

Client matching and shared accommodation support



CareChoice and DHHS have a working relationship through the provision of supports to clients with complex needs. Both organisations identified two NDIS participants (Neil and Jason) of a similar age and with similar support needs who might suit a more independent shared living arrangement. Neil has a primary diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder while Jason has a moderate intellectual disability, ADHD, Adolescent Behaviour Disorder & Autistic Behaviours.

Before introducing the idea of a shared living arrangement to the young men, a separate client appointment was organised to understand the goals and supports required by each, their individual accommodation needs, if they were interested in a more independent shared living arrangement and what type of person they might want to live with.

Both men said they were interested in sharing a home with another person so deidentified profiles were swapped between them. After reviewing the profile they asked to meet and CareChoice set up an appointment for them and their families.

After meeting, Neil and Jason were keen to share together and expressed their desire to be with someone of a similar age and gender. CareChoice developed a detailed proposal of support for the NDIA that covered the end-to-end process required to find, establish and transition Neil and Jason into joint accommodation. It included:

- The process to acquire suitable long-term accommodation.
- A support plan outlining complex care supports for around the clock care.
- Improved living arrangement funding to assist with the maintaining the accommodation (e.g. Bills paid on time, condition of the house at a high standard)
- A joint Supported Independent Living (SIL) quote for the NDIA thoroughly identifying the separate care requirements and costs for each participant was developed. With Jason's complex care needs properly identified funding allocation was split. 4 of the 7 overnight supports to Jason, the rest to Neil. The SIL quote also split the shared care for mornings, evenings, overnight and a day program between 9-3pm Monday – Friday. It included 6 hours of separate supports on Saturdays and Sundays so both the young men could pursue their own activities.

Key goals in their supports included developing independent living skills through positive behaviour support, as well as minimise the chance of property damage and behaviours of concern by Jason who had a history of placement breakdowns in group home settings (often comprising 8 or more residents).

To ensure the success of these goals CareChoice selected a dedicated support team who received individualised client training. CareChoice also ensured both men maintained close contact with their family and linked family connectedness to their independent living skills by supporting the young men prepare meals for visiting family.

Since their initial transition into shared accommodation, both Neil and Jason have developed their life skills and now manage their own shopping, budgeting and meal preparation. Additionally, the level of supports have been reduced slightly over time and both men have added a new goal for themselves to gain employment. There has also been minimal property damage and a significant reduction in the number of incidents reports, particularly for Jason, who has responded positively to his new skills, behavioural interventions and being in an accommodation setting appropriate for him as an individual.



**Neil and Jason are not the clients' real names. They have been de-identified to protect their privacy. To read our privacy policy visit www.carechoice.net.au/privacy*

CareChoice is a NDIS, DHHS, TAC and Out of Home Care approved provider of quality services. We support people of any age from birth throughout the lifespan.

CareChoice is experienced with all physical and intellectual capabilities and specialises in complex care solutions including high physical support needs and behaviours of concern.

CareChoice services are available 24 x 7 x 365 across greater Melbourne, the Mornington Peninsula, Geelong and key Victorian regions.