



Ability Care
We give but never give up



TRANSITIONAL ACCOMMODATION

www.abilitycare.org.au

ABILITY CARE

Who we are

At Ability Care, we are committed to enhancing the quality of life of adults and children with an intellectual, physical and/or sensory disability through individualised services and programs that enhance, teach and strengthen each person allowing them to live the life they want.

Ability Care, is a part of a family of international organisations (Community Services Group) collectively committed to supporting and enhancing the quality of life of some of the most vulnerable.



What we do

Our services span across the following areas:

- Accommodation Support
- Support Services
- Respite
- Skills Development

- Emergency and Crisis
- Case Management
- Advocacy
- Information and referrals

Our Philosophy

Our philosophy is simple: We give but never give up.

Our People

If there was one word to describe our people it would undoubtedly be 'passionate'. When you have hundreds of staff and volunteers collectively living and breathing our values, vision and mission; what you get is something truly special; a team that will give but never give up.

Diverse in skills, experience and perspectives; our people are united in our desire to provide the best possible outcomes for our clients.

"Nothing great in the world has ever been accomplished without passion."

Georg Wilhelm
Friedrich Hegel

Transitional Accommodation Support

Ability Care assists young people to transition from out-of-home care to disability supported accommodation.

The aim of the program is to support our clients to access community life and develop and maintain community living arrangements.

Some young people may receive a combination of ongoing and one-off support, while others may only require time-limited support to help them transition to adult independent community life.

Ability Care support our clients to:

- Live at home and manage the household
- Participate in recreation and leisure activities
- Live within an accommodation co-tenancy arrangement
- Strengthen personal and family relationships and networks

Referrals to Ability Care

Ability Care works collaboratively with Child Safety Services and Disability Services to develop and implement a transition from care plan for young people with a disability.

Clients for Transitional Accommodation Support must meet all the following requirements:

- Are likely to require an adult support or service, funded or provided by Disability Services
- On the date of their eighteenth birthday have been subject to a child protection order granting custody or guardianship to the chief executive for a period of longer than two years
- Have been primarily supported by Child Safety in out-of-home care placements.

How we support successful transitions

Working with a young person who is transitioning from care is a continual process of assessment, planning, implementation and review.

We support our clients through this process as follows:

- Complete applications for supports and services funded under the Disability
- Services including the Young Adults Exiting the Care of the State (YACS) Program
- Access a range of information regarding available adult disability supports and services
- Support the young person to trial new living arrangements and, where possible, transition into these arrangements prior to turning 18 so as to reduce the amount of change the young person experiences at 18
- Work with the young person to identify the level of supports required for adult disability supports and community services.
- Work with the young person to identify goals and skill development needs
- Support applications to Guardianship and Administration Tribunal (QCAT), specialist health care and disability services, including Specialist Response Service or Intensive Behaviour Support Teams, where appropriate
- Ability Care specialise in Challenging Behaviour and undertake specialist assessments, develop behaviour plans, provide training and ongoing positive behaviour supports

Issues common to young people transitioning from care to adulthood

Young people who are in, or transitioning from, out-of-home care have the same developmental needs as those who are not in care. However, they also face a range of unique issues and circumstances that highlight their need for particular support during this time.

Contemporary research findings indicate that young people leaving out-of-home care are at significantly greater risk of mental illness, experiencing unemployment, juvenile crime, substance misuse, poverty, prostitution, young parenthood, social isolation and mental illness.

Young people with disabilities and mental health issues, who have no apparent connection to a support system, family or community are most at risk of experiencing social problems.

The transition into young adulthood is a critical developmental event in the life of a young person that often presents them with a range of specific challenges and opportunities.

Ability Care believe it is a privilege to assist young people in these circumstances to successfully navigate this life period with supports aimed to enhance the young person's dignity, respect human rights and meet individual needs.

Key domains to address in planning for the transition to adulthood

Young people are valued by empowering them to lead discussion of the following key life areas:

1. **Relationships and connections** - Develop, renegotiate and/or maintain connections with family; community links; significant others; support networks and social connections through sport, recreation, mentoring
2. **Cultural and personal identity** - Understanding family history and reasons for entering care, develop self-value, belief, identity and sense of belonging to a cultural community
3. **Accommodation** – suitable accommodation with appropriate Disability Service supports where appropriate

4. **Education and training** - Alignment with Education Support Plans (ESP) and Senior Education and Training Plans (SET Plans), meeting current and future education/employment needs.

5. **Employment** - Facilitating access to career planning and support, relevant training programs and work experience or supported employment programs to reach the goal of financial independence. Facilitate discussions about access to transport and the young person's ability to independently commute between work and home.

6. **Health** - Knowledge and skill development to maintain physical health, mental health and sexual health, including relationships and sexuality. Planning for any special or ongoing health needs of the young person and engaging with adult health services, counselling services or disability services

7. **Life skills** - Provision of opportunities and environments for experiential learning in managing money, social development skills, basic self-care skills and basic practical daily living skills, recognising the individuality of each young person

8. **Financial resources** - Identifying the resources and support the young person requires to become financially independent through specifically designed programs to assist with money recognition and money management.

A key goal of transition planning also includes building in self determination and management for the young person.

Contact

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