

## SUPPORTING PEOPLE WITH A DISABILITY

### Position:

- FAMILY FIRST believes Australians with an intellectual, neurological or physical disability should be respected as full and equal members of society. This respect should be reflected in their full participation in our community, rather than their current marginalisation;
- FAMILY FIRST is concerned about the Productivity Commission's findings that people with a disability were less likely to finish school, to have a TAFE or university qualification or be employed. They earn less than half the average income and are more likely to be in public housing;
- FAMILY FIRST believes that work is important for self esteem and well being and that one way to improve employment prospects is to improve skills and education.

### Actions:

- FAMILY FIRST supports initiatives to make it easier for people with a disability to access education and learning, such as by finishing school or attending TAFE or university;
- FAMILY FIRST urges the Government and private sector employers to promote the benefits of employing people with disabilities. Working with people who have disabilities promotes understanding and respect for people who are different and have special needs;
- FAMILY FIRST supports initiatives to ensure people with a disability can participate more fully in the paid workforce;
- FAMILY FIRST supports improvements to health services to improve health care for people with a disability;
- FAMILY FIRST supports fair and adequate income support and care for people with severe disabilities to ensure a fulfilling life with opportunity for social, recreational and creative activities.