# NSW / ACT State Division Plan

July 2019 – June 2021

## Introduction:

Blind citizens Australia, (BCA), has developed a set of guidelines for the governance of its state divisions. The guidelines require that the state division must develop an annual state division plan and budget, as well as a calendar of state division events for the board’s approval.

This document contains the second plan to be developed by BCA, following consultation with NSW / ACT State Division Committee members, staff and a review of the original State Division Plan. This plan will cover a 2-year period from July 2019 to June 2021. The plan reflects the ideas and feedback that have been provided to and by members of the State Division Committee and a careful review of the effectiveness of the original plan.

The plan seeks to act as an ambitious but sustainable road map for the state division. Specifically, it aims to:

* Ensure that planned activities meet the needs and aspirations of members and of our organisation, whilst being sustainable and realistic
* Reflects BCA’s role as the representative voice of people who are blind or vision-impaired and its commitment to continuing to develop strong relationships across the blindness and broader disability sectors.

In addition to the activities listed in the plan, the NSW / ACT State Division will continue to support BCA in its core activities that are continually provides on a national basis. These include, but are not limited to:

* Advocacy support for individual cases
* Advocacy at a systemic level, including policy development, campaigns and responding to inquiries of national significance
* Providing information regarding blindness and related services and resources
* Providing continuing opportunities for peer support

## Management and Governance:

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| **Key Activity** | **Proposed Strategies** | **Timeframe** | Responsible |
| Provide training and development opportunities for the state division committee | Create an induction programme for current and future committee members | November 2019 | **Primary**:  NSW / ACT Coordinator  **With the support of:**  CEO  State Division Chair  State Division Deputy Chair |
| Ensure the continued efficiency and viability of the NSW/ACT state division | Review the State Division Guidelines document and propose required changes | November 2019 | **Primary**:  State Division Chair  **With the support of:**  BCA President  CEO  State Division Committee  NSW / ACT Coordinator |

## Membership Development and Involvement

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| **Key Activity** | **Possible Strategies** | **Timeframe** | **Responsible** |
| Increase the visibility of BCA within the community both with individuals and service providers | Establish links with other community organisations and service providers to increase the number of referral pathways and attract new members | Ongoing | **Primarily**: Stephen Belbin  **With the support of:**  National Membership Development Coordinator |
| Increase the number of peer support activities available to members | Facilitate a ‘Spring into Action’ month in 2019 and 2020 | October of each year | **Primarily**: Justin Simpson  **With the support of:**  NSW / ACT Coordinator  National Membership Development Coordinator  Branch Presidents |
|  | Offer camp-style activities to support the national pilot | June 2019 | **Primarily:** Justin Simpson  **With the support of:**  NSW / ACT Coordinator  Camp Working Group  National Membership Development Coordinator |
|  | Pilot a BCA Getaway (a holiday/camp-like event) in place of formal convention in 2020 | October 2020 | **Primarily:**  NSW / ACT Coordinator  **With the support of:**  NSW / ACT State Division Committee  Camp Working Group  CEO  Membership Development Coordinator |
|  | Create a database of special interest peer support groups that interested members can join, to be piloted with a multi disability group | December 2019 | **Primarily:** Bill McKennary  **With the support of:**  National Membership Development Coordinator |
| Ensure that members are kept up to date with state base and national BCA activities | Maintain a number of communicational channels and methods | Ongoing | **Primarily:** Stephen Belbin  **With the support of:**  NSW / ACT Coordinator  National Membership Development Coordinator |
|  | Create and maintain a calendar of state, local and branch events for members to access | Created by July 2019 and maintained on an ongoing basis | **Primarily:** Bill McKennary  **With the Support of:**  National Membership Development Coordinator |

## Advocacy

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| Key Activity | Proposed Strategies | Timeframe | Responsible |
| Ensure the voice of members from within NSW/ACT is represented | Ensure adequate representation on NPC teleconferences and other state and national committees | Ongoing | **Primarily:** Marie Shang  **With the Support of:**  NSW / ACT Coordinator |
|  | Ensure feedback is gathered and provided for state and national enquiries | Ongoing | **Primarily:** Susan Thompson  **With the Support of:**  State Division Committee  NSW / ACT Coordinator |