



Members' Survey April 2010

Members' Responses

Gender		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Male	43.0%	34
Female	57.0%	45
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Age Group		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
16-25	2.5%	2
26-35	16.5%	13
36-45	25.3%	20
46-55	26.6%	21
55+	29.1%	23
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

State or Territory		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
ACT	0.0%	0
NSW	32.9%	26
NT	0.0%	0
QLD	22.8%	18
SA	7.6%	6
TAS	1.3%	1
VIC	29.1%	23
WA	6.3%	5
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Is your area rural, regional or remote (i.e., small town, country or farm)?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	19.7%	15
No	80.3%	61
<i>answered question</i>		76
<i>skipped question</i>		3

Are you		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Deaf	81.0%	64
Hard of hearing	16.5%	13
Parent/guardian of a Deaf/hard of hearing child	12.7%	10
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia consults often with its members?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	62.0%	49
No	8.9%	7
Sometimes	26.6%	21
Don't know	2.5%	2
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia's submissions and advocacy work (to government, service providers and industry) accurately shows members' views?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	63.3%	50
No	6.3%	5
Sometimes	17.7%	14
Don't know	12.7%	10
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia's submissions and advocacy work helps improve Deaf people's rights?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	67.1%	53
No	3.8%	3
Sometimes	24.1%	19
Don't know	5.1%	4
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia allows enough time for members to comment on submissions and draft policies?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	41.8%	33
No	15.2%	12
Sometimes	35.4%	28
Don't know	7.6%	6
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia provides good and useful information to members?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	72.2%	57
No	2.5%	2
Sometimes	24.1%	19
Don't know	1.3%	1
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia provides information to members often enough?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	64.6%	51
No	12.7%	10
Sometimes	20.3%	16
Don't know	2.5%	2
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia's newsletter is informative and useful?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	77.2%	61
No	6.3%	5
Sometimes	12.7%	10
Don't know	3.8%	3
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Deaf Australia's website is informative and useful?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	63.3%	50
No	8.9%	7
Sometimes	17.7%	14
Don't know	10.1%	8
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

When you ask Deaf Australia for information, you get a response in a reasonable time?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	57.0%	45
No	8.9%	7
Sometimes	16.5%	13
Don't know	17.7%	14
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

Overall, you are happy with what Deaf Australia is doing for Deaf people?		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	73.4%	58
No	11.4%	9
Sometimes	13.9%	11
Don't know	1.3%	1
<i>answered question</i>		79
<i>skipped question</i>		0

1. What do you think Deaf Australia does well?		
	<i>answered question</i>	62
1.	lobbying at national level	
2.	experienced, reputable	
3.	Keeps the issue of deafness in front of the Government	
4.	There is some hope as we can see and would be good one for Deaf members all to flex our muscle to urge anyone to contact the government how important Deaf Australia Inc. For Deaf members and Deaf Community numbers speak the loudest: The more they will reconsider about Deaf Australia Inc	
5.	Strong advocacy for Deaf by Deaf	
6.	Not Sure	
7.	Sport, Clubs, Making friends	

1. What do you think Deaf Australia does well?

8. Lobbies for signing deaf people

9. 1.Deaf Australia truly represents the Deaf Community because the advocates are deaf and use Auslan- that is VERY IMPORTANT especially when representing us to Govt agencies. 2.They know how to advocate in sensitive situations on behalf of individual Deaf members, for eg they did an excellent job in sorting out the mess between DeafCanDo and NABS in 2009. That helped to bring our deaf community together again.

10 Looking after the community who use sign language

11 DA has been consistently been the best organisation for the past 20 years to represent Deaf People who use Auslan. DA is also innovative in establishing projects and initiatives, and I strongly believe that the Manager has a particular talent in writing well-crafted submissions to both government and funding organisations.

12 Good information for deaf people....open minded organisation.

13 Yes, its keeps up in everyway for the benefit of the deaf and hard of hearing people.

14 Did not state

15 Deaf Australia has done to improve more pictures and video for sign language.

16 Newsletter

17 Advocacy for Deaf people

18 Supports Parents. Provides opportunities.

19 Not sure.

20 Advocacy and representation of the Deaf community to the Federal Government

21 Represent deaf people

22 *The best thing is lobbying for the rights of Deaf people and protecting them against others who want to destroy those rights, wheter on purpose or not.

