

# I CAN<sup>®</sup> BE ME

I CAN EXPO 2025 - CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF STUDENT TRANSFORMATIONS!

## SPONSORSHIP PROSPECTUS

MELBOURNE CONVENTION CENTRE - THURSDAY OCTOBER 9TH - 9:30 AM - 2:00PM

# CELEBRATING

In 2013, our Founder and CEO, Chris Varney was given the opportunity to tell his life story to an audience of now over 958,000. Twelve years on, Chris and his team give the same opportunity to autistic students all over Australia at our annual I CAN® Expo. Our event has become Australia's biggest autistic youth event and now in its tenth year we need you to join us to make 2025 our best expo yet. On Thursday October 9, we will invite: students, parents/carers, teachers, education and mental health professionals, staff and members from organisations, like yours, to set the stage for these remarkable young people to have that same opportunity.

In 2015, one year on from the launch of our I CAN School® program, NAB Village hosted our first expo, which brought together 60 students, teachers and staff. From 2017, our expo with 300 guests, was hosted by ANZ. Both in 2020 and 2021 we delivered our expo via the vFairs online platform with over 3000 registrations. In 2022, we held our first ever hybrid expo, both face to face at ANZ and online.

This year, with our I CAN School® program now in over 170 Victorian schools, we are excited to move to a larger venue to make I CAN® Expo 2025 our biggest and most impactful yet!

We hope you can join us.  
[events@icannetwork.com.au](mailto:events@icannetwork.com.au)



Top: Our Founder & CEO, Chris Varney delivering his TEDx Talk.  
Centre: I CAN School® student, Genevieve presents her 'I CAN BE ME' talk at the 2023, I CAN Expo. Bottom: Chris presents at the 2022 I CAN Expo at ANZ Docklands.

# FEATURING

Our event brings together autistic and neurodivergent students, their family and support networks with employment professionals and educational staff to celebrate the unique abilities and insights of our Australian autistic youth. The stories told will tug at your heart strings and make you laugh out loud. With past presentations on everything from *Fighter Jets* to *Cooking*..... you might just learn a new fact or two!

***"I now see myself. I know who I am, I know why I am the way that I am, and I now know how to represent myself and be proud of who I am. Because of I can. I have the confidence to be who I want to be, be who I am, and be unapologetically. Me."***

*- Genevieve I CAN School® program participant now I CAN Mentor*

I CAN®, now in our 12th year, is supported by the Victorian Department of Education to deliver our I CAN School® program to 254 schools as part of the Autism Education Strategy.

Our expo also provides students with an opportunity to explore inclusive post-school pathways. We partner with like-minded organisations, universities, TAFEs and employment organisations to provide autistic students with options beyond their high school life.

## PREVIOUS GUEST SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

Former World Vision CEO, Rev Tim Costello  
Former Victorian Minister for Education, The Hon. James Melino MP  
International Awarding Winning Writer, Steve Silberman  
Autism Education Expert, Emma Goodall, ANZ Spectrum Program, Andrew Baird  
Psychologist and Expert on Autism, Wenn Lawson and  
I CAN Ambassador and Autistic Author, Tim Chan





# EVENT PROFILE

**DATE:** 9th October 2025

**TIME:** 9:30am - 2pm AEDT

**VENUE:** Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (Level 2)  
1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf VIC 3006

**AUDIENCE:** Our I CAN Expo attracts students, parents, family and friends of presenters, teachers, staff, educational, health and political professionals and like-minded organisations.

We are expecting 600+ attendees at this year's I CAN Expo.

