



# Child and Youth Health Network

## Youth Health Policy

### Consumer video transcript

Visual: Grace, head shot, facing camera

Text: 'Grace Mills, Consumer Representative, Youth Health Policy'

Visual: Grace, head shot, facing camera

"Hi my name is Grace and I have been involved with the Child and Youth Health Network for the Youth Health Policy"

"I've always had an interest in policy work and project work, so I didn't ever think I'd get the opportunity to do something like this so, the opportunity to sit down and look at what's going on in my own state as far as health is concerned or any other matter and be able to read, and possibly create a policy that could influence the lives of other people in my own demographic and make a positive difference in their lives has been fantastic."

"I have often found in my time as a disability advocate so often the voices of young people with a disability are not included or represented in these discussions or these policy projects, and often it is say the parents, carers, support workers, OTs [occupational therapists] or physios who represent us and their intention is well meaning but they don't speak as us, just for us which can be a very different thing and sometimes it has made us very unhappy."

"What I have loved about how Health Networks is going about this, is that they have made sure that they've contacted as many organisations and other advocacy bodies that work with children and young people as possible. They've left no stone unturned, there's been no difficulty placed in the way as far as red tape. It's been, 'they could benefit our policy, let's get in contact with them and hope that they come along'."

"It's fantastic to see so many minority groups that have come out and said we want to be part of this policy and have taken a real lead in the policy direction."

"We've had the chance to put our issues forward in this policy and the opportunity to say this is some of the issues we have, what can we do about it? And it's been included and it's also being heard."

"We look at it now and think, this is exactly where we want it to go. There was a lot of brainstorming, a lot of voting, on what we thought was going to be the most important but I believe that what we have in the policy now is exactly what we wanted it to be, and this will form a great foundation for future policies on youth health in WA."

Text: 'Be part of the innovation. Join Health Networks. [www.health.wa.gov.au/healthnetworks](http://www.health.wa.gov.au/healthnetworks)'

End of video.