Hello

I have written before about hospital and aged being no place for people with a disability to be forced to live. Read on to hear the story of a young man who thankfully is now out of hospital and loving living in one of our SDA homes.

Getting people with a disability out of living in hospitals and aged care is one of a raft of government measures underway to improve the NDIS for participants and providers and to make it more sustainable. As well as the completion of pricing reviews, the NDIS is rolling out a new computer system, including a new portal and app.

Our expert SDA team is always staying on top of NDIS and SDA system changes to ensure we deliver the best SDA housing experience for residents and those who love and support them. Part of our role is property management, especially for our fee for service SDA owners and investors. We acknowledged the diverse skills and expertise of our team on National Property Managers Day last month.

Speaking of SDA properties, we have published a handy checklist for people wanting to build SDA housing. It follows our guide on investing in SDA housing which we shared last month.

Until next month,

Larissa Bridge
Executive Manager Specialist Services
Out of hospital and into an SDA forever home

Hospital is no place for people with a disability to live long term. One of our newest residents spent two and a half years in a NSW hospital. His mum says he is now loving living in a Specialist Disability home in Lake Macquarie managed by Home in Place.

She says her 26-year-old son has found the right type of Robust category housing and support that is helping him to become the man that he can be.

Her advice for other parents searching for the right home for their adult children with a disability is to stay positive, be patient and have a good support team. She can’t speak highly enough of her son’s current Supported Independent Living provider, Scope.

“Before, our lives were always filled with chaos and drama. I was always on guard, never could relax, and was always so involved in every aspect of our son’s life. My husband and I can start to look after ourselves and our business a bit more now we know he is happy and being looked after,” she says.

“Now we have more of a mum/son relationship, and I feel like this could be his forever home.”


Looking for a new SDA home?

We have vacancies in stunning, brand new, 1-bedroom High Physical Support villas in Penrith. There are four ground floor villas and one upstairs villa.

Each villa features open plan modern living with a spacious bedroom, a bright and airy bathroom and quality kitchen and laundry. The secure backyard includes a great outdoor living/entertainment area.

Conveniently located, the villas are close to the local shopping centre, healthcare facilities and several parks and recreation facilities.

[Enquire via Go Nest.](#)

We have two vacancies in this new SDA development for people with high physical support needs. Choose from the 1 bedroom, 1 bathroom studio or to live in the 4 resident group home. The home offers a large living area, well-appointed kitchen, rear deck, and large bedrooms.

Close to beautiful Lake Macquarie and to Newcastle, the home is near shops, medical facilities, and public transport.

[Enquire via Go Nest.](#)

Home in Place has a range of SDA properties in different SDA categories - from group homes to custom-built individual homes and apartments. We have vacancies in NSW, Queensland, and Victoria. View our walkthrough videos for some properties on our [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel).

HOME IN PLACE SDA NEWSLETTER ISSUE 13

HOMEINPLACE.ORG
Guide to building SDA Housing

Building an SDA home can be much easier and cost effective than to trying to retrofit an existing property to SDA standards.

If you are ready to get building SDA housing, here is our handy new checklist of the steps to take.

Read the guide here.

Celebrating our SDA property managers

Last month, on #nationalpropertymanagersday, Home in Place acknowledged the work of its Specialist Disability Accommodation team.

With a diverse range of skills and experience the team is expert at managing SDA properties for owners and investors. They are also caring and supportive, working with SILs, support providers and families to ensure residents enjoy independent, quality living.

Listening to lived experience to improve the experience of SDA residents

Our Victorian Tenancy Relations Officer Kara attended a Housing Hub forum on housing options for people with disability. It was an in-person event, but Housing Hub is running the forum as a one-hour online webinar on November 28.

This and other forums are run by Housing Hub’s Lived Experience Team. One of the forum speakers and team members is a resident in an SDA property we manage for Australian Unity.

Kara said hearing from people who live in SDA Housing is very valuable for NDIS participants, their families, support workers, SDA providers and SILs.

“For people wanting to access SDA housing, hearing from someone with lived experience means the information is very relevant and being delivered from a participant’s perspective,” Kara said.

“As an SDA provider and property and tenancy manager, we listen to the experiences of people who are or have gone through the system, so we can learn how to make moving into and living in our SDA housing even better.”
Meet the team: Amy

One of our SDA tenancy relations officers, Amy is about to celebrate her one-year anniversary of working in our team. She helps our residents from start to finish and everything in between—from their lease documents to property inspections, home modifications, and being an ongoing support.

Amy brings years of tenancy and property management experience from her previous work as a real estate agent.

She says the thing she loves most about her role is meeting the residents and being a part of their transition into their new homes. She also loves being part of such a supportive work team and witnessing them all going above and beyond.

Outside of work, Amy loves family time, going to the beach and spending time with friends. She is learning to play guitar.

“I enjoy going to see live music and exploring the beautiful city of Newcastle which I am now lucky to call my home,” Amy says.

New NDIS computer system coming

The NDIS has a new computer system coming, including a new portal and updated app, which it says will help deliver more consistent decisions, meet NDIS Participant Service Guarantee commitments and provide more time for NDIS staff and partners to better support the people who use the NDIS. It has been testing the system in Tasmania and has released a summary of findings. The aim is for the new system to be running across the rest of Australia from September 2023. The NDIS expects it will take 18-months for all existing NDIS participants to move to the new system.

At the moment, those outside the trial in Tasmania and in other parts of Australia should continue to use the myplace portal and existing app.

Our 2022/23 SDA Report Card

- Person-centred customisations of SDA homes: 300
- Residents transitioned into SDA homes: 228
- SDA homes listed: 197
- Number of inspections: 1154