



FACTSHEET

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

CISVic members enjoy a wide range of benefits. Membership may extend to organisations, local government, companies and businesses, and individuals.

There are three categories of membership: **Full members** enjoy the whole range of benefits, **Associate members** enjoy most of the benefits excluding voting rights (but may be a co-opted member of the Board), and **Individual** membership.

Membership of CISVic requires that agencies agree to support CISVic's statement of purpose and comply with the Standards and Policies of the Association. In addition, full members enjoy voting rights in CISVic elections to help direct the future of the organisation.

Operational support

We provide a range of information and support on all aspects of community governance, including planning, community promotion, policy development, industrial issues, financial management, legal, and regulatory requirements. Where CISVic cannot provide information, members are referred to appropriate organisations.

Benefits under this category include:

- Insurance cover which includes Public & Products Liability; Professional Indemnity; Directors & Officers Liability; Association Liability; Medical Indemnity; and Personal Accident (Volunteers only),
- Distribution of information, research and resource documents via a members-only portal on the CISVic website,
- CISVic Handbook: Management of Community Information Centres and a range of policy templates and examples,
- Jobs Australia discounted membership (providing specialist community sector industrial relation advice and support, and special bulk purchasing prices for Not-for-Profit Purchasing),
- Unlimited free job advertising on the CISVic website,

- Access to the CISVic website for increased coverage and promotion of members' services to the online and broader community,
- Distribution point for Telstra Bill Assistance Program distributing free Telstra vouchers and phone cards to members.

Sector development

We provide a range of sector development support to enable members to effectively engage in best practice service delivery. This includes professional development information and opportunities, and policy and advocacy development. Benefits under this category include:

- Access to CISVic training opportunities which are low cost, and provide pathways to further education and employment,
Accredited training which includes *Assess & Provide Services for Clients with Complex Needs* (50 hours),
Non-accredited training on a range of topics relating to service delivery practice, and governance,



- Training Certificates, Certificates of Service (volunteers) & Honour Roll,
- Peer support and networking opportunities that include:
CISVic Regional Network Meetings,
CISVic Caseworkers' Network Meetings,
- Fortnightly eBulletins providing up-to-date information and news about the sector, policy and practice directions, and training and funding opportunities,
- *Informed*, a policy and practice quarterly newsletter focusing on topical and urgent issues affecting the sector,
- Communication channels that include a members-only portal of the website, Facebook, Twitter, and promotion of member agencies via the website,
- Bi-annual Forum, a day of professional development and networking opportunities for all members to be informed about and debate key issues.

Representation, advocacy & research

CISVic aims to be the voice of the sector and advocate to government and other peak bodies on behalf of the membership and their communities. We also identify and initiate research and data collection to contribute to practice and evidence relevant to the sector. In doing so, we:

- actively participate in relevant committees, networks and working groups at state and federal levels,
- engage in systemic advocacy and policy reform by participating in advocacy campaigns relevant to the sector.

CISVic supports members in representation and advocacy efforts in various ways, including:

- Initiating surveys and information collection among the membership on topical and urgent issues for subsequent representation to governments and relevant stakeholders,
- Providing pro-forma/template letters to editors, local, federal and state government departments and Ministers on key issues affecting service delivery and social policy,
- Providing template submissions to public consultations, Parliamentary Inquiries and Regulatory bodies on key issues in public and social policy,
- Collectively engaging in online campaigning for systemic and policy reforms on key issues impacting on the members' client base.

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