

The Odyssey...



Celebrating achievements, progress and change

It's back...9 and 10 August 2012 - Sydney

In October 2007, Family Advocacy hosted a hugely successful conference - *The Odyssey - a journey of enrichment and possibility*.

Presenters travelled from around Australia and from overseas with the aim of igniting a spark to set people in NSW and beyond on a path of discovery around people with disability having a good life - at all stages of their journey.

Participants heard about real ways in which people with developmental disability **can live rich, varied and secure lives**; how they can experience **positive learning opportunities**; **be recognised as part of the wider community**; have **constructive, meaningful work and leisure time**; and have a **place to call home**.

Feedback was terrific and included:

- Wow what a wonderful 2 days.....all your efforts were certainly rewarded.
- Thank you so much to all of you for doing such a fantastic job in putting on "The Odyssey". It was definitely the best conference I have ever attended - and I have attended quite a few over the past few years.
- Congratulations on an excellent conference ... I thought the quality of presentations was consistently excellent and the right mood and focus set immediately and then maintained throughout. Well done! The problem with doing so well is that people now will want more!

On 9 and 10 August 2012, *The Odyssey* will continue and build momentum...

Keep posted for details on the Family Advocacy web site: www.family-advocacy.com or **provide your email details** to be added to the conference email list.

Send your details to: conference@family-advocacy.com and be part of the continuing journey!

Confirmed speakers

Dr Michael Kendrick

Dr Kendrick is an independent consultant in human services and community work internationally, working in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom as well as many other countries. In his work he has occupied a variety of roles including being the Assistant Commissioner for Program Development with the Massachusetts Government, the Director for the Institute for Leadership and Community Development and the Director of the Safeguards Project. He is sought after internationally as a public speaker, trainer, evaluator, consultant and advisor to advocates, governments, agencies and community groups.

As Michael has been a regular visitor to Australia for over 20 years, he brings knowledge and understanding of local and national issues, as well as an international perspective on the issues that people with disability and their supporters face.

For more information about Dr Kendrick go to [Kendrick Consulting International](#)

Kathie Snow

Kathie Snow is a parent of two young adults —one happens to have a disability and is a successful college student. Kathie's presentations, articles, books and products ignite positive and long-lasting changes in the lives of people with disabilities and their families.

Since 1991, Kathie has presented hundreds of keynotes and workshops, for parents of children with disabilities, adults with disabilities, service providers, educators, and others. Kathie is the author of *Disability is Natural: Revolutionary Common Sense for Raising Successful Children with Disabilities*, and the widely disseminated [People First Language](#) article.

Kathie is enthusiastic, positive, and passionate about ensuring children and adults with disabilities live real lives, fully included in their homes, schools, workplaces, and communities.

She publishes a free monthly E-newsletter, and her website www.disabilityisnatural.com features innovative articles and a variety of products that promote new ways of thinking about disability.