

**LA TROBE**
UNIVERSITYLIVING WITH DISABILITY
RESEARCH CENTRE**Newsletter: Autumn 2024**

This newsletter details the Living with Disability Research Centre's activities in the final quarter of 2023 and the first quarter of 2024.

- Publication and launch of *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery* book.
- Recruitment for Client Voice project
- Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID) Conference 2023
- PhD Scholarship opportunity at La Trobe Law School - Disability, Law, and Society
- Online Seminar Series – 2024
- New publications and presentations

Professor Christine Bigby

Director - Living with Disability Research Centre

Publication and launch of *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery* book

Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery, edited by our director Professor Christine Bigby and Dr Alan Hough, director at Purpose at Work, was published by Springer in late 2023 by and subsequently launched at a workshop event on February 15, 2024. More than 100 guests attended the launch event, which featured presentations from the editors and most of the contributing authors.

The book provides a key resource for researchers, students and practitioners in the field of disability practice. It is accessibly written, in a colloquial and approachable language, but grounded in research. It fills a major gap in the literature on quality and safeguarding in disability services.

This book is open access, which means that you have free and unlimited access: [\[link\]](#)

Researchers at the Living with Disability Research Centre would like your help: we are undertaking a project for the Victorian Senior Practitioner (VSP).

It has two aims;

- to review the role of the Independent Person in reviewing and explaining to people the nature behaviour support plans that affect them;
- to develop a framework for including the perspectives of VSP clients in the work of the office

You can read more about the project by clicking this attached summary: [\[link\]](#)

We have interviewed service providers about the role of the Independent Person and are now very keen to interview family members and others who may have acted as an Independent Person. We would also like to talk to people with disabilities who have experience of being supported by an Independent Person.

If you are interested in being interviewed as please email Christine Bigby: C.Bigby@latrobe.edu.au

We have reviewed the published literature on client voice and are now seeking information about unpublished work so we can capture recent initiatives. This may include policy documents, conference presentations, and work in progress about capturing the voices of people with intellectual disabilities who are subjected to restrictive practices. We are also seeking examples of practices established by service providers and funding bodies to facilitate the inclusion of the voices of this group of clients.

If you are willing to share any unpublished research or other work you have undertaken around this issue please fill out this survey: [\[link\]](#)

We would welcome your input before April 30th.

If you have any questions regarding your participation in this survey, or if you are interested in being interviewed as please email Christine Bigby:

C.Bigby@latrobe.edu.au

**Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability
(ASID) Conference 2023**

Many of our researchers contributed presentations: Christine Bigby (who also contributed one of the keynote addresses), Sian Anderson, Tal Araten-Bergman, Kerry Bagley, Teresa Iacono, Jade McEwen and Charity Sims-Jenkins. Lincoln Humphreys also conducted a concurrent workshop on Frontline Practice Leadership.

The conference program and conference presenters' slides are available to download from the ASID website: [\[link\]](#)

PhD Scholarship opportunity at La Trobe Law School - Disability, Law, and Society

La Trobe Law School is offering a fully funded doctoral project scholarship for applicants who wish to explore laws concerning matters of disability and health in the 21st Century, including mental health. Interdisciplinary approaches are encouraged, and the scholarship is available to students with undergraduate and/or postgraduate studies in anthropology, economics, history, law, political science, sociology and related disciplines.

This successful candidate will be based within the Law in Context Cluster in the La Trobe Law School, under the primary supervision of Associate Professor Piers Gooding. The PhD research will be co-supervised by a specialist supervisor with expertise in your chosen topic.

Applications close on 31 March for both international and domestic applicants. Successful applicants must be able to commence between July and December 2024.

A full description is attached: [\[link\]](#)

Online Seminar Series - 2024

Our online seminar series recommenced in February 2024. These seminars occur on the second Wednesday of every month at 3pm Melbourne time. Please email lids@latrobe.edu.au to register for or any further questions.

The online format has continued to be a success and has allowed us to host

Slides from our past seminars, including video recordings of all our 2021, 2022 and 2023 seminars are available on our website [\[link\]](#)

Please email lids@latrobe.edu.au if you have any questions about our seminars.

