
From:
Sent: Thursday, 1 October 2015 5:15 PM
To: Advocacy and Support
Subject: Advocacy

I am a survivor of child sexual abuse in institutions in Victoria. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I personally have been a member of CLAN, Care Leavers of Australia Network for eight years and we have been protesting for redress in Victoria, once a month for seven years. There is a small hardcore group of people who have got it in for CLAN and anyone that is a member. They claim that the CEO of clan misuses the funding but in seven years I have never seen this happen once. She does not, as I have been told several times, misuse CLANS credit card to buy drinks and food. A few people have written nasty things on social media about this and when it has been reported to CLAN and if they are a member of CLAN, they are barred from being a member or joining. I have had counselling from CLAN in the past and it has always been very satisfactory. I have many friends who are CLAN members and I usually attend all their social functions and we have a wonderful time. Membership is only \$10 per year which is very affordable but even if you are not a member they will give people counselling. Some of our members on facebook, do not know where to turn to for legal advice and it is a big problem, we try through the group to encourage anyone that has had a good experience with lawyers to recommend them. Some people interstate want help with problems with child protection for their children and we don't know where to send them. We have a service in Victoria who are supposed to be our service provider, but our facebook members have had various problems with them. Before DHS handed out the contract for our service provider in Victoria they held meetings all over Melbourne to ask us what we wanted and I went to three of these meetings. The overall thing that we asked for, was for our service not to be run by a past provider and they totally ignored this request and gave the contract to Berry Street who is the largest provider of out of care service in Victoria. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Open Place needs to be run completely independently from any Government department.
Yours sincerely