## WHAT WILL WE SEE?

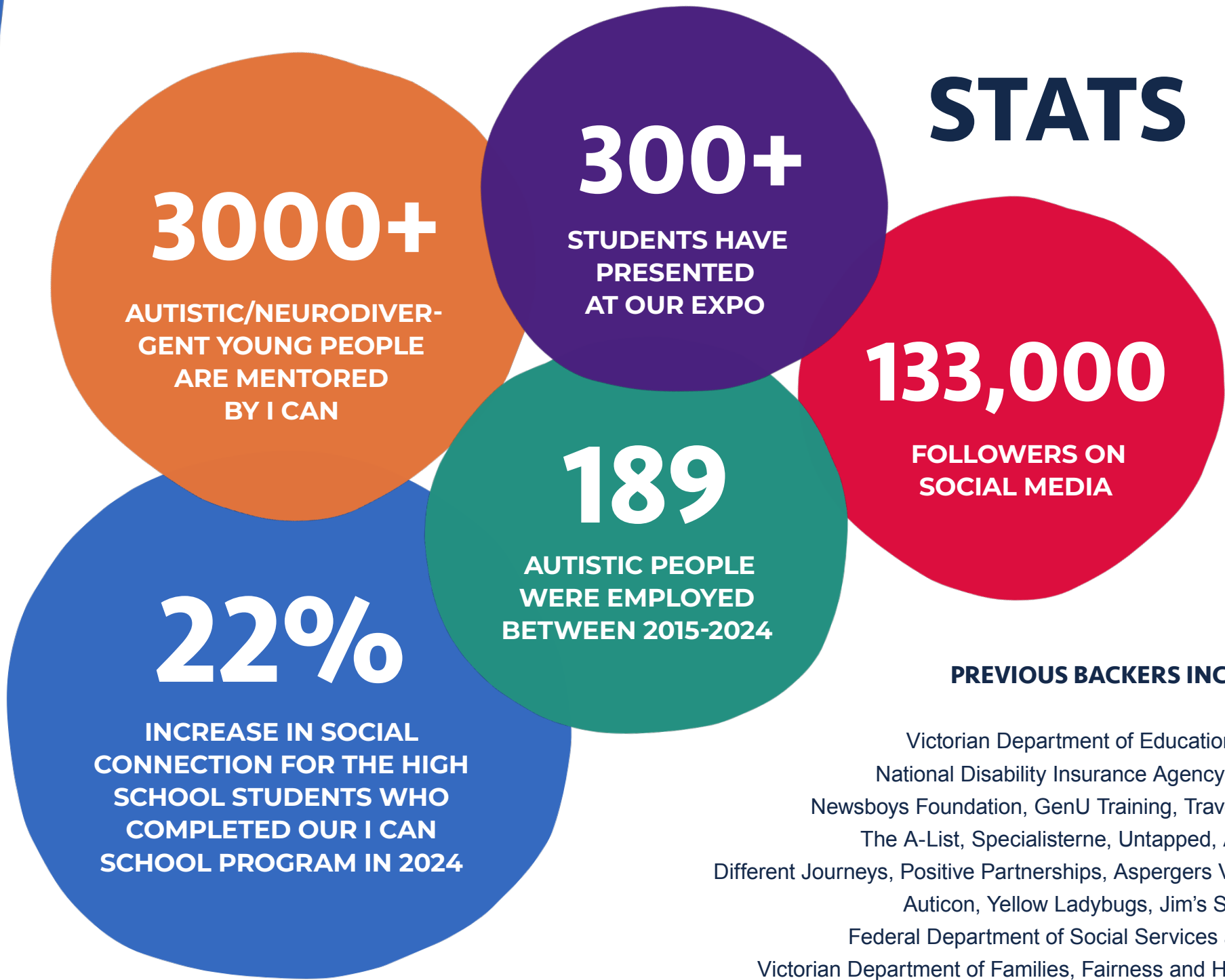
- I CAN School® & Online Mentee Talks and Staff Presentations.
- Panel Discussions, Sponsor Talks and Q&As
- Networking Exhibit Spaces
- Networking Event for Stakeholders and Sponsors
- I CAN Interest Group Discussions
- Exposure to Post-School Employment Pathways
- Take-home Resources



Images of the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre MCEC:  
1. Foyer, 2. Large Meeting Room, 3. Foyer View, 4. Plenary.



