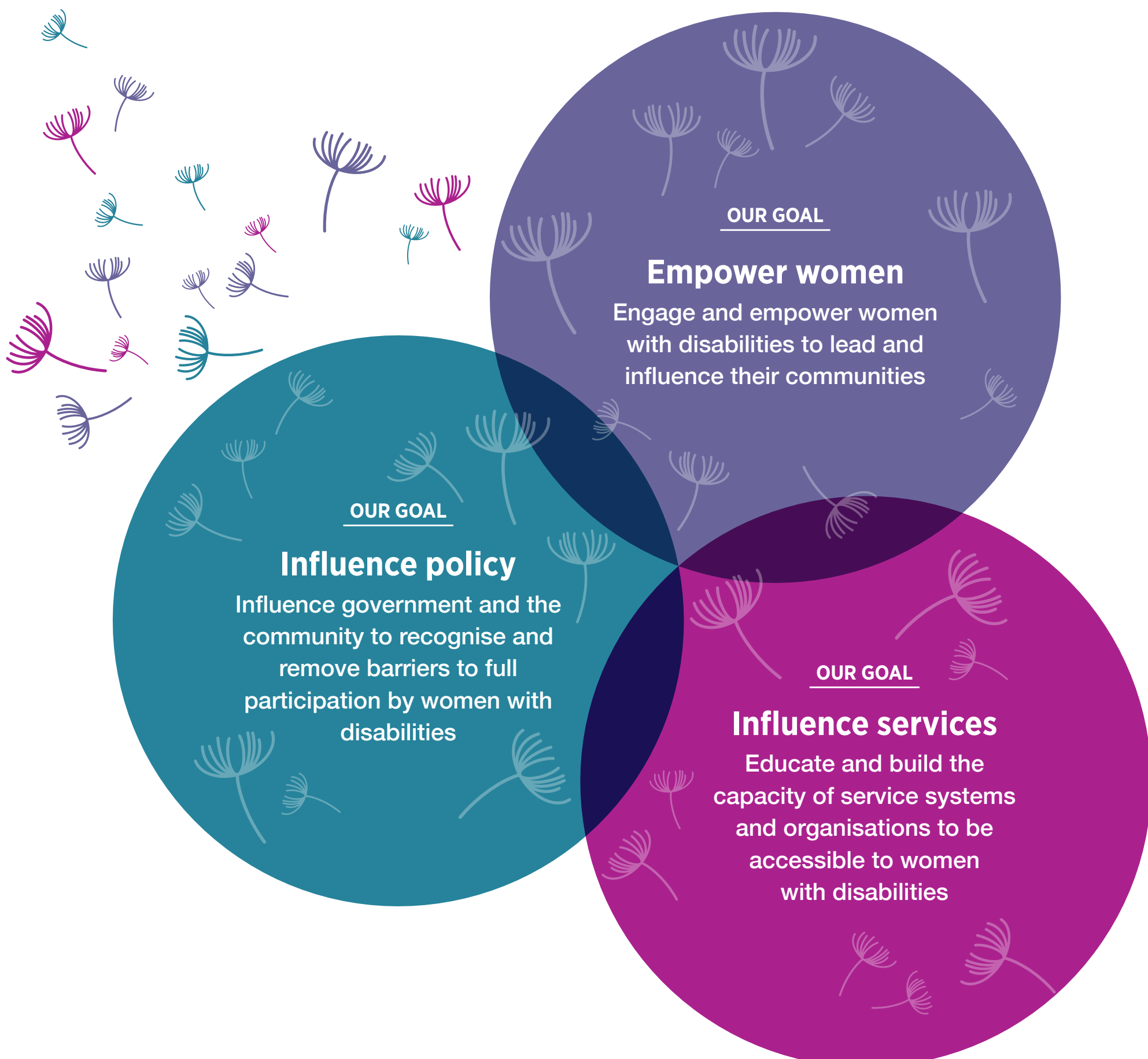


STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-2020

Womenwithdisabilitiesvictoria
empowering women

A world where all women are **respected** and can **fully experience life**



Our Mission

To advance real social and economic inclusion for women with disabilities in Victoria, we will:

