# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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# 24 December 2014

# **More cuts to support services for marginalised Australians – a disgrace**

Disability Advocacy Victoria condemns this week’s cuts by the Abbott Government to organisations that represent disadvantaged Australians. These organisations provide valuable support to their communities; report on the failings of government policies; report abuse; and lobby for improved services. The significant reduction in these services is disastrous news for marginalised Australians.

Despite numerous reports being released about poverty, unemployment, poor access to justice, violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of vulnerable people and people with disability, this government has chosen to introduce mass cuts to their support bases.

“A government should be judged by how it looks after those most in need – this government has failed the Australian community,” said Disability Advocacy Victoria Secretary, Jan Ashford.  
  
The timing of the announcement, while Australians are distracted by Christmas preparations, is regrettable. Disability Advocacy Victoria encourages all Australians to write to their Federal Member of Parliament to express their views on the importance of adequate support services being in place for marginalised Australians.

# For more information, contact Jan Ashford, Secretary, Disability Advocacy Victoria on

# **0418 371 507**