23 Very well!! They did work very hard to advocate.

24 Advocacy

25 very well

26 Using bullying tactics on other organisations. Some organisations are concerned about the lack of cooperation indicated by Deaf Australia.

27 Auslan training provisions

1. What do you think Deaf Australia does well?

28 . advocating for our rights on a national level and consultations with the government. They are the voice of deaf Australians.

29 . Getting funding

30 . Advocacy, and getting the message across to the people that matter ie federal and state governments. DA does a hellva lot with very little funding from the Federal Govt, staff at DA always go the extra mile, with no thanks and recognition from the community.

31 . Dopes well with a lot of dealings with Government, newsletter and sending out overload of emails.

32 . Nil stated

33 . Puts on Auslan classes

34 . media releases, information about what it does

35 . Supports deaf business

36 . Advocate for equal rights for Deaf

37 . Sends out information

38 . N/A

39 . Advocating

40 . Provide info to Deaf community & give community unified diection

41 . support do the right thing that deaf have rights to access

42 . The best organisation for us, Deaf people not bogus ones like Deafness Forum!

43 . represent Deaf on a national level

44 . Advocacy for Deaf people using Auslan in appropriate areas e.g. employment, health

45 . It is hard to make this comment since most of the Deaf members have either little or no ideas about exactly what the organisation has been doing on behalf of them.

46 . All of the services that are linked to the questions eg Advocacy

47 . advocate for Deaf, Hard of Hearing

1. What do you think Deaf Australia does well?

- 48 . supports its patrons. Deaf Aust. are They are there for the people who need them; & they support the people to the ultimate best every time.
- 49 . very professional in their contact with members and others
- 50 . Keeping members up to date with what they are doing. I am always getting emails about not only DA work but also things happening in the community.
51. no comment
52. Advocacy
53. I am not happy with all of your services.....
54. supporting all of us
55. Advocacy and contacting the deaf community
56. They try hard, very hard to be upfront on human right issues including overseas trends adequately.
57. to keep our Deaf community safe and fair
58. looks after the issues that impact on deaf in different states
59. Promotion of Deaf People in Australia
60. Ok
61. to pursue deaf rights, preserve auslan as our language
62. Advocacy. Working on issues like captioning & access to media and technology

What do you think Deaf Australia could do better?*answered question***60**

1. could do much more if have more staff
2. be more 'up there' on the technology front, although it's starting to happen now of youtube but don't let it go of it, cos it's the every to go.
3. Talk to ordinary deaf people more
4. Usually are focused on aural-verbal vision approaches and more focusing on sign language and Auslan instruction.
5. co-operate with other advocacy and peak bodies for the overall benefit of the community
6. Not Sure
7. Accommodation, Work, Interpreter, Friend, relatives

What do you think Deaf Australia could do better?

8. Take a wider view of deaf people and the way they communicate
9. Make good use of latest technology and the Facebook to inform the wider Deaf and Hearing Communities of its unique role in advocacy. Needs more publicity and more "face-friendly", pictures and profiles of executive Board members would be good.
10. Come out to regional towns and listen to communities
11. Like any organisation in this day and age, DA finds it a challenge to disseminate information. They this can be done has changed dramatically, and DA can actually put more information and announcements in Auslan on the website and have surveys with questions in Auslan and English. The Board could engage a little more with its membership - it does seem a little invisible at the moment.
12. If all websites had someone signing information in the corner to help us understand.
13. Not stated
14. Did not state
15. Deaf Australia should be done best for good programme events on website.
16. More transparency, consult with Deaf Community before replying to other organisation (for example, Caption at Cinema exemption, it is embarrassing)
17. relationship with Deafness Forum
18. Provide more services and contact with clients in Regional and Rural areas.
19. REALLY represent Deaf people. More involved in the community, proactive instead of being responsive. Positive action, positive talk and so on.
20. Updating policies in accordance to current developments in the Deaf community - being prepared to take risks by embracing change rather than accept the status quo
21. Represent hard of hearing people and understand their specific needs and interests
22. In the light of recent inclusion of all people with disabilities into sport, it is important to make sure that those who are hearing impaired or have cochlears can also use sign however basic when playing a deaf sport eg lawn bowls.
23. * what about public transport? They are still not accessible for Deaf commuters to get information re change trains or platforms etc. We pay full fares that we do not receive as hearing commuters received! * Have all accommodations follow the DDA to give Deaf Travellers fully access? May be DA to follow them up.
24. *Needs to work with Deafness Forum *Website with update informatin including advocacy eg Deaf Forum debate (letter) so that deaf people whether member or not, can access and fill in the issue form.
25. should be only voice for deaf people than deafness forum has no right to run our deaf affairs as it is only from other hearing people who run this organization so must work together as it is fault of government wh wanted the deafness forum in first place to form aagainst Deaf Australia, need to say in strong words with that government department asked for new organization in first place.
26. Get out and do some proactive lobbying and start listening to their members. I feel that Deaf Australia's GM and Board have not listened to their members for a very long time. It is time to start doing this.
27. Communicate more with Deaf people
28. Auslan version of information presented on the website and more face to face consultations with the community.
29. Stop being a dictator of our views, and listen to our views, instead of telling us what we ought to say

