

Become an IHC Member now

Membership costs \$5

If you would like to also include a donation to IHC to support the work we are doing around New Zealand that Government doesn't fund, please include it with your membership payment.

Please find enclosed my payment for:

\$5 \$20 \$30 \$50

Other:

Debit my credit card: \$

Name on card:

Card number:

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Expiry date:

Visa MasterCard Diners Amex

Send this form and payment to

IHC New Zealand
Po Box 1757
Wellington 6140



Information services

The IHC library is one of the most comprehensive resources of information about intellectual disabilities in the southern hemisphere. IHC's website ihc.org.nz also holds a great deal of information.

What does it mean to be a member of IHC?

Members are very important to IHC. As members you have the opportunity to be as involved as you want in IHC's issues.

As a member you can:

- Attend, speak and vote at the society's AGM
- Be part of a local Association
- Support our advocacy campaigns and submissions
- Participate in our Take a break with us programme.

In addition you can:

- Be part of IHC forums and local events in your community
- Use the IHC library - the most extensive collection of intellectual disability resources in Australasia
- Stay connected through Community Moves - IHC's magazine
- Receive regular newsletters.

IHC Associations

IHC Associations play a big role in supporting IHC and people with intellectual disabilities in their community by providing an opportunity for members to make a contribution on a voluntary basis.

There are more than 30 IHC Associations in communities across New Zealand. Each one is different and provides an important link to the wider community.

If you are interested in local IHC activities, events and governance then get involved with your local IHC Association.



Get involved with IHC



Welcome to IHC

IHC's mission is to advocate for the rights, inclusion and welfare of all people with intellectual disabilities and support them to live satisfying lives in the community.

Why IHC is needed in our communities

For 70 years IHC has been a driving force in improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities. Our work reflects our strong values – fighting to close institutions, lobbying government for services and to recognise rights, working with families and providing support to people to be part of their communities.

The organisation was started in 1949 by a group of parents who wanted their children to have access to decent community services. IHC is now the largest charitable organisation in New Zealand. It provides services to more than 4,000 people with intellectual disabilities and advocates for more than 90,000 New Zealanders with intellectual disabilities or autism.

The organisation has continued to grow because the need has grown. People with intellectual disabilities have moved out of institutions into their communities and can receive community-based services.

What is intellectual disability?

Intellectual disabilities affect people in different ways, but generally people with an intellectual disability have a hard time learning and processing new things and thinking through problems.

Having an intellectual disability means that since childhood, the person has had a reduced ability to cope independently and has likely needed support.

Living in the community

IHC offers a range of services to support people with intellectual disability and their families.

Government funded services

IHC's wholly owned subsidiary IDEA Services provides day services, accommodation and specialist services.

In residential services, small groups of people live in an IDEA Services home and receive the day-to-day support they need.

Supported living enables people to live in their own home or flat and to be part of their local community.

Day services support people to develop skills and confidence through training, work opportunities and community participation.

Work supported by donations and membership includes

Advocacy

Advising and assisting people with intellectual disabilities and their families, writing submissions to government and promoting people's rights. We have worked extensively in inclusive education, justice, health, housing and human rights.

Self advocacy

Supporting people to speak up for themselves and each other.

Volunteering

We have more than 500 volunteers in our one-on-one friendship and skill-based programmes making a real difference in people's lives.

Community awareness

IHC holds several events throughout the year. These events range from community workshops to the IHC Art Awards.

Become an IHC Member now

Title (Ms, Mrs, Miss, Mr, Dr)

First Name

Last Name

Email

Contact number

Street Address

Suburb

City/Town

Postcode

Do you have an existing connection with IHC?

Yes

No

How long have you been connected to IHC?

What is your connection with IHC?

(tick as many boxes that apply)

Parent

Support person

Sibling

Staff

Other family member

Self advocate

Person with an intellectual disability

Is there an IHC Association (apart from your local Association) that you would like to be connected with?

Your age bracket: 1-12

13-20

21-35

36-49

50-64

65+

I support IHC's philosophy and policies

IHC will advocate for the rights, inclusion and welfare of all people with intellectual disabilities and support them to live satisfying lives in the community.