

How Independent Advocacy has made a difference in people's lives:

*Ellie had been in hospital on and off for several years. When she was last admitted she met Wanda, the advocate. Until Ellie met Wanda she felt that she was always facing things alone. Having Wanda there helped Ellie stand up for herself and empowered her to self advocate.*



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If you would like this leaflet in a different format, further information about the SIAA or a membership pack please contact us.



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The work of the  
**Scottish Independent  
Advocacy Alliance (SIAA)**

## Other information leaflets in this series:

- The SIAA Guide to Citizen Advocacy
- The SIAA Guide to Collective or Group Advocacy
- The SIAA Guide to Advocacy for Families and Carers
- The SIAA Guide to Non-Instructed Advocacy
- The SIAA Guide to Advocacy for Older People
- The SIAA Guide to Peer Advocacy
- The SIAA Guide to Professional Advocacy
- The SIAA Guide to Advocacy for Service Providers
- The SIAA Guide to Self Advocacy

You can find out about Independent Advocacy in your area by visiting the SIAA website [www.siaa.org.uk](http://www.siaa.org.uk) or by telephoning 0131 260 5380.

## The Scottish Independent Advocacy Alliance (SIAA):

- Is devoted to promoting, supporting and defending Independent Advocacy in Scotland
- Is a membership organisation
- Has the overall aim of ensuring that Independent Advocacy is available to any vulnerable person in Scotland
- Provides information and support to members, who are made up of local independent and non-Independent Advocacy organisations, other voluntary sector organisations, statutory agencies and other interested parties
- Works as a central agency to gather and distribute information
- Represents advocacy organisations at various levels
- Raises awareness and understanding of Independent Advocacy across Scotland
- Ensures the Independent Advocacy movement's "voice" is heard at a national level to influence current and future legislation, policy and practice

- Publishes quarterly magazine *About Advocacy*
- Provides training on Independent Advocacy and related issues.

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## Advocacy organisations:

- Find or provide people who can support a person or a group, as an advocate
- Should be independent and, therefore, as free as possible from other services or support that people receive. This helps to reduce any potential conflicts of interest.

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## Independent Advocacy is:

- About standing alongside people who are in danger of being pushed to the margins of society
- A process of working towards natural justice, helping people to secure their human, civil and social rights.