



Home in Place

WELCOME HOME TO LIVING MORE INDEPENDENTLY IN A HIGHLY SUPPORTED WAY.

JANUARY 2025

Hello

I hope the start of a new year has been a positive one for you.

It has for the Home in Place SDA team. After successfully recruiting some new passionate and experienced people, we are back to having a full team. Thank you to everyone for your support as we worked around some unexpected team vacancies.

After some reforms to the NDIS, it appears that SDA housing may be a focus for reform this year. Our team is looking forward to working with our current and potential residents, their loved ones and support network; investors; developers; SILs and other partners; suppliers; and government agencies to help more people with complex needs to live in a beautiful community with as much choice and control as possible.

The quality and variety of SDA housing is getting better and better. In this edition we focus on Victoria, including the stunning [Kensington development in Melbourne](#). Kensington embodies the principles of specialist disability accommodation. It offers stylish apartments for people with and without a disability, that are close to the city centre rather than on city outskirts.

There is a Federal election looming. Housing is a fundamental human right for all Australians, yet we are seeing a growing number of people experiencing homelessness. This includes people working in the disability sector. If you have a few minutes, you can join us in making social, affordable and disability housing an election issue. Read on for details.

Best wishes to you for the year ahead.

Alexandra Phillips
Executive Manager Specialist Services



Working together for residents to enjoy Melbourne SDA apartment living

Our new Victorian SDA Acquisition officer, Sarah, was recently on site at Melbourne's Kensington apartment complex with Jessamine and Marc from **Melba Support Services**. The trio were admiring Kensington's fabulous location, apartment quality, facilities and views!

Melba provides 24-hour on-site support to SDA residents at Kensington. We will work closely with Melba and other support services to help residents to move into and enjoy living in their new luxury apartment.

Melba is a human-rights-focused disability support provider dedicated to delivering high-quality, personalised support to people with disabilities. The team at Melba seek to create a nurturing environment that respects and celebrates each person's unique needs and abilities.

Jessamine and Marc told Sarah that Melba prides itself on having highly trained staff supported by its Human Rights Practice Innovation and Complex Health Nurses teams. This ensures specialised Person-Centred Active Support, fostering independence and promoting choice. Melba has a commitment to building strong, lasting relationships with residents and their families, so they receive the support they deserve. [Find out more about Melba here.](#)



There are some vacancies in this beautiful brand new apartment complex.

Get in touch with us to find out more about SDA apartment living at Kensington.

NDIS news

- The NDIA has extended the timeframe for participants to provide additional information to support eligibility reassessments from 28 to 90 days. The Agency says it has made the change because it understands these requests can feel overwhelming and it takes time to get information.
- The NDIA is also updating resources to reflect recent changes to the *NDIS Act*. This includes updates to [operational guidelines](#) and [‘would we fund it’ guides](#).

Your new SDA Home?

Diggers Rest, Northwest Vic

We have vacancies in this new spacious 2-bedroom house and self-contained villa for people with **Robust specialist disability accommodation needs**.

The property has been thoughtfully designed to offer accessibility and comfort for residents and their support teams. Residents can bring their own core support services and have a say in the provider of onsite overnight assistance support.

Located in a quiet neighbourhood, your new home is close to local parks, shopping and medical facilities. Easy access to public transport options connect you to Melbourne and surrounding areas.

Vacancy listed on [Housing Hub](#).



Noble Park, Vic



We have vacancies in brand new villas in the heart of Noble Park.

These modern villas are purpose-built for people with **Robust specialist disability accommodation needs**. They have spacious interiors and high-quality finishes to ensure comfort and safety for residents. Each has a serene private courtyard.

The villas are conveniently located close to shops, public transport, and community services.

Vacancy listed on [Housing Hub](#).

Sunbury, Vic

This new 2-resident home and single resident villa offer comfort, independence, and high-quality living for people with **High Physical Support** needs.

There are two kitchens and large, open plan, living and dining areas. An outdoor alfresco area is a beautiful space to relax. The secure garage and entry way provide safe, wheelchair-friendly access.

These beautiful SDA homes are in a prime location, close to shops, parks, cafes and public transport as well as medical and other community facilities.

Vacancy listed on [Go Nest](#).



Home in Place has 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](#).

[View all our vacancies here.](#)

Meet the team: Sarah

Sarah is our SDA Acquisitions Coordinator in Victoria

She works with potential residents, families, Supported Independent Living (SIL) providers, and private market developers to help people with specialist disability accommodation needs to live more independently in safe, appropriate, quality housing. Sarah works closely with our Victorian Vacancy Coordinator and Tenancy Relationship Officer.

She joined us in December after working for several years with other disability housing providers.



Sarah finds it incredibly rewarding to work in a field that positively impacts people's lives. She enjoyed acquiring the specialised knowledge she needs for her role.

"I'm grateful for the opportunity to contribute meaningfully, supporting our clients to live with greater independence and empowerment."

Outside of work, Sarah loves to travel, bike riding, beach days, and trying out new restaurants. Cooking is a passion. She loves hosting friends for dinner.

Sarah's tip for SDA participants and their families?

"Take your time to find an SDA home that truly meets a participant's needs and gives them choice and control over their living arrangements.

Ask SDA providers about supports, costs, and housemate compatibility to ensure the best fit."

Tell Federal politicians you want them to tackle Australia's housing crisis

Are you wanting to do something positive to help tackle Australia's housing crisis? A crisis that is creating a new generation of modern homelessness. It is impacting many people, including those who provide support to people with a disability and people with a disability who are not eligible for SDA funding.

As well as being the largest provider of SDA housing, Home in Place provides social housing and affordable housing in Queensland and NSW. Our [Modern Homelessness campaign](#) calls on the Australian Government to boost the proportion of the Federal budget spent on housing from record low levels of 0.6 percent to a minimum of 2 per cent.

Ahead of the Federal election, you can tell local politicians that tackling the housing crisis should be one of their priorities. It will only take a few minutes. Lend your support and lobby your local member of parliament [here](#).