

# SUMMER FOUNDATION NEWS



As part of our work to resolve the issue of young people living in nursing homes, the Summer Foundation has been trialling an innovative housing and support solution. Our housing demonstration projects integrate smart home technology with a support model designed to promote independence in well-located community settings.

What lies ahead is the replication and scaling of our demonstration projects. This next phase is best implemented by a dedicated organisation that focuses on the 'bricks and mortar' of housing, so we have established Summer Housing, a not-for-profit sister organisation. Summer Housing will be separate to the Summer Foundation, with an independent Board and staff.

Working with Summer Housing across areas of common interest, the Summer Foundation will continue to focus on what needs to be done to resolve the issue of young people being forced to live in nursing homes. Our current priorities are:

- ensuring that young people in nursing homes have access to relevant and effective NDIS plans
- working with the health and disability sectors to optimise hospital discharge processes, to give young people facing discharge to nursing homes the very best chance of returning home to a community setting
- working to ensure that the complex care needs of young people with disability are fully met, to sustain their ability to live in the community
- encouraging the replication and scale of our housing prototypes and ensuring that young people with disability are finding their way into the new accessible housing which is coming online

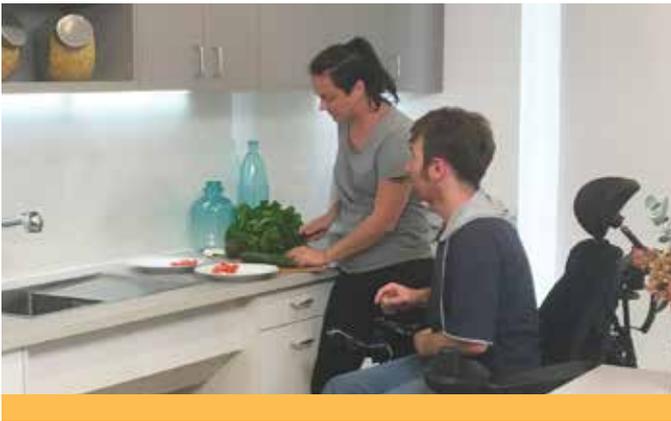
We have recently received some substantial grants to enable us to prevent new admissions of some young people to nursing homes. Read more on page 3.

Warm regards,

Di Winkler, CEO and Founder

## IN THIS ISSUE

SAMPLE NDIS PLANS	2
PATHWAYS BACK INTO THE COMMUNITY	3
NDIS RESOURCES	4



## LIVING LIKE EVERYONE ELSE

An important reform under the NDIS is that housing and support will be considered separately, meaning that NDIS participants don't need to rely on a single provider to meet both their housing and support needs. This change in thinking opens up new opportunities for supporting people to live in affordable, accessible and innovative housing.

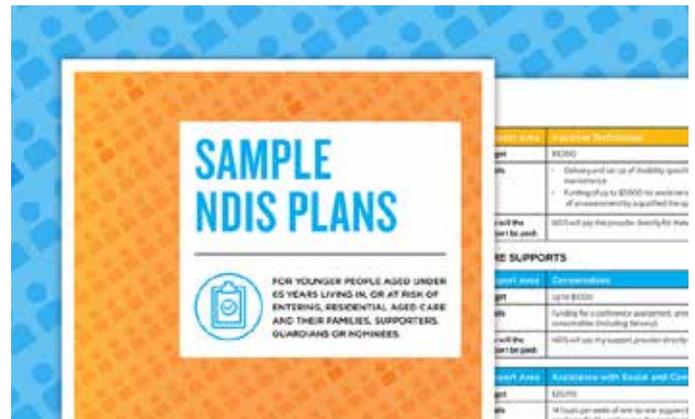
The Summer Foundation has released a guide, *Living Like Everyone Else*, that provides up-to-date information on 24-hour support options for people with disability and complex needs.

*Living Like Everyone Else* focuses on ways that enable people with complex needs to live like the rest of the community. Coordinating factors such as housing location, design, advanced communication and environmental control technology – together with new ways of delivering support – now means that best practice 24-hour support doesn't need to involve a continual in-home staff presence.

*Living Like Everyone Else* identifies eleven different support strategies, and lays the groundwork for further projects aimed at improving the provision of 24-hour support to people with complex needs.

To access *Living Like Everyone Else*, visit:

🌐 [www.summerfoundation.org.au/living-like-everyone-else](http://www.summerfoundation.org.au/living-like-everyone-else)



## SAMPLE NDIS PLANS

Our recently-released sample NDIS plans have been an extremely well received – in the month since their release, they've been accessed by almost 1,800 people and have been shared widely across social media.

We've produced three sample NDIS plans, intended for use by young people in nursing homes as they prepare their own NDIS plans:

- Plan 1: Supporting a younger person with complex disability to live in the community
- Plan 2: Exploring options to move out of residential aged care
- Plan 3: Living a more fulfilled life in residential aged care

The sample plans alert young people in nursing homes to the types of goals they may want in their plan, as well as the supports that might be considered reasonable and necessary to achieve those goals.

A template, which is included with the sample plans, is designed to help people to prepare for their planning meeting, as well as to record the details of their planning meeting to assist with plan implementation.

