

**Villamanta Disability Rights
Legal Service Inc.**

www.villamanta.org.au



Free call - legal issues only

1800 014 111

**10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday to Friday**

All other calls

Monday to Friday 9 am to 5 pm

Phone: (03) 5260 1845

**TTY Users: Please phone 133 677
then ask for 03 5260 1845**

**Need An Interpreter?
Phone: 131 450**

**Email: legal@villamanta.org.au
Website: www.villamanta.org.au**

PO Box 7328, Geelong West, Vic., 3218

ABN 32 690988 235

March 2023

**Villamanta
Disability Rights
Legal Service Inc.**



**A Free Victorian
Community Legal Service
for disability
related legal and justice issues**



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Our website has more information including:

- **Villamanta Information Booklet**
More about what Villamanta does and who can use Villamanta
- **Useful Links**
Access to other websites

Visit Villamanta's Facebook Page

<https://www.facebook.com/Villamanta-Disability-Rights-Legal-Service-475421082498729/>

Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service Inc.

Villamanta is a Community Legal Service operating throughout the state of Victoria on disability related legal and justice issues for people who have a disability. Our focus is on intellectual disability.

We provide:

- **Freecall telephone information, advice and referral service**
- **Casework on disability related legal issues**
- **Community Legal Education**
- **Policy and Law Reform**
- **Support to talk to the Disability Royal Commission**

All of these services are free to people who have a disability.

Our Mission

Villamanta's mission is to protect and advance the rights of Victorians who have a disability, by advising, informing and representing them and acting as an advocate on disability related legal and justice issues.

Telephone information, advice and referral

For information or advice about a disability related legal issue you can call Villamanta Disability Rights Legal Service. If we are not the best people to help you, we will tell you who can help you.

You can use the **Free call** number if:

- you live in Victoria and
- have a disability or
- are calling us as an advocate, friend, relative or carer of a person who has a disability

Legal Casework

Villamanta employs lawyers whose job, where possible, is to help people with their disability-related legal problems. This might include giving advice, representing people in tribunals, writing letters and negotiating on behalf of people.

It is not possible for us to help everybody who would like us to. So that we work for people who need us most, we use guidelines and a priority system worked out each year as part of our planning process. Villamanta prefers to speak directly to the person with a disability, where possible.

Policy and Law Reform

Villamanta also works to change government policies and laws to try to get a fairer go for people who have disabilities. This is done through lobbying politicians, negotiating with government departments, organising community campaigns, working with other community groups and sometimes running cases in courts.

Community Legal Education

Villamanta also provides some free community legal education about the legal rights of people who have a disability, mostly to people who have a disability.

Our community legal education includes visiting and talking with groups of people, or giving out written information, about legal rights issues affecting people who have a disability.

Our casework priority areas:

- Guardianship and administration
- Disability Services Complaints
- Financial Abuse
- Disability specific accommodation
- Restrictive Practices
- NDIS Appeals