



## 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 co-opted member of the Board), and **Individual** membership.

Membership to CISVic requires that agencies agree to support CISVic's statement of purposes 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:

- Distribution of information, research & resource documents via a members-only portal of the CISVic website,
- CISVic Handbook: Management of Community Information Centres and a range of policies,
- Insurance cover which includes Public & Products Liability; Professional Indemnity; Directors & Officers Liability; Association Liability; Medical Indemnity; and Personal Accident (Volunteers only),
- 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 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 that includes training, professional development opportunities and information, policy and advocacy development to enable members to effectively engage in best practice service delivery. 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) and *Emergency Relief Work* (15 hours),

**Non-accredited training** which includes *Dealing with Challenging Situations, Working with Interpreters, Recognising & Responding to Family Violence, Casenotes and Assessments, Governance, Privacy and Occupational Health & Safety,*



- Training Certificates, Certificates of Service (volunteers) & Honour Roll.
- Peer support & network meetings that include:  
CISVic Regional Network Meetings;  
CISVic Caseworkers' Network Meetings,
- Fortnightly eBulletins providing up-to-date information and news about the sector, policy & practice directions, training & funding opportunities,
- *Informed*, a policy and practice quarterly newsletter focusing on topical and urgent issues affecting the sector,
- Communications channels that include members only portal of the website, facebook, twitter and promotion of member agencies via 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 & data collection to contribute to practice and evidence base 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 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 engage in online campaigning for systemic and policy reforms on key issues impacting on members' client base.

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