



**ACCESS
HOUSING**

Leaders in Affordable Housing

**INDEPENDENT
LIVING
PROGRAM**

**INFORMATION FOR
INDIVIDUALS**

WHAT IS THE INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM?

The Independent Living Program (ILP) aims to assist people aged between 18 and 65 with severe and persistent mental illness to live independently and securely. The program provides support tailored to each individual's circumstances and needs.

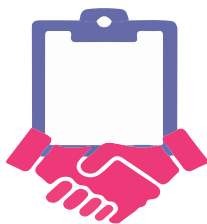
HOW THE ILP HELPS

Through the ILP, Access Housing will:



House you in safe and secure accommodation

Support you to sustain your tenancy with a Tenancy Support Plan



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

Connect you with a Tenancy Team to manage your tenancy





OFFER OF A PROPERTY

If you are approved for the program, you will be added to the ILP waitlist. When an ILP property becomes available:

- We will ask for up-to-date information from you and your support providers
- You will be contacted to make sure the home suits your needs
- You will be able to view the property and decide if you want to live there
- We will inform you of how much rent you will be charged and the bond amount. You will then sign a Tenancy Agreement.



SUPPORT SYSTEM

Access Housing will make sure you have a positive support system around you that will help you stay housed, even if you become unwell. Your support system will include your clinical support (GP, public mental health service or psychiatrist), support service provider, carer and may also include your friends and family.

You will nominate your main supports on a *Release of Information* form. Working with your support system and sharing information is an important part of maintaining your tenancy.



TENANCY SUPPORT PLAN

We will meet with you and your supports to develop your Tenancy Support Plan. The purpose of a Tenancy Support Plan is to make sure you have the help you need to maintain your tenancy.

WHAT YOUR PLAN WILL LOOK LIKE

WHAT ARE THE ISSUES	Challenges and barriers you face maintaining your tenancy if you are unwell
WHAT IS WORKING WELL	Your strengths in being able to maintain your tenancy
WHAT NEEDS TO HAPPEN	What you, your support network and Access Housing need to do to make sure your tenancy is successful
ISSUES THAT WILL BE ADDRESSED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Payment of rent and bills• Managing visitors• Looking after the property• Being a good neighbour• Staying in contact with your supports and Access Housing

A Safeguarding Plan may also be developed to help us understand what triggers and symptoms you may have if you become unwell and what strategies are in place to get you well quickly.



TENANCY TEAM

Your Tenancy Officer from Access Housing will assist you to manage tenancy matters and will be understanding and ready to assist you if you become unwell.

Your Tenancy Officer will support you by:

- Helping you manage complaints and neighbourhood issues
- Setting up a Centrelink deduction with you so your rent will be paid even if you are in hospital
- Arranging property inspections with you or your supports if you are unwell
- Letting you know about local community services you may need

REVIEW OF SUPPORT & HOUSING

Each year we will conduct an eligibility review, which means we will:

- Check household details and review your rent
- Look at your health and housing needs
- Review your support plan to reflect your current needs
- Check you are receiving clinical support

If you are no longer eligible for the ILP, this does not necessarily mean you will leave your property. Access Housing will support you and discuss other housing options with you.

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS?

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

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