



ACCESS
HOUSING

Leaders in Affordable Housing

INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM

REFERRAL GUIDE

A stable form of accommodation is one of the most significant factors in achieving recovery for a person with mental health difficulties. Safe, secure, stable housing provides a basis for other areas of a person's life to fall into place.


- Mental Health Commission -

WHAT IS THE INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM?

The Independent Living Program (ILP) is a community based initiative funded by the Mental Health Commission.

The ILP provides long term affordable housing for clients aged between 18 and 65 with severe and persistent mental illness to live securely and successfully within the community.

The ILP provides person-centred support, which is tailored to individual needs and circumstances. Access Housing provides tenancy and property management services and works with external support providers and clinics to facilitate a stable support system for ILP tenants.



It's been good having stable accommodation close to the services and places I need

Access Housing ILP tenant

HOW THE ILP HELPS

Through the Independent Living Program,
Access Housing will:



House people in safe and secure
accommodation



Support people to sustain their tenancy
with a Tenancy Support Plan



Work with service providers, clinics, carers
and/or family and friends to develop
a support system



Connect people with a Tenancy Team to
manage their tenancy

WHO CAN REFER TO THE ILP?

Referrals for the program must come from:

- Mental Health Clinics
 - GPs
 - Mental Health Support Provider
(providing clinical evidence of diagnosis)
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WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

To be eligible for the ILP, individuals must be:

- Diagnosed with severe and persistent mental illness
 - Eligible for Community Housing
 - Willing to participate in the program and engage with support
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HOW DO YOU REFER?

To refer individuals to the ILP the referring agency must provide:

- Current risk assessment
 - Client Management Plan
 - Completed Access Housing supported accommodation referral form
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WHAT DO APPLICANTS PROVIDE?

Applicants will need to provide the following:

- Completed application form
 - Completed Release of Information form
 - 100 points of identification
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INTAKE INTO THE ILP

All referrals will be assessed for eligibility and suitability for the program by an ILP Committee. ***Please note that Access Housing is not obliged to accept anyone onto the waitlist or to offer housing.***

It is a condition of the ILP that tenants receive appropriate support to assist them to maintain stable housing. This requires a collaborative input process to define risk and plan for the tenancy, prior to commencement of the tenancy. This includes the development of a Tenancy Support Plan.

Access Housing may decline an application if:

- The referring agency/lead agency is unable to provide current and accurate risk assessment information or a Management Plan
- The tenant has insufficient support to address tenancy related risks
- An applicant is not willing to engage with support and planning components of the program



ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

Please contact one of
our offices for more
information about the
Independent Living Program

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