

2.DISABILITY

Finding: Disability Arts Coordinators are required to ensure that quality arts programmes are offered within all disability services.

Reference number	Region	Issue	Solution
D1	Armidale Sydney – intellectual disability	There is a lack of quality arts programmes provided in disability organisations. It is hard to develop and deliver arts programmes simultaneously with implementing other day-to-day activities.	Develop an advocacy campaign to encourage all disability organisations to engage arts coordinators at every service.
D2	Armidale	There is a need for workshops that are open and varied so that they don't become tired or repetitive.	Ensure that all arts coordinators have access to disability arts tutors so that they can engage a range of arts tutors with different skills and interests (e.g. tutors to work on rotation between services). Coordinate a partnership with CCDNSW to deliver appropriate training to arts coordinators. Arts Development Officer to work with arts coordinators to establish quality and varied arts programmes.

Finding: Meaningful and consistent consultation is imperative to enable the disability sector to meet the creative interests and needs of its clients.

Reference number	Region	Issue	Solution
D3	Port Macquarie Illawarra – intellectual disability Sutherland Shire	<p>People (including children) with disability are often not consulted on what interests them. They need to create their own agenda and have a choice in what they will participate in.</p> <p>There is a cost for participating in the arts.</p> <p>People with disability need to take time off work when they have opportunities to perform or participate in the arts.</p> <p>Many people with an intellectual disability are uninformed of available opportunities.</p>	<p>Develop a ‘Creative Ask’ campaign that encourages employment agencies, families, the disability, arts and broader community sectors to: ascertain areas of interest from individuals with disability; raise awareness about the value of the arts as a career or a recreational activity; and effectively distribute information about arts opportunities.</p>
D4	Newcastle	<p>Many parents of children and adults with a disability express frustration about concerns that they have for the future of their children and lack supportive programmes. This is particularly an issue when the adult is considered not to have high needs, as they are then not eligible for many of the community support programmes.</p> <p>Department of Ageing, Disability and Homecare (DADHC) funding is no longer available for new entries into programs. Families have no respite because the responsibility falls back on them, and their incomes and livelihoods can be severely affected. There is a need for ongoing funding for people with disability to participate in the arts, regardless of age (including people over 65).</p>	<p>Lobby DADHC regarding solutions raised in this Research. Identify ways in which they could better aid the establishment, support and funding of arts and disability opportunities for all ages.</p>
D5	Sydney – Deaf issues	<p>There is a need for access services and programmes to gain advisory input from representatives of the Deaf community.</p>	<p>Establish a ‘call out’ for the Audience Development Reference Group to recruit a representative from the Deaf community who will advise on the provision of access</p>

Reference number	Region	Issue	Solution
			services and programmes for the Deaf community.

Finding: The value of the arts needs to be promoted through information and education to the disability sector.

Reference number	Region	Issue	Solution
D6	Manly – intellectual disability Illawarra	Not all people are linked to a disability organisation. Not all programmes should be group based.	Ensure that there are open opportunities to engage in arts events, training, performances and exhibitions for people with disability who are not linked to an organisation.
D7	Illawarra Sutherland Shire	Arts organisations need to liaise with Accessible Arts on issues of access.	For audience and arts development officers, continue to provide advice to disability organisations aiming to participate in arts activities and audience opportunities.
D8	Manly	Children with disability have little exposure to the arts.	Work with the DET and NDS to ensure that quality accessible arts activities and excursions are incorporated into school curricula, as well as into programmes for disability services and educational facilities working with children with disability.

Finding: Participants' access needs need to be considered and catered for in the planning, marketing, implementation and evaluation of initiatives.

Reference number	Region	Issue	Solution
D9	Illawarra – intellectual disability Sydney – intellectual disability Sutherland Shire – intellectual disability	People with an intellectual disability are often not consulted about their interests or ambitions. Utilise the knowledge and skills of organisations such as CIDNSW to effectively target arts and disability work and projects.	Present new project ideas to the CIDNSW board. Ensure that people with an intellectual disability are continually consulted in order to have an influence in the evolution of Accessible Arts' work. Ensure that all Accessible Arts publications and promotional material are available in 'easy English' versions. This will enable people with an intellectual disability further access to our work, events and opportunities.
D10	Manly – intellectual disability	Disability organisations need to recognise the access needs of their participants.	Help disability organisations recognise the access needs of their participants and address them in relation to participation in arts activities. Provide arts organisations with information on the access needs of their attendees in advance to ensure full access can be provided.
D11	Port Macquarie	Resources for mental health are scant and mental health issues are exacerbated by issues such as isolation in regional areas.	Identify specific arts and mental health initiatives in Accessible Arts' cultural audit.

Finding: *Carers are often forgotten and need to be engaged in or provided with respite through creative programmes.*

Reference number	Region	Issue	Solution
D12	Port Macquarie	Carers need support and creative outlets of their own.	Establish creative programmes that provide support and respite to carers, as well as providing opportunities for interaction between family and friends with and without disabilities.
D13	Armidale	When children over six years old are seen as having only a 'mild' disability, their parents receive little support. Further support is needed for 15- to 25-year-olds entering community participation programmes.	Support external lobbying initiatives that advocate for improved support of families, guardians and carers of people with disability.