Seminar topics

	Topic	Presenters
14 February 2024	<i>Restrictive Practices as a last resort: A systematic review of how challenging behaviour is responded to 'in the moment'</i>	Steve Lowe , La Trobe Master of Disability Practice graduate
	<i>The principles that drive the practice of Local Area Coordinators (LACs) in Australia and Great Britain</i>	Emily Daniels , La Trobe Master of Disability Practice graduate
	<i>Active Support Measure: a multilevel exploratory factor analysis</i>	Dr Lincoln Humphreys , Research Fellow, Living with Disability Research Centre
13 March 2024	<i>A critical review of the approach to group homes taken the Disability Royal Commission</i>	Professor Christine Bigby , Director, Living with Disability Research Centre
	<i>A Critique of the Disability Royal Commission Recommendations for a Pathway to Inclusive Education: Implications for Students with Intellectual Disabilities</i>	Professor Teresa Iacono , La Trobe Rural Health School and Living with Disability Research Centre
10 April 2024	<i>The Disability Royal Commission and the regulation of disability service provision</i>	Dr Alan Hough , Director, Purpose at Work, and Adjunct professor, Living with Disability Research Centre
	<i>A Critique of the Disability Royal Commission's approach to allied health</i>	Laura Hogan , Director of Operations, Centre for Disability Studies and and

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New Publications and Presentations

New research publications by our staff at the Living with Disability Research Centre from the final quarter of 2023 and first quarter of 2024.

Journal Articles

Anderson, S., Araten-Bergman, T., Steel, G. (2023). Adults with intellectual disabilities as users of social media: A scoping review. *British Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 51(4), pp. 544-564. <https://doi.org/10.1111/bld.12534>

Araten-Bergman, T., Bigby, C. (2024). Supporting healthy ageing for people with intellectual disabilities in group homes: Staff experiences. *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disability*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.3109/13668250.2023.2297447>

Bigby, C. (2024). A flawed model or weak implementation? A critical review of the approach to group homes taken the Royal Commission on Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disabilities. *Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23297018.2024.2316290>

Bigby, C. & Humphreys, L., (2024) The strength of Frontline Practice Leadership in Australian supported accommodation services: challenges confronting service providers *Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disability*. Advance online publication.

Booker, L., Spong, J., Hodge, B., Deacon-Crouch, M., Bish, M., Mills, J., Skinner, T. (2024). Differences in shift and work-related patterns between metropolitan and regional/rural healthcare shift workers and the occupational health and safety risks. *Australian Journal of Rural Health*, 32 (1), pp. 141-151. <https://doi.org/10.1111/ajr.13075>

Cubis, L., Roseingrave, E., Gosden-Kaye, E., Winkler, D., Douglas, J. (2023). 'Well, what are you going to do when you're out there?': a scoping review of successful hospital discharge for people with acquired disability and complex needs aged 18–65 years. *Brain Impairment*, 25(1), pp. 1-18. <https://doi.org/10.1071/IB23088>

Douglas, J., Winkler, D., D'Cruz, K., Oliver, S., Liddicoat, S., Naismith, J., Wakim, D. (2024). Being a pioneer: a qualitative study of moving into individualised housing from the perspective of adults with neurological disability. *Brain Impairment*, 25(1), pp.1-10. <https://doi.org/10.1071/IB23079>

Ford, A., Douglas, J., O'Halloran, R. (2024). From the Inner Circle to Rebuilding Social Networks: A Grounded Theory Longitudinal Study Exploring the Experience of Close Personal Relationships from the Perspective of People with Post Stroke Aphasia. *Aphasiology*, 38(2), pp. 261-280. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02687038.2023.2185480>

Goff, R., Bagley, K., Sadowski, C. (2023). Applying Human-Centred Design Tools in Social Work Research: A Desire-Centred Approach. *Australian Social Work*. Advanced online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0312407X.2023.2284174>

Humphreys, L., Bigby, C., Araten-Bergman, T., Iacono, T. (2024). Active Support

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Iacono, T., Spong, J., Bagley, K., Garcia-Melgar, A., McKinstry, C., Hyett, N., Arthur-Kelly, M. (2024). Reliability Testing of the Reasonable Adjustments for Inclusive Education Rating Scale. *Journal of Research in Childhood Education*, 38(1), pp. 1-13. <https://doi.org/10.1080/02568543.2023.2187488>

Jackson, A. (2023). Attuned Fathering and the Moral Dimensions of Caregiving. *Anthropological Quarterly*, 96(1), pp. 65-90. <https://doi.org/10.1353/anq.2023.0010>

