

# Advocacy Workshop for Practitioners

## Introduction

Advocacy is undertaken by many practitioners, youth workers, social workers and others who work with children, young people and families, in various settings, every day.

Advocacy is defined in many ways but includes the action of speaking up with, for or on behalf of another. Advocacy is about promoting, protecting and defending the rights, needs or opportunities of an individual or group. It is about creating change. Advocacy is a process, a practice and a skill but it is something that is rarely taught.

We each have more than 20 years experience in the Youth Sector, with backgrounds in youth justice, child protection, health and homelessness. We have worked together for many years and have been advocates for many more. Both of us are passionate about strengthening the voices of children, young people and families and believe in collaboration and working together to create change. We understand the challenges and realities of advocacy.

This workshop is our way of sharing what we have learnt, the skills, principles and the process. This is an interactive and dynamic workshop, that has been designed to build on the existing skills of practitioners so they can continue to do what they love in a way that is well considered, safe and reflective.

The Advocacy Workshop for Practitioners provides our sector with a practical, adaptable and transferrable approach to developing and delivering a child and young person centred advocacy position, whilst maintaining relationships.

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