What do you think Deaf Australia could do better?

30. Make the website more user friendly, revamp it, more auslan videos of important issues. Get out in the community and raise DA profile, as its common knowledge that a lot of people do not know what DA stands for or what they do.
31. 1. More deaf friendly website due to the language is not simplified and its more of a lot of reading it can cause Auslan user to loose track or misunderstand in written English. More of website click button to get signing in Auslan. 2. Lack of advocacy in general community what is Deaf Community also that there is a lot of heated discussion lately with varieties of organisations that like to better. 3. More visual in newsletter a lot have written english and simply the words. 4 Lack of information for deaf community, many often said who is Deaf Australia often they will mention that they are clever people and not for grass roots deaf community. 5. What really does affect me by how the organisation eg ACCESS Vic or another organisation made a lot of media announcement in Auslan video which everyone seems to agree with and later Deaf Australia will write an email, but would like to see more into auslan video. 6. Would like to see Deaf Australia to work more into state branches like QAD, TAAD, NSWAD to sent the rep to train them how to get more advocacy in their own states and mose of them should be able to write submissions for funding for own state branches, where their is NIL only VCOD have funding from Family Services. Its very hard for the people whom do the volunteering for state branches which it should be paid for the administration work as it's a time factor too. 7. When the state branches done the lobby for rights for eg QAD did great job to lobby to ask general community to sign a petition of lack of interpreter but DSQ get the funding for providing interpreter uf NQ it should pay QAD at least about 5% for their lobby work involved. That shows lack of patting on the back for appreciations of hard work. 8. Also I have few Deaf Australia made Auslan Video I would recommend Andrew Wiltsure as he is very easily to understand, he does attract the audience and draws people in better. I find it very hard to understand David Parker that it's not very clear in Auslan very monotone no emotional involved and very stiff.
32. Nil stated
33. Work with deafness forum a bit better
34. consult with members. I have never been asked to give a view on a policy or comment on a position paper. I will like to see more collaboration with the states. There have been times when we are working on similar issues without knowing.
35. send out more updates
36. Need to replace Karen Lloyd for a fresh blood to boost Deaf Australia with better and new ideas for future.
37. With what with the funding at present they are doing an excellent job
38. Be more publicised and predominant in general hearing community
39. So far, they have been heavy enormous involved with different kinds of organisations and government
40. Hope they can but cannot think because they do a great job.
41. better ties with branches
42. Don't know
43. More public announcements are required to keep the community well informed. More media activities are needed. The Board needs to be revamped to reflect better interests for the Deaf community. They seem stale from time to time.
44. Only one thing that i can think of was about how Australian Theatre of Deaf lost funding this year perhaps Deaf Australia could have rallied more support for them !
45. promotion amongst hearing?
46. To continue doing the best that they are doing now...
47. Don't know as I am a new member
48. Focus that staff resources to provide and secure state integrity to maintain and enhance

What do you think Deaf Australia could do better?

addresses part of staff performance etc

49. Be more visible in the wider community.very few people/org's know about Deaf Australia!!!!

50. better newsletter ?

