[Name of organisation]

[Address of organisation]

[Date]

Dear [Name of MP including honorifics if applicable]

I am writing to request a meeting with you as soon as possible to discuss the urgent funding need for disability advocacy in [region], and specifically to our service [name of service].

Disability advocates are a crucial part of the disability ecosystem in Australia. We provide services that help people with disability speak out and protect their human rights. We often help navigate the health system, challenge decisions made by the NDIS, helping people work through issues with Centrelink, and help secure more appropriate and individualised housing. Services are completely free of charge and available to everyone in the community.

A new report has detailed the unfortunate limits being experienced by disability advocacy services across the country. 1 in 2 people with disability who seek help from an advocate are turned away and the report details many more who would benefit from advocacy but can’t navigate the capacity constraints to get there. *[We currently have a waitlist that is x months long/we have closed our books/there have been times in the last 12 months where we weren’t able to respond to everyone that reached out to us]*

The benefits are clear and Advocacy features heavily final report of the Disability Royal Commission. Advocates are ready and willing to play a role in implementing the crucial recommendations of this reform, but are currently at breaking point.

[How damaging would the status quo be? Who will go without in your community? We will no longer be able to provide services to?]

With additional funding, we could finally [eliminate our waitlist/employ # of extra staff/be able to support specific groups like those in group homes or supported accommodation that would otherwise be invisible].

We would like to bring you a copy of our pre-budgetary submission*,* and talk about what the loss of our disability advocacy information and peak representative services will mean for people with disability and their families in [region].

Many thanks for your consideration of our request, we look forward to hearing from you, and I can be contacted on XXXX XXXX to arrange a time to suit.

Kind regards

[Name]

[Position]