# STATS



## PREVIOUS BACKERS INCLUDE:

Victorian Department of Education, ANZ,  
National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA)  
Newsboys Foundation, GenU Training, Travengers,  
The A-List, Specialisterne, Untapped, Amaze,  
Different Journeys, Positive Partnerships, Aspergers Victoria,  
Auticon, Yellow Ladybugs, Jim's Security,  
Federal Department of Social Services and the  
Victorian Department of Families, Fairness and Housing.

## PLATINUM

**\$25,000**

2 OPPORTUNITIES

- **5 FREE** Tickets to attend the event.
- Keynote Presentation (15-mins)
- Sponsor Booth
- Showbag - Promotional Material
- VIP Invite to our Private Networking Event.
- Your Branding on all advertising: website, event program, flyers and social media.
- Follow up emails sent to attendees with branding & acknowledgement.
- Customised report for the sponsor's internal reporting.
- Professional Stills and Video Footage

## GOLD

**\$10,000**

3 OPPORTUNITIES

- **4 FREE** Tickets to attend the event.
- Guest Presentation (10-mins)
- Sponsor Booth
- Showbag - Promotional Material
- VIP Invite to our Private Networking Event.
- Your Branding on all advertising: website, event program, flyers and social media.
- Follow up emails sent to attendees with branding & acknowledgement.
- Customised report for the sponsor's internal reporting.

## SILVER

**\$2,500**

4 OPPORTUNITIES

- **3 FREE** Tickets to attend the event.
- Lightning Talk (2-mins) Large Meeting Room
- Sponsor Booth
- Showbag - Promotional Material
- VIP Invite to our Private Networking Event.
- Your Branding on all advertising: website, event program, flyers and social media.
- Follow up emails sent to attendees with branding & acknowledgement.

## BRONZE

**\$750**

5 OPPORTUNITIES

- **2 FREE** Tickets to attend the event.
- Lightning Talk (2-mins) Large Meeting Room
- Sponsor Booth
- VIP Invite to our Private Networking Event.
- Your Branding: website, event program, flyers and social media.
- Follow up emails sent to attendees with branding & acknowledgement.



# I CAN<sup>®</sup> EXPO

**STEP 1:** Feel free to contact us if you would like to discuss these opportunities further.

**STEP 2:** If you would like to sponsor our I CAN EXPO 2025 we will send you our sponsorship agreement for your signature.

**STEP 3:** Once we receive your signed agreement we will send you an invoice and get started!

Would you like to know more about I CAN<sup>®</sup>? Visit our website at: [icannetwork.online](https://icannetwork.online)

Meet our staff, students and view past expos via our [I CAN TV YouTube channel](#)

We hope you can join us!

Kate: [events@icannetwork.com.au](mailto:events@icannetwork.com.au)



Top: The I CAN staff at the 2024 expo. Second: The foyer of our first online expo. Third: Our first ever expo in 2015. Fourth: Our first expo at ANZ Docklands, Melbourne.



**FACEBOOK** - [www.facebook.com/theicannetwork](https://www.facebook.com/theicannetwork)

Join our Facebook community where you can find relevant insights into Autism and education.



**YOUTUBE** - [@icannetworktv](https://www.youtube.com/@icannetworktv)

Subscribe to our YouTube channel to view student and staff presentations, free webinars, panel discussions and examples of our programs.



**INSTAGRAM** - [@ican\\_rethinkautism](https://www.instagram.com/@ican_rethinkautism)

Our Instagram page is a great way to connect with like-minded people and communities.



**LINKED IN** - [www.linkedin.com/company/i-can-network](https://www.linkedin.com/company/i-can-network)  
[www.linkedin.com/in/icanceochris-varney](https://www.linkedin.com/in/icanceochris-varney)

Professionally connect with I CAN staff and Founder/CEO Chris Varney.



**DONATE TO I CAN<sup>®</sup>** - <https://icannetwork.online/donate>

Every amount, large or small makes a difference.

I CAN Network Ltd. is a Public Benevolent Institution endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) by the Australian Taxation Office.

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