



Home in Place

SPECIALIST DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 2022

One of the many rewarding parts of my job is working with investors and developers to create quality SDA projects that meet their needs as well as the needs of residents and their carers.

Last month I was on site with Peter who is developing a mix of high physical support and independent living accommodation in the Newcastle suburb of Edgeworth. Staff from SIL provider New Horizons were with us and continue to collaborate on the design functionality to ensure residents have a beautiful home to enjoy. The homes will be complete early next year. It is exciting to see progress and the months of planning paying off to realise Peter's vision.



As we celebrated International Day of People with Disability on December 3, I was reflecting on how fundamental appropriate housing is to enable people with a disability to live independently in their community. Importantly it is about giving people choice and control over where and how they live. Read on to see how James, a resident in one of the properties we manage, is working to create a more consumer led disability housing market.

On another note, our team worked with SDA Alliance to make a submission to the Federal Government's **SDA Pricing Review**. The review will set new SDA prices to guide market investment to areas that will most benefit people that need SDA housing over the next five years. With increasing costs to operate homes and rising construction costs related to COVID-19 induced supply chain issues the review is timely. The consultation period ends on December 9.

Larissa Bridge
Operations Manager SDA & Specialist Services

James loves lake views and creating a more consumer led SDA market

James loves the location and the views from his SDA apartment in Lake Macquarie where he's been living for almost two years. Despite being approved for SDA during the 500 days he spent in hospital after acquiring his disability James struggled to find suitable accommodation. He had to initially rent in the private market which was not fit for purpose.

The former CEO of a community housing organisation and former executive in government health service roles is combining that experience with his lived experience of disability in a new career as a consultant in the SDA space. Being a member of the NDIS SDA Advisory Group is another way he is advocating for a more consumer led disability housing market.

Read more about James on our website:

<https://homeinplace.org/idpwd-and-housing-james-story/>



New pergola thanks to our quality tradies



One of our multi-trade partners **Hunter Projects** has just installed this great pergola at one of our properties. Residents will be enjoying this lovely outdoor space over Christmas and the summer.

Home in Place works with high quality, professional trades. They go the extra mile to ensure our properties meet residents' needs – in maintenance, repairs or home improvements.

We're always looking for trades to partner with us – particularly electricians, plumbers and carpenters in NSW, Victoria and Queensland.

If you'd like to work with us, or know someone who might, please **get in touch**.

Your new forever home? Cessnock, NSW

Property No. GT14868

This new, purpose built, three resident High Physical Support home in the Hunter Valley is nearing completion. You'll enjoy modern living, individual bathrooms and a great entertaining area overlooking the golf course.

It has been wonderful to work with a private investor to bring more SDA accommodation to this area.



We're calling for expressions of interest from residents and Supported Independent Living (SIL) providers for this home.

If you'd like to work with us in Cessnock or elsewhere, please email us on sda@homeinplace.org, call us on 1300 333 733, or use the web form on our website.

Home in Place has a range of SDA properties in different SDA categories - from 5-bedroom group homes to custom-built individual homes. We have vacancies in NSW, Queensland and Victoria. View our walkthrough

Meet the team – Kara

Kara Ibbotson is a new SDA Tenancy Relations Officer in Victoria. She's been working in SDA for more than 18 months and is loving it. Kara decided to make the transition from private real estate property management to SDA because she wants to do more to make a change in people's lives.

Kara has two cats - Nala and Lulu. When she's not at work, she loves spending time with her sister, niece, and nephews. She loves being in the sun with a great book!

Whether you are an investor, SIL, support worker or a carer of someone needing specialist disability accommodation, give Kara a call today to discuss SDA housing options right across Victoria.



Christmas cheer and craft



It is not long until Santa visits and we're spreading some Christmas cheer. Our SDA tenants are all invited to Home in Place's major tenant Christmas parties being held in various locations in NSW and Brisbane.

Thanks to support from Australian Unity and Summer Housing we're hosting some Christmas morning teas in some of their SDA properties that we manage.

Home in Place has also provided huge arts and crafts hampers for some of our group homes across NSW so residents can enjoy a Christmas arts and crafts day with members of our team.

We kicked things off with our first crafternoon tea in the Maitland region on Saturday for International Day of People with Disability and had a blast!



Where's Sarah?

Sarah, our NSW Tenancy Relations Officer, is always on the road meeting our residents and Supported Independent Living (SIL) providers.

This month she has travelled more than 1,000km visiting 25 forever homes from Port Stephens to Sydney, and everywhere in between.

A highlight this month was checking out the Christmas decorations going up in some of our homes, like this one in the Newcastle region!



Melbourne Disability Expo



Last month's **Melbourne Disability Expo** was a fantastic event. Dinah and Kara met so many people looking for SDA accommodation as well as SILs and support providers.

Our Acquisitions Coordinator, Dinah, had this to say:

"What an amazing experience Home in Place's very first Melbourne Expo was. With over 4000 attendees recorded over the 2 days the expo was a huge success. The atmosphere and attitudes was such a positive vibe."

Home in Place is excited to watch our Victorian SDA portfolio grow."