAN role.



They will listen and help if you have any worries about your DSAN role, including if you want to complain about something. You have the right to complain without getting in trouble.



Remember that your support person is there to help you in your DSAN role.

Their job is to help you have your say. They must not take over and tell you what to say or do.

It is not their job to help you with support you need that has nothing to do with your DSAN role.



Who do I talk to if I have any problems with my DSAN support person?

You can talk to the DSAN person who organises the meetings, or you can talk to the contact person at your state or territory Down syndrome organisation.

The person who organises the meetings is Deb Green. Her email is dsan@downsyndrome.org.au.



Don't be afraid to speak up if you are having problems. We will help you to sort them out.