

Llais Cenedlaethol
Pobl ag Anableddau Dysgu yng Nghymru



The National Voice of People
with Learning Disabilities in Wales

Advocacy in Wales - The State of Play

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All Wales People First

Where did the word Advocate come from?



Advocacy vs Self-Advocacy



Advocacy vs Self-Advocacy



Or



Advocacy?



- ♦ Little uplift in funding.
- ♦ Higher demand on providers.
- ♦ More crisis advocacy.
- ♦ Family court advocacy.

Advocacy?



- ♦ Pooling of budgets.
- ♦ Threat to LD specific advocacy.
- ♦ Inconsistent natural picture.
- ♦ Inconsistent funding.

Advocacy?



- ♦ Advocacy Services delivered in an adhoc way.
- ♦ Grant availability vs needs.
- ♦ Recruitment and retention of staff.

Advocacy?



- ♦ Early intervention and prevention.
- ♦ Lower-level support that could reduce the requirement for formal advocacy.
- ♦ Specialist advocacy for people with complex or multiple needs.

Advocacy?



- ♦ Specialist advocacy for people who are first-language Welsh speakers or who have diverse cultural backgrounds and associated language requirements.

Advocacy?

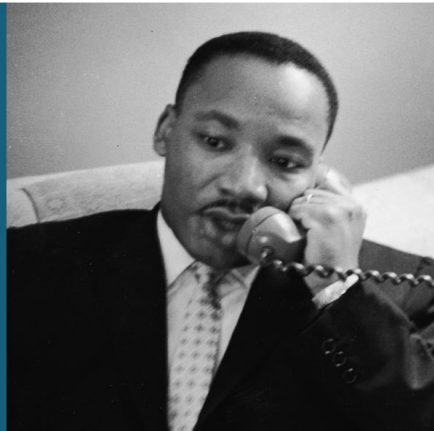


- ♦ Specialist advocacy for people who are pre-verbal, and/or who require aides and adaptations to promote communication.
- ♦ Specialist advocacy for people in complex situations, such as specialist services, prison services, other secure services, or going through court proceedings; and
- ♦ Different types of advocacy, such as peer-advocacy, citizen-advocacy, or informal advocacy.

“

Our lives begin
to end the day we
become silent about
things that matter.”

BUSINESS INSIDER

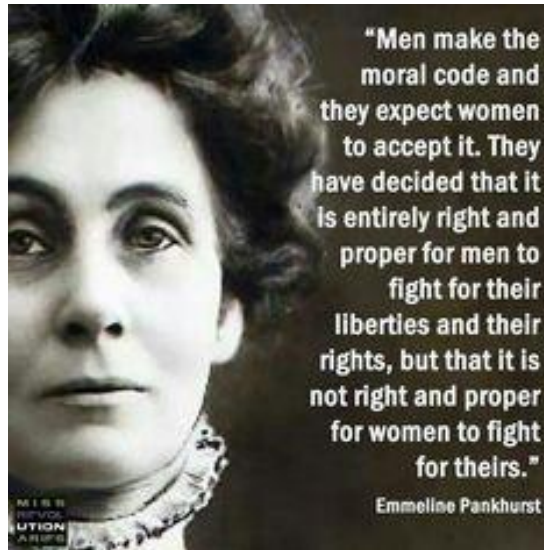
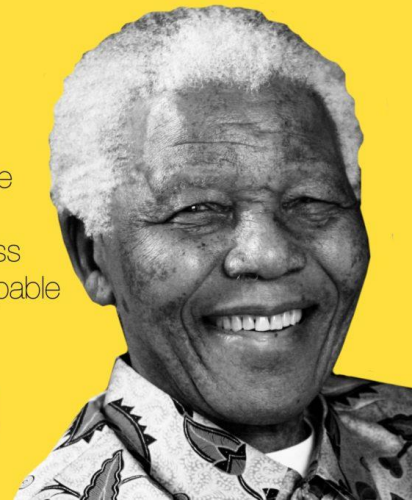


“

There is no passion to be
found playing small - in
settling for a life that is less
than the one you are capable
of living.

”

”



Michael Enzi

If you're not at the
table, you're on the
menu"

Self-Advocacy?



- ♦ Advocacy Grant Scheme ends in Wales.
- ♦ SSWB Wales Act supposed to replace this.
- ♦ Project led vs member led.
- ♦ IPA Contracts.

Self-Advocacy?



- ♦ SA not funded but is blurred into SLA's.
- ♦ Negative outcomes for those with more complex needs (non-instructive advocacy).
- ♦ Expectation to deliver services outside the realm of advocacy.
- ♦ Causing a blurring of what advocacy is supposed to be.

The Consequences



- ♦ Reduction in advocacy services.
- ♦ Reduction in LD specific support in advocacy services.
- ♦ Forced dependence on advocacy services.
- ♦ Increase in vulnerability for people with learning disabilities.

The Consequences



- ♦ Reactive vs preventative approaches.
- ♦ Reduction in skills for pwlds to be active citizens in Wales.
- ♦ Decrease in co-production in Wales.
- ♦ Reliance on others to speak for us/ increasing stigmatization.



- ♦ Every £1.00 spent on advocacy created £12.00 of benefits.
- ♦ This means for every £1.00 spent on advocacy we save the NHS £7.00 and Local Authorities £5.00.

Thanks for Listening