

Strengthen positive, equal and respectful relations with and amongst people with disabilities, and between people of all genders

You can take action!

Be an active bystander – speak up when you see poor behaviour

“I’m not comfortable with that.”

Suggest alternative behaviours

“Let’s try this a different way.”

Speak directly to people with disabilities, not to their able-bodied carers or family members



Check your language:

“Wheelchair coming through”, or “She’s mental” are outdated and disrespectful.

Demand Respectful Relationships Education and Sexual and Reproductive Health Education be made available for people of all genders, sexualities and abilities.

For disability and social services organisations, audit your practices and find ways to disrupt ‘us/them’ binaries, for example:

When speaking about an issue related to a client, do carers sometimes ignore the client and instead speak to the other carers, even when the client is present?

If one of your staff saw another staff member treating a client disrespectfully, would they have the confidence and the training on how to effectively raise that issue with the other staff member?

Do mandatory uniforms for staff inadvertently distance or differentiate a carer from a client?



Does your organisation ensure that the perspectives of people with disabilities are heard? Does your organisation run consultations with people with disabilities? Do you have dedicated positions on advisory groups or the board? Do you pay these lived-experience disability advisors for their time?