

SUMMER FOUNDATION NEWS

GET BUILDING SDA

National Conference 2019

22 March 2019

Marvel Stadium
Docklands
Melbourne



Welcome to our first newsletter for 2019. Early last month The Hon Paul Fletcher, Minister for Families and Social Services, and The Hon Sarah Henderson, Assistant Minister for Social Services, Housing and Disability Services announced immediate reforms to SDA. The changes are significant and meaningful and will dramatically improve the experience of participants seeking SDA.

With the first Get Building SDA National Conference only weeks away the announcements are timely. Minister Fletcher will speak at the conference, along with Rob de Luca, CEO, National Disability Insurance Agency. If you're interested in coming to the conference, you can read more about it in this newsletter.

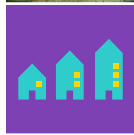

We are also hosting a series of SDA events in NSW throughout April, to connect SDA providers with NDIS participants. With this, the conference and the latest reforms to SDA, we can see the ground is shifting. If you're a young person living in aged care or are stuck in hospital, there are more opportunities than ever to think about moving out and living back in the community.

In early February we launched UpSkill, an initiative to build the capacity of support coordinators. We plan to do this through showcasing best practice, running workshops and training and building a community of practice.

The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety also commenced last month. We've been running workshops for people with lived experience of aged care to help them tell their stories and make a submission to the Royal Commission. You can read more about this initiative, and other developments in this update.

Luke Bo'sher
CEO

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RAPID INTERIM HOUSING

A lack of accessible housing available at the right time and in the right area can leave people with a newly acquired disability stuck in hospital, rehabilitation settings or being admitted to aged care. Without innovative housing options, many young people will continue to be forced to live in aged care while they wait for appropriate housing.

The Summer Foundation is prototyping and displaying a rapid response housing unit that has been designed to support people with disability to avoid aged care.

The prototype looks just like any other small house, it has a living area, bedroom and ensuite, kitchenette and laundry. Assistive technology will increase the occupant's independence, safety and security.

The prototype unit will be displayed in Melbourne and regional Victoria.

The Housing Hub

Have you seen The Housing Hub? It is a website www.thehousinghub.org.au where people with disability, family members, support workers and health professionals can search for a home that is suitable for people with disability to live independently. There are around 300 properties listed in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia. New properties are added daily.

We are reviewing the website's features as we prepare to launch a new version in 2019. If you have any feedback for the next version, please feel free to get in touch with our team at enquiries@thehousinghub.org.au

To stay up to date on The Housing Hub, please subscribe to our mailing list at www.thehousinghub.org.au so we can send you updates from time to time.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR BETTER HOSPITAL DISCHARGE OUTCOMES

As part of the Summer Foundation's Hospital Discharge Flagship project, we have piloted new collaborative working arrangements between hospitals and the NDIS, using funding provided through the William Buckland Foundation. This project aims to enhance the pathway from hospital to home, with the overarching intention of diverting people with disability away from aged care. This work is combining the work we have done in linking health, disability and housing organisations, under the title of a 'Collaborative Discharge Approach'.

We are pleased to announce that we will be expanding this work in 2019. In Victoria we have been advised by DHHS that they will support us to expand our work with hospitals. We will use the Collaborative Discharge Approach (CDA) and general NDIS training and mentoring to support health networks across the state. We also have planning underway to expand this approach with key metropolitan health providers in NSW and Queensland.

We are working closely with the NDIA to align the CDA rollout with their new 'complex pathway' developments. The aim is to streamline the hospital process, so that people with high and complex support needs who are ready to return to community living achieve the very best outcomes possible. This work in hospitals and with the local NDIA offices will combine with the building program of new SDA dwellings that Summer Housing is leading, and the tenancy matching work done by our Housing Outcomes team. Our ultimate aim is to make a significant dent in the numbers of young people forced into residential aged care over the coming years.

SDA REFORMS

The Summer Foundation welcomes immediate changes to Specialist Disability Accommodation that have been announced by the Minister for Families and Social Services, Paul Fletcher, and Sarah Henderson, Assistant Minister for Social Services, Housing and Disability Services.

The reforms were announced at the opening of Summer Housing's new purpose-built SDA apartments in Fairfield.

CEO Luke Bo'sher said the reforms addressed concerns about the SDA Framework raised last June in a joint submission to the Federal Government by 21 organisations who have experience with the way SDA is operating.

"The changes create confidence across the affordable housing and finance sectors to scale up their efforts to create Specialist Disability Accommodation," Luke said.

These changes will mean that people with disability can get a quicker decision, with a new SDA "fast track" approach, where young people in aged care and hospital are high priority groups for fast tracking. SDA providers will benefit from these changes through greater SDA price certainty and more transparency on how prices get reviewed in the future.