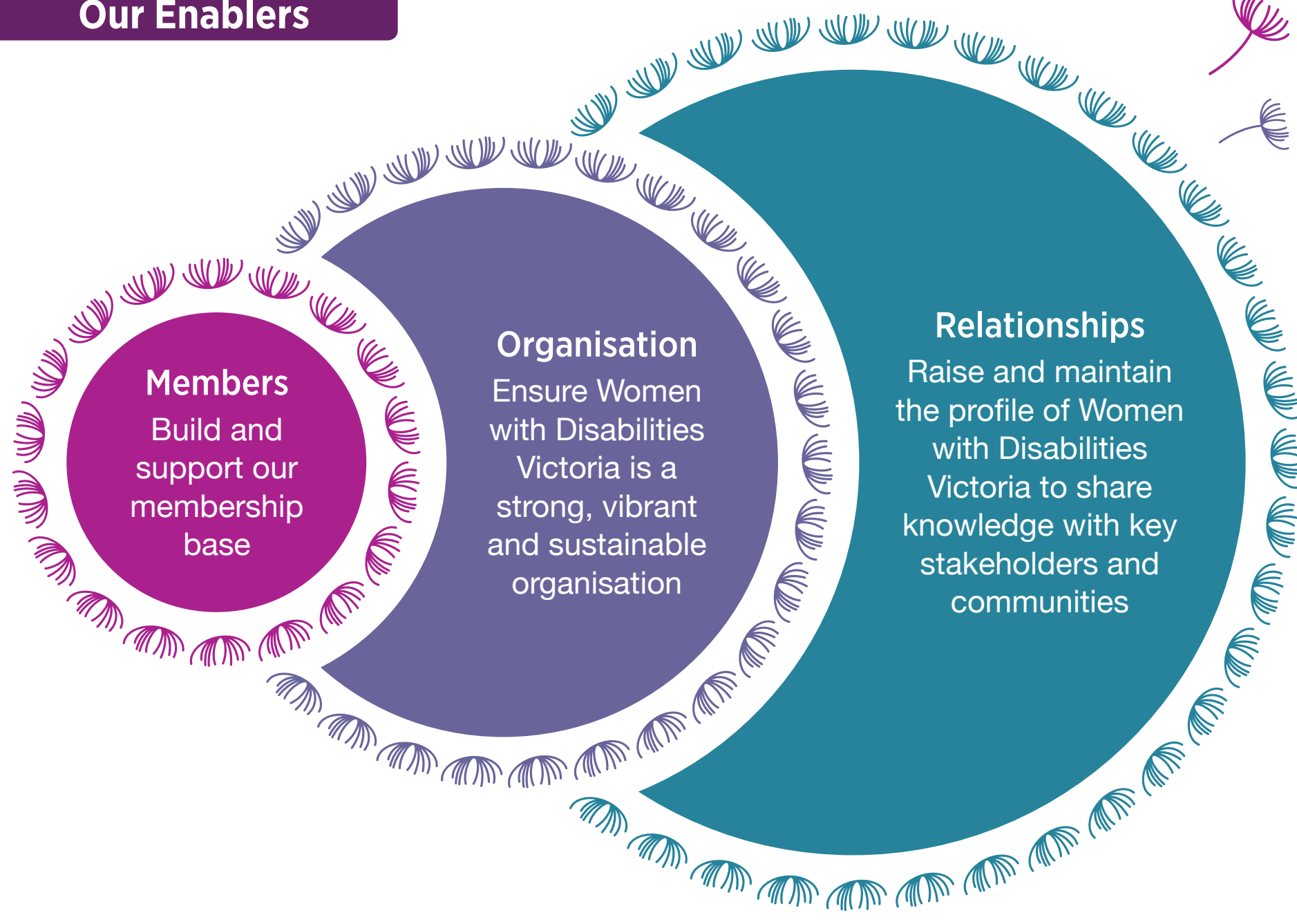
- be a voice for women with disabilities
- create opportunities for women with disabilities to be visible and to be heard in their communities
- build partnerships to deliver the best results for women with disabilities
- engage the community to challenge attitudes and myths about women with disabilities.

Our Values

Our values uphold human rights and social justice.

- Equal opportunity
- Accessibility
- Respect
- Collaboration
- Effectiveness
- Creativity
- Diversity
- Accountability.

Our Enablers



Our Priorities

Our commitment to create opportunities for women with disabilities to realise their leadership and advocacy potential is central to our work within each priority area.

Violence

We will **prevent and respond to violence and abuse against women with disabilities.**

NDIS

We will **work to make the NDIS relevant and responsive to women with disabilities and empower women to engage with the new system.**

Health

We will **promote access to health services for women with disabilities.**

In focusing on our priority areas, we will respond to the social determinants of health for women with disabilities, promoting access to housing and employment for women with disabilities through our representation and policy work.

Guided by our members, we will wherever possible respond to new and emerging issues to stay relevant and reflect the concerns of women with disabilities.

Our Approach

Our approach reflects our values.

We will:

- work with our members' experiences as women with disabilities
- provide specialist policy advice and representation to government
- create opportunities for women with disabilities to realise their leadership and advocacy potential
- adopt a collaborative approach to government and community organisations
- build the evidence base to develop and share knowledge and resources to inform best practice
- monitor our work and report on outcomes.

What's in the new plan?

In an environment that is more complex and subject to rapid change, we will adapt and consider new ways of working. We will adopt a **whole-of-organisation approach** so that all our programs build on one another to create **pathways to social and economic participation** for women with disabilities. We will **monitor and reflect** on our work and **report** on our results. We will continue to emphasise **collaboration**. We recognise the importance of **partnerships** and will actively work with other disability advocacy programs and with key organisations aligned with our priorities and interest in the intersection of gender and disability.

We will work **collaboratively with government departments and agencies**, including the NDIA during the NDIS rollout, to ensure the **best outcomes** for women with disabilities. The timeframe of this Strategic Plan will broadly align with the **Victorian State Disability Plan**. We will work with State Government departments across portfolio areas to **ensure the plan is effective** in our priority areas. We recognise the ongoing significance of local area delivery of services to women with disabilities and will work in partnership to **support best practice** at this level.

This plan identifies key enablers. These are critical areas which make it possible to deliver good outcomes.

We will **build and support our membership base**.

We will **ensure Women with Disabilities Victoria is a strong, vibrant and sustainable organisation**.

We will **raise and maintain the profile of Women with Disabilities Victoria to share knowledge with key stakeholders and the community**.

Nearly one in five Victorian women and girls has a disability.¹

We are twice as likely to experience violence as women and girls without disabilities.²

Barriers prevent women with disabilities from accessing timely and effective healthcare.³

1. ABS *Survey of Disability, Ageing and Carers*, Australia: Summary of Findings, 2012.

2. Krnjacki L et al, *Prevalence and risk of violence against people with and without disabilities: Findings from an Australian population based study*, Aust NZ J Public Health 2016, 40(1):16-21.

3. VicHealth, *Disability and health inequalities in Australia: Research Summary*, Melbourne, 2012.

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Membership is open to individuals and organisations who share our aims and is free for women with disabilities. www.wdv.org.au/get_involved.htm#Membership