



Senator the Hon Anne Ruston

Minister for Families and Social Services
Minister for Women's Safety

Senator Hollie Hughes

Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region

Media Release

Thursday 8th July 2021

Dedicated national referral and support service for people with disability

People with disability in the Hunter Region will be encouraged to interact with a new dedicated one-stop shop providing advice and up-to-date information for people with disability as a national campaign rolls out across our screens this week.

Minister for Families and Social Services Anne Ruston said the **National Disability Gateway** consists of an accessible website and a 1800 phone line staffed by people with lived experience in supporting Australians with disability.

“The disability community is very diverse and finding information about policies, programs and support available for individuals can be a challenge,” Minister Ruston said.

“The Disability Gateway is fast, easy to use and offers a range of accessible features for people with disability including an Easy Read toggle on every page.”

Liberal Patron Senator for the Hunter Region, Hollie Hughes, said the name of the national campaign is *‘I can’* and would consist of television, radio, print, digital and social media advertisements. Broadcast-quality television commercials and high-resolution versions of advertisements are available at: <https://www.disabilitygateway.gov.au/about>

“The campaign features people with lived experience of disability describing the benefits of using the new service,” Senator Hughes said.

“The government worked extensively with the disability sector to build a fit-for-purpose source of information and it will help our community to easily access advice and referral services.”

The Disability Gateway is able to assist with a range of support, from locating advocacy services, finding a sporting team that meets the needs of a person's disability or identifying local disability-related events.

It is available at www.disabilitygateway.gov.au or by calling 1800 643 787 Monday to Friday, 8am to 8pm AEST. People with disability who need support in another language can also contact the Gateway and ask for an interpreter.

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