



Disability and Housing: DHS, Eastern Region

Or: how can DHS help you and your family live the life you want, where you want it with the help you need to live a good life.

Donna Hayes: Manager Disability Partnerships and Service Planning; November 2010

Why is this here you ask?



Two Accommodation Pathways

Pathway 1 =
Group homes

Pathway 2 =
living any where human
beings choose to live
with the support you
need to live the life you
choose.





Group homes? This is the Pathway most people already understand

Funded facilities with staff around the clock who provide high levels of support to people with significant disabilities

Operated by over 20 agencies in Eastern Region, including many houses operated directly by DHS.

Some Important information.

Approximately 200 group homes in the east

People who live in them have a range of disabilities including, intellectual disability, acquired brain injury, physical disabilities, sensory disabilities, neurological disabilities and Autism.

Entry is via the disability support register (THE DSR)

We fill vacancies as they arise approximately 20 – 30 each year.

Accommodation and Support: Broadening our understanding of disability accommodation

Every form of accommodation available to Victorians in general is available to people with a disability.

In Eastern region we have people living in a huge range of situations.

In Share houses, in flats, in their own homes, in public housing, in a caravan, in a bungalow, in a supported residential service, in a retirement village.

Living with, friends, flat mates, partners, families, children, older people and pets.

Public housing: is that for people with disabilities

It sure is,

And

Currently, the nation building investment is increasing our public housing like never before

And

People with disabilities are one of the priority groups for access to the new housing

And

People who are using disability supports (e.g. a package or outreach services) and need a place to live can register on segment 2 of the waiting list which gives priority access to people with disabilities

Office of housing Ph. 1300 650 172



What Makes this possible

ISP

Individual Support Packages



Now for the pragmatics

ISP is not for everyone.

There are not as many dollars in the system as we need to meet all needs, so access to resources is not immediate.

It's hard to know when it's the right time for you to think about alternate accommodation.

Sometimes awful things go wrong and what you thought you would need in a decade you may find you need yesterday.

And a good news finish

If you need some help in knowing what options exist for you or your family member we can help.

The Support for Older Carers service (If your carer over 60) which is operated by Yooralla has funds to help in the short term , small packages to allocate and helpful people who know lots about what's out there for people with disabilities and their families

PH: 9832 5600

Disability Client Services, operated by DHS provides support, advice and all kinds of help to people with disabilities and their families. Their professional staff know how the disability sector works, what's out there and how people with disabilities and their families can access the help they need.

PH 9843 6312