Jackson, A. (2023). Between us: Facilitated decision-making in the relational experience of profound intellectual disability. *Ethos*, 51(4), pp. 370-384. <https://doi.org/10.1111/etho.12406>

Marsh, D., Hough, A., Bigby, C. (2024). Enforcement of work health and safety laws in services for people with disabilities: issues for policymakers and regulators. *Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/23297018.2024.2308287>

Shorland, J., Douglas, J., O'Halloran, R. (2024). Cognitive-communication difficulties due to traumatic brain injury sustained in adults 55 years and older: A survey of speech-language pathology professional practice in Australia. *International Journal of Speech-Language Pathology*, 26(1), pp. 1-15. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17549507.2023.2169352>

Šarkiđ, B., Douglas, J., Simpson, A. (2024). "Nobody Has a Caseload Called, Patients With Traumatic Brain Injury": Rationale to Include TBI Content Into Audiology Programs. *Perspectives of the ASHA Special Interest Groups*, 9(1), pp. 124-140. https://doi.org/10.1044/2023_PERSP-23-00092

Then, S-N., Bigby, C. (2024). Supported decision making and the Royal Commission on Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disabilities. *Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*. Advance online publication.

Topping, M., Douglas, J., Winkler, D. (2024). Building an evidence-based multi-level system of quality disability support for adults with acquired neurological disability. *Disability and Rehabilitation*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09638288.2024.2316780>

Topping, M., Douglas, J., Winkler, D. (2024). "You're supporting the whole person": A grounded theory study of quality support according to close others of people with neurological disability. *Neuropsychological Rehabilitation*, 34(1), pp. 45-73. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09602011.2022.2153149>

Xun, K., Bigby, C., Araten-Bergman, T. (2023). Siblings of adults with intellectual disabilities in Chinese societies: A scoping review. *Journal of Intellectual and Developmental Disability*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.3109/13668250.2023.2271758>

New Books

Bigby, C., Hough, A. (2024). *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne. <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-981-99-6143-6>

Book Chapters

Anderson, S., Bigby, C. (2024). 'Nothing about us without us.' Including lived experiences of people with intellectual disabilities in policy and service design,

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Araten-Bergman, T. (2024). Support planning with people with disabilities, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Bigby, C. (2024). Supporting engagement in everyday life at home and in the community: Active Support, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Bigby, C. (2024). Supporting community participation and life-long learning, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Bigby, C. (2024) The right to participate in decision making: Supported decision making in practice, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Bigby, C. (2024). Thinking about disability – implications for practice, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Hogan, L., Bigby, C. (2024). Support for people with complex and challenging behaviour, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Hough, A., McEwen, J. (2023). Building quality and safeguarding into disability service provision, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Humphreys, L. (2024). Organisational culture in disability accommodation service, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Jackson, A., Bigby, C. (2024). Building strong foundations: Listening to and learning from people with intellectual disabilities and their families, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Tracy, J., Iacono, T. (2024). Healthy lifestyles and primary health care, in C. Bigby & A. Hough (Eds), *Disability Practice: Safeguarding Quality Service Delivery*. Springer: Melbourne.

Conference Presentations

Anderson, S. (2023, November). **Exploring student-parent experiences of a postgraduate disability studies program.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Araten-Bergman, T. (2023, November). **Ageing residents in group homes: exploring staff experiences.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Araten-Bergman, T. (2023, November). **Family's experiences supporting adults in group homes during COVID-19.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Bagley, K. (2023, November). **Lived experience of the fetal alcohol spectrum disorder diagnostic assessment.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Bigby, C. (2023, November). **Changes in quality of support in group homes.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

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Home / Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Iacono, T. (2023). **Resources for strengthening hospital inclusion of people with intellectual disabilities.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

McEwen, J. (2023, November). **Checking if services are good and safe for people with intellectual disability.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Sims-Jenkins, C. (2023, November). **Targeting feelings in choice and control workshops for staff.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Keynotes and Invited Presentations

Bigby, C. (2023, November). **Recognising diversity: A framework for implementing supported decision making across sectors and disability groups.** Annual conference of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID), Melbourne, Australia.

Humphreys, L. (2024, March). **Organisational Culture in Disability Accommodations Services.** National Disability Services (NDS) National Housing and Support Community of Practice Meeting, Melbourne, Australia.



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