



# Technology for Ageing and Disability (SA) Inc.

Partners for  
Changing Lives



INNOVATION FOR INDEPENDENCE

## A MESSAGE FROM LIBBY KOSMALA OAM – PATRON OF TADSA

Technology for Ageing and Disability Inc (TADSA) is an amazing charity. I know this is true because I am not only the patron of the charity but a client, and have been for over 40 years. As you may know, I have competed in 12 Paralympic Games, 11 of these in the sport of rifle shooting. Ordinarily, shooters lie flat to shoot. As I am in a wheelchair this is not possible, so I needed something that I could rest upon, and also have a place for my ammunition.

The inventive volunteers (all those years ago) made a table for me which fixed this problem. As I have to take it all over the world for international competitions, it had to be a light weight folding table that packs into my suitcase. They accomplished this and it's been with me ever since. It's probably fair to say that this table has helped me win my 9 Paralympic gold medals!

TADSA volunteers are still assisting me all these years later. Recently, two volunteers completed some modifications to the wheelchair I use for competition to make it easier for me to control. Another volunteer has helped me with my hobby of gardening by fitting a bucket holder to my everyday wheelchair, to make weeding easier.

As a person with disability, I know how important TADSA has been to me and to thousands of other South Australians who struggle with day to day activities. The custom built devices created by TADSA's inventive volunteers improve the quality of life for our clients whether they are in care or live independently. TADSA also assists clients to enter or return to work, study, participate in recreation or sport through the equipment it modifies or builds.

The Freedom Wheels bike program is a TADSA program which provides custom built bikes for children with disability. Our marvellous volunteers fit prefabricated accessories to regular bikes enabling the children to ride - sometimes for the first time. The bikes give the children mobility, getting them outdoors with their family and friends and boosting their self-esteem and self-confidence. It's inspiring to see a child ride and usually with a big smile.

I hope that after reading this proposal that you will see the mutual benefits of becoming a Changing Lives Partner.

Libby Kosmala OAM  
Patron, Technology for Ageing and Disability

# About Technology for Ageing and Disability

Technology for Ageing and Disability (SA) Inc is a state-wide charity which uses the skills, time and facilities of its technical volunteers to design and build or modify equipment that is not readily available for people with disabilities or those who struggle with day to day activities.

Our organisation began operations in 1978 and since then has completed over 4,000 projects for our clients. All TADSA projects are undertaken by dedicated technical volunteers. The current group of 50 volunteers have skills in woodwork, metal work, engineering, and plastics or are just handy.

TADSA is the only charity in South Australia which provides this type of service and without our organisation, hundreds of people would not have the equipment they need to make their lives easier.

TADSA is well regarded by people with disabilities, the disability sector and the community in general. Our 41 years of service demonstrates the longevity of the organisation and our commitment to the thousands of South Australians who have benefited and continue to benefit from our work. Becoming a Changing Lives Partner will help assure the sustainability of our organisation to do what we do best – help people to a better life by making pieces of specialised equipment.

With only 2 part-time staff, attracting funds from the business community has, and continues to be a challenge.



# FREEDOM WHEELS customised bike program

The Freedom Wheels customised bike program allows children with disabilities to do something most of us take for granted - ride a bike.

Bringing smiles to the faces of many South Australian children, the FREEDOM WHEELS customised bicycle program modifies standard pushbikes to give a new kind of independence to children with disabilities by allowing them to ride a bicycle for the first time.

Children are individually assessed by an Occupational Therapist together with TADSA volunteers at a FREEDOM WHEELS bike clinic or at the client's home. This assessment process ensures that each child receives a bicycle that is perfectly suited to his or her age, height, weight and physical ability. It is the first step towards giving children with disabilities a new found freedom. The bikes are modified using an assortment of prefabricated components, including back and neck supports, outrigger wheels, handle bars and seats. TADSA volunteers also invent other accessories which may be required by an individual child.

Chloe pictured on the pink bike, wanted to ride a bike with her friends and younger twin sisters. Unfortunately, because of her disability, Chloe could not pedal in the regular way. She also needed help with balance and staying upright. TADSA volunteers fitted outrigger wheels which are similar to trainer wheels, but much bigger and stronger. Her bike was also fitted with a postural support which stopped her from leaning to the side. A special pommel saddle was fitted, as were non-standard handlebars. The issue of pedalling the bike was solved by one of our inventive volunteers. By replacing the bike's chain with a combination spring and chain system, Chloe now pushes both pedals together enabling her to ride. FREEDOM WHEELS is the only dedicated program providing bikes for kids with disabilities in SA.



# Why become a Changing Lives Partner

Over 4 million Australians have some form of disability. That's 1 in 5 people

The likelihood of living with disability increases with age. 2 in 5 people with a disability are 65 years or older

35.9% of Australia's 8.9 million households include a person living with a disability

If your company or organisation wants to be sure of reaching into all corners of your markets becoming a Changing Lives Partner is a positive step in the right direction. Being a Changing Lives Partner will help strengthen your brand amongst industry peers, create a unique point of difference and allow you to demonstrate your commitment to improving the lives of South Australians.

As a Changing Lives Partner you will be seen to have:-

- A positive affiliation and alignment with a trusted and well-regarded South Australian purpose driven charity
- Tangibly demonstrated your commitment to your community and individual citizens
- Enhanced corporate reputation and image
- Improved customer/employee loyalty

As a TADSA Changing Lives Partner you will receive exposure through a range of promotional opportunities

- Brand awareness – visibility on our website, signage, email signatures, and newsletter publications
- Advertising space in the Annual Report
- Acknowledgement and promotion of your brand through extensive social media coverage
- Recognition – acknowledgement at events and meetings

**Technology for Ageing and Disability (SA) Inc**

31 Blacks Rd GILLES PLAINS SA

PO Box 540 MODBURY SA 5092 (postal)

Phone: 08 8261 2922

Fax: 08 8369 1051

Email: [admin@tadsa.org.au](mailto:admin@tadsa.org.au)

Web: [www.tadsa.org.au](http://www.tadsa.org.au)



---

**INNOVATION FOR INDEPENDENCE**