

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
OF VANCOUVER ISLAND
POLICY MANUAL

BCR072

Policy Title:	<u>ADVOCACY</u>
Intent of Policy:	To ensure that advocacy efforts of the Board are consistent with the directions of SVDP and are conducted by appropriate representatives of the organization.
Policy:	The SVDP Board is responsible for advocating on behalf of SVDP as an organization, the individuals and families supported by SVDP, and the community living movement. The Board at times advocates for specific issues and sometimes, specific groups or individuals. The Board may delegate some of its advocacy responsibilities to the Executive Director.
Procedure:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Executive Director is responsible for the provision of individual advocacy for SVDP consumers, for assisting consumers in accessing resources and for supporting families to advocate for themselves. S/he keeps the Board informed of any trends that may affect local, provincial or national advocacy activities.2. The Advocacy Education Committee is responsible for planned local advocacy activities, and for building coalitions to support a particular initiative. The Committee develops an annual workplan for such activities and presents it to the Board for acceptance. All Board members are expected to contribute to advocacy activities as appropriate.3. The Board is responsible for provincial and national-level advocacy and political lobbying initiatives on social, health and other policy issues that affect people with disabilities. The Executive Committee may carry out such activities on behalf of the Board.4. SVDP advocacy efforts are conducted in keeping with SVDP mission, vision and values.5. SVDP advocacy efforts are coordinated with other community organizations and the BC Association for Community Living.
References:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Advocacy Committee Policy and Terms of Reference (Section 3)❖ <i>CARF Accreditation Standards – Leadership</i>
Audit:	Advocacy Committee Report

Passed by Board:
September 18, 2006