# TEAM: Advocacy Training Launch

**Online resources, a new suite of training and an all-star list of expert collaborators, this is The Empowering Advocacy Method (TEAM). Based on the wisdom and experiences of recently retired VALID CEO, Kevin Stone, TEAM is for everyone working for the empowerment of people with an intellectual disability and anyone truly dedicated to realising the vision of a more inclusive community.**

“The hallmark of Kevin's advocacy has always been his passion for empowering people with a disability to stand up for themselves,” said Dr George Taleporos, Chairperson of the Victorian Disability Advisory Council. “To show people how to advocate effectively for themselves means firstly knowing the elements of effective advocacy, and Kevin has been working over thirty years to develop and finetune such an approach.”

Designed to empower people with a disability and their supporters, TEAM training is structured:

* **For NDIS Participants -** where people with disability will learn about Rights, Independence and Taking Charge;
* **For Advocates and Allies -** where Peers with Disability, Families, Disability Support Workers & Community Members will improve their advocacy knowledge and skills;
* **For Groups** - where organisations will receive specifically designed empowerment training and resources.

As an independent advocate and champion for justice and rights, Kevin’s passion for empowerment remains strong. “The work you’ve done over the last 40+ years is beyond brilliant. To say it comes second nature to you is an understatement as what you’ve done has changed the disability world forever. Knowledgeable, compassionate & still being a trailblazer!” (Emily, Go Tafe Student)

Kevin is joined by his daughter, Brigitte, a program facilitator and Empowerment Officer with Women with Disabilities Victoria (WDV). An accomplished writer and former magazine editor, Brigitte brings lived experience of disability – the legacy of a 2011 traumatic car accident – as well as a thoughtful intersectional approach and vitality for greater community inclusion.

Brigitte’s own understanding of disability and Kevin’s capacity as a parent to three adult children with a range of disabilities is further reinforced by TEAM Collaborators and expert self-advocates Heather Forsyth, Uli Kaplan and Gerard Langridge.

## **TEAM Training Now Available**

## For Advocates & Allies: Peers with Disability, Families and Community Members

**A Six Step Method -** For overcoming challenges and achieving great outcomes.

**A Practical Toolkit -** For improving your advocacy and negotiation skills.

**Ongoing Support -** For your advocacy journey, within a rights and values framework.

And after the sessions have finished, TEAM will provide you with:

* A TEAM Kit including manual, role play cards and poster
* An invitation to join a monthly TEAM Community of Practice, where you will find allies and supporters for your journey towards effective advocacy.

## Comic of a wheelchair user. Behind her a woman is standing her arms folded. Both smiling confidently. Across the centre is a banner that reads "Sessional".

## TEAM for Advocates & Allies – Sessional

Six 2- hour online group sessions. 2 sessions per week for 3 weeks.

From 10am-12pm.

Cost $290 + GST (Low-income option available at checkout)

**Session 1: Thu, Apr 28, 2022**

**Session 2: Fri, Apr 29, 2022**

**Session 3: Thu, May 5, 2022**

**Session 4: Fri, May 6, 2022**

**Session 5: Thu, May 12, 2022**

**Session 6: Fri, May 13, 2022**

## TEAM for Advocates & Allies – Intensive

2 full day workshops. 1 day per week for 2 weeks.

Cost $290 + GST (Low-income option available at checkout)

**Session 1: Fri, May 20, 2022 & Session 2: Fri, May 27, 2022**



Because of the highly personalised TEAM approach, bookings for **NDIA Participants** and **Groups** are by individual arrangement only. We therefore ask you to please provide us with your contact details. We will then contact you to discuss your needs and preferences, and to make sure the course is tailored right for you.

**Please get in touch to book, arrange a consultation and advise us of your access needs.**

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