The sample NDIS plans are available on our website:

🌐 [www.summerfoundation.org.au/sample-ndis-plans](http://www.summerfoundation.org.au/sample-ndis-plans)

IN THE  
MEDIA

ABC NEWS

FINANCIAL  
REVIEW

PRO  
AUSTRALIA  
BONO

Ageing Agenda

We have featured recently on ABC's Lateline, in the Australian Financial Review, Pro Bono Magazine and the Australian Ageing Agenda. For details, check out: 🌐 [www.summerfoundation.org.au/media](http://www.summerfoundation.org.au/media)



## NDIS REPORT CARD

Twice a year, the Summer Foundation will publish a Report Card on the outcomes of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) for young people living in or at risk of admission to residential aged care.

Released in April 2017, our first Report Card identifies the very different outcomes for people in different NDIS rollout areas – while admissions of younger people to aged care reduced by 40% in the Hunter region of New South Wales, admissions of younger people to residential aged care actually rose in Barwon (Victoria) and the Australian Capital Territory.

Our Report Card also highlights the challenge that the NDIS faces in meeting its forecast of 2000 young people in residential aged care entering the Scheme by the end of this financial year – at the end of January 2017, just 374 young people in residential aged care had NDIS plans.

You can find the Summer Foundation's Report Card here: [www.summerfoundation.org.au/ndis-report-card-april-2017](http://www.summerfoundation.org.au/ndis-report-card-april-2017)



**SAVE THE DATE**

**The Summer Foundation's**  
**ANNUAL PUBLIC FORUM**  
 will be held on  
**Thursday 19 October 2017**  
**at The Arena, NAB Docklands,**  
**Melbourne**

## PATHWAYS BACK INTO THE COMMUNITY

Hundreds of young Australians with disability enter nursing homes every year. These are people who could live in the community if they were provided the right support at the right times.

The majority of these young people enter nursing homes directly from a hospital setting, so the Summer Foundation is partnering with hospitals, governments and the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to create a better pathway from hospital back into the community.

The Summer Foundation has a number of projects underway – variously designed to build the capacity of inpatient health and aged care workers, increase access to information, improve systems, map demand for accessible housing and effectively match prospective tenants with housing opportunities. These projects have been made possible by the generous support of the William Buckland Foundation, the NDIA, the Australian Government's Department of Social Services and the Victorian Government's Department of Health & Human Services.

These projects will demonstrate collaborative approaches to discharge planning that can be implemented across the hospital network. The aim is to better coordinate discharge planning and support services, to enable young people to leave hospital earlier and move back into the community, rather than being moved into nursing homes.

“ I FEEL LOST. LOOKING AROUND THE CITY AND SEEING THE HOMELESS PEOPLE, I FEEL THE SAME – I'M ESSENTIALLY HOMELESS. ”

Changing the default practice of discharging young people with disability from hospital to nursing homes is urgent. In undertaking these projects, the Summer Foundation respectfully remembers Milly Burrows, a vocal advocate for other young people with disability who found herself in this exact situation. Milly was formidable in her determination to avoid being discharged to a nursing home. In resisting that outcome, Milly was an equal match to the tremendous pressure placed on her by a system that simply couldn't offer an alternative. The words of this young woman express perfectly why engineering better systems to keep young people out of nursing homes is so vital.

## NDIS CONNECTIONS PROJECT IS WRAPPING UP

After three years, our 'NDIS Connections' project is formally wrapping up at the end of June 2017. This valuable work directly supported over 300 younger people in nursing homes to register as NDIS participants. The project also supported many other people – such as nursing home staff, advocates and family members – as they worked to connect other young people in nursing homes with the NDIS.

The knowledge gained through this action research project has been invaluable in developing information resources and an evidence base for policy change.

Our heartfelt thanks go to the team who have dedicated themselves to delivering the NDIS Connections project: Natalie Butler, Joanna Stewart, Rebecca Pockney and Melody Carbarns, as well as the teams from our two partner organisations, ADACAS (in the ACT) and Brightwater (Perth).

As the NDIS rolls out across Australia, an enormous amount of one-on-one support will be required to assist young people living in nursing homes to effectively access the NDIS. So we are now working with government and the NDIA to streamline and fast-track the NDIS connection process for young people in nursing homes. We are also focussing on ways that we can enable nursing home staff, advocates and family members to do the connecting work – providing them with resources, consultation, mentoring and training about the NDIS connection process.

Our NDIS Practice Guide, together with a range of other materials designed to assist you as you go through the NDIS connection process, are all available on our website:

[www.summerfoundation.org.au/ndis/ndis-resources](http://www.summerfoundation.org.au/ndis/ndis-resources)



## NDIS RESOURCES

The rollout of the NDIS will provide opportunities for many young people with disability to improve the quality of their lives. For younger people living in nursing homes, it may provide a pathway back into community-based housing.

Unfortunately, connecting to the NDIS and getting the best outcomes from it is proving a real challenge for many people.

To make the process easier, the Summer Foundation is preparing a suite of resources. We've recently released a collection of Sample NDIS Plans (see separate article), which include background information and a template to assist people as they prepare their own plans.

Following the sample plans will be a series of guides that explain the Exploring Housing Options Package (EHOP), Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) payments and how to prepare a Housing Plan, as well as helpful information on NDIS assessments, how to choose your EHOP Support Coordinator and understanding SDA housing categories.

To access these resources as they're released, keep an eye on our website [www.summerfoundation.org.au/ndis/ndis-resources](http://www.summerfoundation.org.au/ndis/ndis-resources), connect with us on Facebook [facebook.com/SummerFoundationLtd](https://facebook.com/SummerFoundationLtd) or sign up to receive our emails: [www.summerfoundation.org.au/news-information-sign-up](http://www.summerfoundation.org.au/news-information-sign-up)



SUMMER  
HOUSING

Visit: [www.summerhousing.org.au](http://www.summerhousing.org.au)