UPSKILL LAUNCH

On 8 February, we launched UpSkill, our Support Coordination Flagship Program. The program aims to build the capability of the support coordination workforce around five key areas:

1. Working with clinical teams involved in hospital discharge and rehabilitation to assist people to return to the community
2. Working with ACAT and the NDIS to reframe RAC as a short-term option
3. NDIS housing pathways and developing collaborative housing plans
4. Building the capacity of young people in aged care to return to the community
5. Living well in the community

If you'd like to be kept informed of face-to-face professional development opportunities rolling out in the coming months in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland as well as how to access resources on online please sign up to our support coordinators mailing list: www.summerfoundation.org.au/get-involved/support-coordinators-mailing-list/

GET BUILDING SDA



National Conference 2019

22 March 2019

Marvel Stadium Docklands, Melbourne

The Summer Foundation and Youngcare are hosting the first Get Building SDA National Conference on 22 March in Melbourne. Specialist disability accommodation (SDA) is transforming housing options for people with disability and the conference provides an excellent opportunity to look at what the SDA market has achieved so far. Participants, providers, developers, investors and policy-makers will all have a voice at the conference.

Keynote Speakers:



Hon Paul Fletcher MP
Minister for Families & Social Services



Robert de Luca
CEO, National Disability Insurance Agency

An impressive line up of presenters and storytellers will be talking about their experiences with SDA.

Download the program at:
getbuildingsda.org.au/program

Pricing:

Discounted tickets are available for people with disability and their families. Concession: \$50 (plus GST) – concession card holders, person with disability or family members)

Register today to secure your place:

www.trybooking.com/ZUTU

The conference, which the Summer Foundation is presenting with Youngcare, complements a one-day event being hosted by Disability Services Consulting, **SDA Forum 2019 - It's Time**, on March 21. Content at both events is designed to provide information, connections and resources around building quality SDA.



PROFILE – LIZ ELLIS

The Summer Foundation has a tenancy matching service to support SDA providers who are developing new properties across the country, as well as housing seekers who believe they may qualify for the SDA funding.

The team is working with Summer Housing to find suitable tenants for their 10 new apartments in Oakleigh, applications are open now. The apartments are for people with significant physical support needs. For information, you can email newbuild@thehousinghub.org.au or phone the Summer Foundation on 1300 626 560.

Tenants have moved in to a recent development managed by Summer Foundation's Melbourne Housing Matching Team. Liz Ellis was one of the first tenants to move in.

Liz gave a fantastic address at the opening of the purpose-built apartments. Her words provided a powerful insight into what being able to live in an SDA apartment means for a person with disability.

"I realised the other day, I'm in my 30s and I've never had a place of my own to live – ever," Liz said. *"Nothing is yours when you live somewhere that's run by an organisation because you always feel like you're intruding. Now, I walk in the door and I think 'hang on, I'm home and I'm not intruding on anyone else's space'. It's awesome."*

"It's still very surreal," Liz said. *"It's been an aspiration for so long. But it's awesome knowing that people like Summer Housing are in your corner working to make it happen."*

Look out for a video featuring Liz talking about life in her new apartment on our website:

summerfoundation.org.au/profile-liz-ellis

GET BUILDING SDA

Connecting NSW



We are running a series of events in April to connect NDIS participants with housing providers. We understand that SDA is complex, and that connecting SDA providers with NDIS participants can be difficult, so these events aim to bring participants and housing providers together.

MONDAY 1 APRIL – Sydney

Register at www.trybooking.com/BAAQX

WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL - Dubbo

Register at www.trybooking.com/BAAPY

FRIDAY 5 APRIL – Wagga

Register at www.trybooking.com/BAAQI

WEDNESDAY 10 APRIL – Penrith

Register at www.trybooking.com/BAAQP

FRIDAY 12 APRIL - Tweed Heads

Register at www.trybooking.com/BAAQZ

For more information: info@getbuildingsda.org.au

ROYAL COMMISSION UPDATE

With the Aged Care Royal Commission now under way, we are encouraging anyone with a story to tell around being a young person in aged care, or at risk of going into aged care, to make a submission.

Throughout February and early March we ran workshops to support people with disability to tell their stories and make a submission to the commission. Workshops in Western Australia, Queensland and Tasmania are still to come, so if you live in these states and would like to tell your story, please get in touch with us either by phone or email: 1300 626 560 or info@summerfoundation.org.au

If you were unable to attend a workshop but would like some support to put your submission together, we have a useful guide to making a submission. You can access the guide and watch others telling their story here:

www.summerfoundation.org.au/everystorymatters