



ASPIRATIONS: Jaie Stanley, 19, and his foster mum Rosalind Barclay are fighting for funding so Jaie can study at TAFE to become a sound and lighting technician. **Picture:** Mark Calleja

Groups launch vision for society

Margaret Wenham

JAIE Stanley has a dream – to go to TAFE to study to be a sound and lighting technician.

“To work behind the scenes on stage productions and TV shows,” he said with enthusiasm.

But the 19-year-old, who completed year 12 at Capalaba State College, has cerebral palsy and needs funding for a support worker to attend college with him.

So far funding has been denied.

He and his foster mother, Rosalind Barclay, were among 300 people who turned out yesterday in Brisbane’s Botanic Gardens for the launch of a new campaign dubbed Blue Skies, described as a new

vision for society to be transformed into a more inclusive place for the thousands of people with a disability.

“Jaie’s story – that’s the sort of stuff that has to change,” Queensland Advocacy Incorporated’s chief executive officer Kevin Cocks said.

“This Blue Skies vision is very simple. It’s really saying that impairment is part of the human condition and people with disabilities shouldn’t be treated as ‘other’, we should be treated as citizens,” he said. “It’s about people with disabilities and their families setting the agenda and wanting to communicate with other community members to share the vision and create debate about

where we go to from here to build a more inclusive society.”

QAI is among the large group of community-based organisations and individuals who have developed the Blue Skies vision, which has been backed by Disabilities Services Minister Annastacia Palaszczuk and Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities, Bill Shorten.

“The first thing is there needs to be entitlement, so if you have an accident or are born with a disability, your wellbeing is not left to the roll of a dice, but you automatically have your fundamental needs met,” Mr Cocks said.

Ms Barclay said Jaie had recently moved into share accommodation.