

SUMMER FOUNDATION NEWS



Welcome to our final newsletter for 2018. It's been an exciting couple of months for the Summer Foundation in both the housing and health spheres. We have been busy scaling up practical solutions to the challenges faced by young people with complex support needs in the rollout of the NDIS.

In housing, we are now seeing young people leaving aged care facilities to move into specialist disability accommodation (SDA). The first tenants will start moving into Summer Housing's Fairfield apartments from January. We have also just started finding tenants for two more exciting new apartment developments in the Sydney suburb of Rockdale and Brisbane's Woolloongabba. You can read more about these in this newsletter.

A great reflection of what we have achieved in the NDIS and health sphere is the interest our work is generating from the NDIA, the government and the industry. An increasing number of hospitals are approaching us to provide training to their staff to improve the pathway from hospital to home.

Our Hospital Discharge Project in the Ballarat and Barwon areas has provided solutions to build knowledge and skills in health staff that help reduce the number of young people discharged to aged care. We are now looking to take these to other regions.

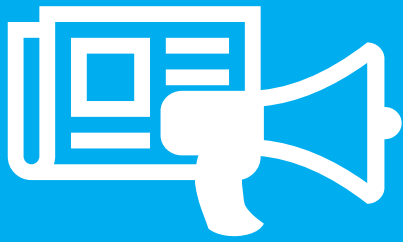
And with the coming Royal Commission into Aged Care, and its direct reference to young people in aged care, there is much to be positive about. (See our royal commission update on page 2 of this newsletter.)

From everyone at the Summer Foundation, we wish you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Luke Bo'sher
CEO

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ROYAL COMMISSION INTO AGED CARE – UPDATE

Our CEO Luke Bo'sher and policy manager George Taleporos met with Royal Commissioner Lynelle Briggs and her team in November. We are very pleased to report that young people in residential aged care and the issues related to this group are a high and early priority for the Commissioner.

We talked to the Commissioner about the importance of providing a range of options for people to tell their stories, and will be working closely with the Royal Commission to support young people to have their say.

Aspects of the recently released Terms of Reference that are particularly relevant to us include:

"How best to deliver aged care services to people with disabilities residing in aged care facilities, including younger people", and

Consideration of "the interface with other services accessed by people receiving aged care services, including primary health care services, acute care and disability services, and relevant regulatory systems. This should take into account how people transition from other care environments or between aged care settings."

The "interface with other services" aspect provides the most opportunity for influencing change, so we can stop young people from ending up in aged care.

Issues related to the aged care pathway, hospital discharge and residential aged care as a provider of last resort for disability services will be important topics for the Royal Commission to examine.

If you or a family member would like to have your say please keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates, contact us directly or you can contact the Royal Commission by visiting: agedcare.royalcommission.gov.au/Pages/default.aspx

SUPPORT COORDINATION FLAGSHIP PROGRAM

The role of support coordinator is critical to keeping young people out of aged care. As part of our new Support Coordinator Flagship Program, the Summer Foundation is creating a Community of Practice to encourage knowledge sharing and to foster professional connections between support coordinators. We also plan to connect great support coordinators to those in aged care or at risk of entering aged care.

It is our aim to define the role more clearly so people have a greater understanding of the variety of skills required to not just do the job, but to be a great support coordinator. We'll be running training sessions, webinars and offering one-on-one advice to support coordinators as a way of building the skill-set and capabilities of support coordinators. To stay informed of opportunities, or to register your interest in being part of this new program sign up to our support coordinators mailing list:

summerfoundation.org.au/support-coordinators-mailing-list/

ALLEN MARTIN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The two winners of the 2018 Allen Martin Scholarships were announced at the Allen Martin Memorial Lecture in November.

Clinical neuropsychologist and Monash University Research Fellow, Dr Kate Gould, received a scholarship for her Australian-first research to help protect people with acquired brain injury (ABI) from cyber scams.

Danielle Sansonetti, an occupational therapist and senior clinician at the Alfred Health ABI Unit, will look at ways to optimise independence for individuals with ABI through successful application of daily routines after they transition to the community.

The lecture was presented by Professor Fary Khan, who discussed the "evolving role of rehabilitation in global health".

The two \$5000 Allen Martin Research Scholarships are sponsored by the Rotary Club of Kew and Robinson Gill lawyers.

NEW SPECIALIST DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION DATA

The latest quarterly report from the NDIA included a new set of market data relating to specialist disability accommodation (SDA). It showed that at the end of September 2018, more than 9,500 NDIS participants across Australia had an SDA payment in their NDIS plan and over \$90m had been committed in SDA payments. There were 2,200 registered SDA dwellings, and of these, 260 were newly built.

Analysing the data, Disability Consulting Services principal consultant Brent Woolgar said it would hopefully increase confidence in the SDA market.

