

## Fiji

### Fiji Disabled People's Association

Fiji Disabled People's Association (FDPA) is the Disabled Persons Organisation (DPO) in Fiji. FDPA is a National Cross-Disability DPO which works towards promoting equal rights for persons with disabilities in Fiji.

FDPA has requested Australia Pacific Islands Disability Support (APIDS) for support to:

**Assist people with disabilities who have the potential to continue with their education, but whose families are not able to provide the funds for them to do that.**



*FDPA women participate in an advocacy course in Fiji.*

APIDS has partnerships with eight Pacific Island DPOs who are advocating on behalf of people with disabilities to participate more actively in their communities and



their own organisations. Greater equality of access can be achieved when there is well-supported disability advocacy at local levels.

It is often not for lack of money that the people with disabilities are marginalised and denied access to the things others take for granted. Sometimes there is simply a lack of recognition of disabled peoples' abilities and their rights to participate in all aspects of life, including schooling, social interaction, work and participation in community groups.

APIDS provides a way for Australians to contribute to addressing these challenges. The funds raised by APIDS will go directly to DPOs advocating for the basic rights of Pacific Islanders with disabilities.

More information about APIDS can be found at [www.apids.org](http://www.apids.org). Credit card donations may be made to <http://www.ourcommunity.com.au/apids> or cheques to APIDS, 49 Rubiton Court, Gisborne 3437 (Donations over \$2 are tax deductible).