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1. *Self Advocacy Around the World*
2. *DARU, SARU and VDAN Conference Update*
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1. *Self Advocacy Around the World*

Did you know there are self advocacy groups all over the world and lots of them have web pages. So self advocates are part of a worldwide movement. Self Advocacy groups are run by and for people with a disability who have joined together to have their voices heard and support each other. They work together to make sure they have the same rights, choices and opportunities as anyone else in the community. Here are some great self advocacy websites from around the world to check out:



Label Free Zone <http://lfz.nfb.ca/home2/>

Label Free Zone is a fantastic and fun website created by People First Canada. People First Canada is the peak self advocacy group in Canada. The website was set up as a place for self advocates to share their stories and to learn about other groups.

Three cool things about the website:

- The map of self advocacy groups around the world which you can add your group to. (SARU and New Wave Gippsland are on the map)
- The gallery which shows videos, photos and art made by self advocates.
- There is a place to write about your group and the things that you care about. You can also add your own stories.

Tip: Why not go to the site and add your group to the map



Reinforce <http://www.reinforce.org.au>

Reinforce is the longest running self advocacy group in Australia. Reinforce promotes the rights of people with an intellectual disability to be upheld in the same way as everyone else in the community.

Three cool things about the website:

- It looks great and is easy to get around and you can learn about the projects Reinforce works on
- It lists all of the resources you can get from Reinforce
- You can read their newsletter online

Tip: Give Reinforce a call and become a member of the group

2. DARU, SARU and VDAN Conference Update

Remember the SARU, DARU and VDAN Conference is happening on: March 26 and March 27 2012 Melbourne Park Conference Centre.

Registrations will open soon. People First New Zealand will be presenting at the conference – so it will be chance to learn about self advocacy in New Zealand and the work they are doing around the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

3. Funding Opportunities

Grant: Disability Self Help Grants *Office for Disability*

Funding: \$5,000

Closes: 18 November 2011

This grant is to help disability self-help groups to:

- network, support each other and share information
- provide information and education to people with disabilities and the broader community.

You can download the grant application form at:

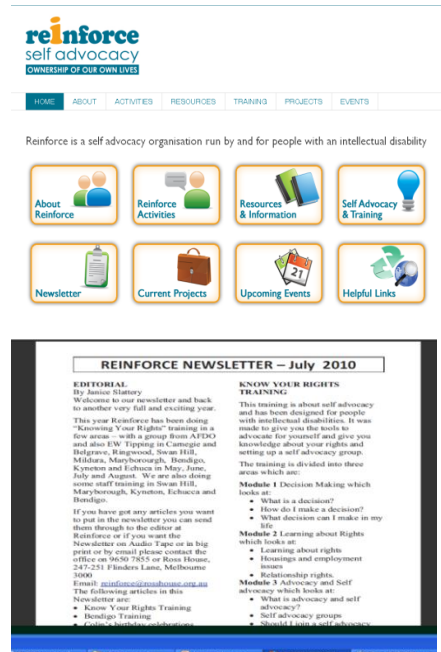
http://www.officefordisability.vic.gov.au/advocacy_and_self_help.htm

SARU strongly recommends that you contact the Office for Disability to talk about your ideas before you apply.

Phone: (03) 9208 3015 or 1300 880 043

Email: ofd@dpcd.vic.gov.au

If you are in a self advocacy group and need any help or advice to write a funding submission contact the SARU



6. What's On

Having a Say Conference

The VALID Having a Say Conference is on again in Feb 2012. The theme of the conference is:

My Life My Way

When: Wednesday, Feb 8th to Friday 10th 2012

Where: Deakin University Waterfront Campus Geelong

Early Bird registrations close on **25th** November 2011

South West Disability Services Expo

The South West Disability Network is holding the Disability Services Expo. People with a disability will have the chance to meet with over 40 local, regional and state disability service providers to have their questions answered.

When: Friday 18 November

Where: Wannon Rooms, Warrnambool Greyhound Track,
Koroit Street, Warrnambool

Bookings: RSVP by Monday 14th November to Leanne Mitchell
Ph:5561 8127

Contact SARU

Are you holding a special event?

Are you looking for more members for your group?