51. More Auslan/visual - eg this survey on a video link

Thu, Apr 8, 2010 4:34 PM

52. Funding for community classes for deaf people in hearing community

53. Maybe get in touch more with the 'common' people (eg; those not academically gifted)n

54. make outsiders listen and believe in what we want, need, etc

55. fight harder for deaf to acces more caption and increasing technology that is leaving deaf behind the hearing community

56. Meet and communicate with other State Branches more often

57. advocacy, assist HoH

58. Ok

59. increase staff to accomod growing members

60. Work on more issues. Eg deaf education, lack of interpreters.

3. Any other comments?

answered question

50

1. has done great work in past and want to see them supported much more financially/ more staff

2. Deaf Australia could be more 'lipomatically' aggressive in light of what other organisation are doing. i.e: keep up with the joneses.

3. More draft a federal on state law for an accurate on members of Deaf Australia Inc. Something do to consider....

4. Not Sure

5. relatives, family

6. Narrow and unrepresentative group

7. Generally, I feel privileged to be a member of this organisation as they truely represent our best interests.

8. Nil

9. Its very easy to pass judgement on the performance of a national organisation, but I have no doubt of the commitment and hard work that goes into DA and its projects. Thank you for your work.

10. Need to be in line with the future Technology and singing information.

3. Any other comments?

11. Yes, of course deaf people needs deaf australia especially our deaf rights.
12. Did not state
13. I feel good support for Deaf Australia will be better and improve to be good standard international for Australia in the future time.
14. Thank you for providing accurate information and advocacy.
15. No, I think you all do a great job.
16. As above and good luck. Thanks very much.
17. Keep up the good work.
18. Deaf forum should be disbanded due to poor co-operation. with deaf Australia.
19. The newsletters are often outdated and a waste of time to read. I am fed up with reading about DA's complaints and rumblings about other organisations. They need to look within before they go and waste time complaining other people and organisations.
20. Communications with deaf people is different to hearing people. Many deaf people prefer face to face or Auslan translated information to comprehend the Deaf Australia's documents and policies.
21. I need an organisation that listens, and moves with the times
22. Would love to see the Fed government give DA more funding, DA runs a tight ship with their budget, and a lot of things that need advocating have to be put aside because of the small limited funds received from the Federal Govt.
23. Nil stated
24. Im impressed with Deaf Australia's drive and with their eagerness to encourage the deaf community to know about Deaf Rights; and what advocacy work will need to improve the members of the deaf community's lives. They have consulted with the deaf community about their submissions. I am happy with the organisation's achievements.
25. I am a member of both Deafness Forum and Deaf Australia, and am stumped as to why we are not working together. Being deaf, I don't mind if we all work together for the same thing, but I dont think deafness should be owned by one person or another. I would like us all to work in harmony and was really saddened by the recent media release Deaf Australia sent out. It wasn't what I thought, and I am a member of Deaf Australia.
26. I would like more coordinated lobbying between DA and the states. We need to advocate at the same time for the same things. more effective. I would like more advocacy training and support and monitoring for the states lobbying work.
27. Happy with level of service provided by Deaf Australia
28. We do well with deaf representatives in other states
29. To stop being elite, as they see themselves above Deaf community. No wonder Deaf community rely on other services like Deaf Societies and Deafness Forum for more support, as they listen Deaf community more than Deaf Australia.
30. If have more funding - Deaf Australia will do much, much more
31. Without them we will have a very little limited support.
32. Wish Australian Government give more focus on Deaf Australia than Deafness Forum
33. no

3. Any other comments?

34. No
35. Happy with Deaf Australia as Peak body to represent Deaf people and dont want Audiologist or medical interventionist groups to gain control of Deaf Australia !
36. extremely important to be advocate for Auslan, especially in education, still live with medical view of deaf and belief in cochlear implants & oral education.
37. I am actually a hearing paraprofessional interpreter, but on the first page of the survey "hearing" wasn't an option to tick. :-)
38. No comments
39. Nil
40. great job
41. Copy Vicdeaf's & ACE's examples of video links
42. Like to focus for oral deaf as well - they are more isolated.
43. Well done, the team is doing extremely well.
44. please keep our deaf community alive.
45. no
46. Nil
47. Nil
48. NA
49. deaf australia cover all the criteria for the deaf community who use auslan
50. DA does not represent the problems of the regions/smaller states enough.Maybe the organisational structure could be improved to ensure all states have a rep and someone finding out about local issues.