He said broad conclusions from the data included:

- A majority of SDA payments are at the basic level
- At least 10% of SDA stock is newly built
- There continues to be a significant undersupply of new, higher accessibility SDA
- The committed SDA spending is still less than 20% of the NDIS' estimated \$700m a year

"However, the release of the data is a very welcome and encouraging step by the NDIA," Mr Woolgar said. "It also reinforces an emerging trend within the SDA market of participants starting to be approved to live alone in high physical support settings."



NEW HOUSING PROJECTS

Applications are open for Summer Housing apartments in quality new developments in the Brisbane suburb of Woolloongabba and Sydney suburb of Rockdale.

The developments – The Mews Apartments in Woolloongabba and View Apartments in Rockdale – are due to be completed in April 2019.

Each development includes 10 quality, accessible one-bedroom apartments for people with high physical support needs. The apartments, peppered throughout the developments, are built to exceed Livable Housing Australia's Platinum design level and meet High Physical Support design requirements under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS). The apartments include assistive and communication technology.

An on-site Supported Independent Living provider will deliver concierge support services to tenants in each development.

Summer Housing has engaged the Summer Foundation to assist with tenant matching for the apartments.

Expressions of interest from potential tenants close on 19 December. For more information, go to:

🌐 thehousinghub.org.au/properties/sleek-and-stylish-living-at-the-mews

🌐 thehousinghub.org.au/properties/view-apartments-modern-living-at-its-best/

We will also be running workshops on developing a quality housing plan for support coordinators and allied health professionals working with people interested in living in these properties. The workshops will be in NSW on 17 December – book at 🌐 www.trybooking.com/ZJHZ – and in Queensland on 19 December – book at 🌐 www.trybooking.com/ZJID



CONFUSED ABOUT SDA?

Don't miss this exclusive workshop, that will explain the SDA pathway and show support coordinators and allied health professionals how to write effective housing plans for their clients.

- Complete a practical exercise to apply what you've learnt
- Receive individual advice
- An opportunity to have all your SDA questions answered
- Receive a USB packed with the Summer Foundation's latest templates

SYD: 17 Dec – Book at www.trybooking.com/ZJHZ

QLD: 19 Dec – Book at www.trybooking.com/ZJID

FROM HOSPITAL TO HOME

2018's Annual Public Forum, "From Hospital to Home", brought together more than 150 hospital discharge professionals, people with lived experience and disability sector professionals to discuss the best ways to support people to return to living in their communities.

Ensuring that the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is accessible for young people leaving hospital with complex support needs who are at risk of admission to aged care is a big step towards resolving the issue of young people being forced to live in aged care.

The NDIS provides a new opportunity for people with disability to leave hospital with the right supports in place so they can choose where they live.

The forum heard personal stories about people's hospital discharge experiences and difficulties accessing the NDIS, but also positive outcomes that have been achieved. Health professionals acknowledged the challenges adjusting to the scheme, but all spoke favourably about its potential to change lives.

Disability advocate and former National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) employee Penny Dorgan told of her journey through the health and disability systems after a lengthy stay in hospital. Even as a disability sector professional she struggled to navigate her way through the systems.

NDIA General Manager, Critical Service Issues, Stephanie Gunn, said: "We need to do what it takes to get someone home from hospital with sustainable, safe and appropriate support."

Australia's Disability Discrimination Commissioner Alistair McEwin spoke about the importance of the health and disability systems working together with a person-centred approach to achieve the best outcomes for people.

You can watch the forum here:

summerfoundation.org.au/event/apf18/

After the forum we held a seminar for discharge professionals and NDIS support coordinators who are working with people with disability and complex support needs – particularly those who have recently acquired a disability or experienced a sudden increase in their support needs.

You can watch the seminar on our Facebook page here:

<https://buff.ly/2pWCjw0>



PROFILE: COOKESLEY FAMILY

In January 2016, Will Cookesley had an accident that resulted in an acquired brain injury. The accident brought his close-knit family even closer, and for the past 2½ years they have worked tirelessly to ensure that Will is able to regain as much independence as possible. Will was initially told it was unlikely he would walk again.

Not only is Will walking again, but he was discharged from rehab to his own home – not to a nursing home or to the family home. Seeing Will living well in his own apartment shows the potential he still has for improvement.

However these huge achievements have not come easily. The Cookesley family – Mum, Jane, and sisters Luci and Mad – found navigating the maze of the NDIS a massive challenge.

Luci took on the role of coordinating all the NDIS requests for evidence and reports to support Will's access requests.

"If we hadn't had Luci I don't know what we would have done," Jane said. "All the stuff that she had to do – the phone calls, the paperwork."

"It's a scary thought to think of the people that don't have the backup and the support that we were able to give Will. That was a huge motivation for me to advocate for Will and get the right outcomes for him," Luci said.

Luci recently talked about the family's journey at our Annual Public Forum.

And the last word is from Will: "They are just too good to me. I'm very happy, very happy. Thanks girls."

You can watch the family's video here:

www.summerfoundation.org.au/digital-stories/cookesley-family