Why not advertise in the SARU memo

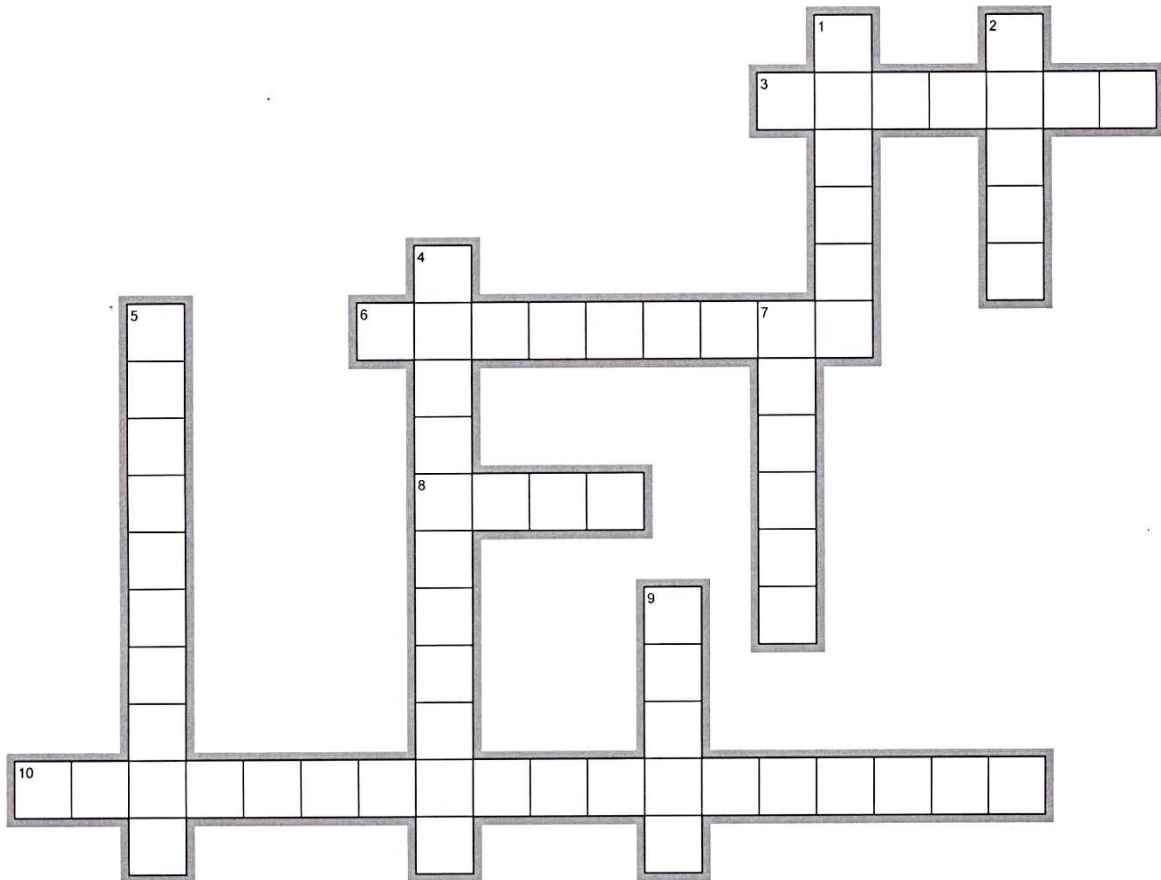
Phone: 03 9639-6856 Email: saru@rosshouse.org.au



7. SARU Crossword

On the next page is the SARU crossword. Have a go and see what you think. If your group would like to make a crossword for our next e-memo or for your own newsletter contact the SARU.

October 2011



EclipseCrossword.com

Across

3. Lots of self advocacy groups around the world have these
6. The longest running self advocacy group in Australia
8. The theme for the 2012 Having A Say conference is MyMy Way
10. SARU can help you to write these

9. They run the Having A Say Conference

Down

1. Self Advocacy groups have a saying Label Jars Not ?
2. The SARU, DARU,VDAN conference is in this month
4. In other countries self advocacy groups are sometimes called this
5. People First self advocates from which country are talking at the SARU, DARU and VDAN conference?
7. Label Free Zone is a website created by People First in which country?