



**DeafKidz**  
INTERNATIONAL



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**COLIN ALLEN AM**

President

World Federation of the Deaf

**LUCKY LOWE**

Chair

DeafKidz International

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Signed Memorandum of Understanding World Federation of the Deaf and DeafKidz International**

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The [World Federation of the Deaf](http://www.wfdeaf.org) (WFD) and the [DeafKidz International](http://www.deafkidzinternational.org) (DKI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 15 November 2018.

The Memorandum of Understanding recognises the strengthening the cooperation between the two organisations to achieve mutual objectives to protect and support deaf, hard of hearing, deafened and DeafBlind children, young people and adults who are at risk of abuse and exploitation. It aims to develop cooperation between the two organisations with the view of further promoting human rights of deaf youth and children through sign language(s) with a specific focus on ensuring the safeguarding and protection of deaf children, through addressing the physical, sexual, emotional and mental abuse and exploitation of deaf children and young people.

The Presidents and the respective boards of both the WFD and the DKI are committed to ensuring that this agreement will lead to exchanging information and best practises on each other's respective approach in safeguarding and protecting deaf children and young people.

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#### **About the World Federation of the Deaf**

*The World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) is an international non-governmental organisation representing and promoting approximately 70 million deaf people's human rights worldwide. The WFD is a federation of 132 nations; its mission is to promote the human rights of deaf people and full, quality and equal access to all spheres of life, including self-determination, sign language, education, employment and community life. WFD has a consultative status in the United Nations and is a member of International Disability Alliance (IDA). ([www.wfdeaf.org](http://www.wfdeaf.org)) Email: [info@wfdeaf.org](mailto:info@wfdeaf.org)*

#### **About the DeafKidz International**

*A registered UK charity (1151219), DeafKidz International (DKI) was established in 2013 by D/deaf professionals to counter the endemic abuse and exploitation experienced by deaf children and young people in low resource and complex humanitarian settings.*

*Today, as the global leader working to ensure the safeguarding and protection of deaf children from physical, sexual, emotional abuse and neglect, DKI seeks to ensure that every deaf child lives in a safe, caring and supportive environment, free from abuse, violence and exploitation.*

*Uniquely and as a deaf led organisation, DKI works in hard-to-reach places and on the issues people don't want to face or talk about. DKI partners with international and in-country agencies to share expertise, develop innovative new approaches and build local capacities to ensure that the rights of deaf children and young people to protection, health and well-being are realised. ([www.deafkidzinternational.org](http://www.deafkidzinternational.org)) Email: [jaz.mann@deafkidzinternational.org](mailto:jaz.mann@deafkidzinternational.org)*