

Respondents & Demographics

Q1. Are You?	#	%
A person with a disability?	26	36%
A carer of a person with disability?	39	53%
A service provider or peak body?	6	8%
Other	2	3%
Total	73	

Q2 & 19. Age	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Under 18	1	4%	8	20.5%	9	13.5%
18-24	2	7%	8	20.5%	10	15%
25-34	5	19%	7	18%	12	18%
35-44	3	11%	3	7.5%	6	9%
45-54	12	44%	3	7.5%	15	23%
55-64	4	15%	7	18%	11	17%
65+	0	0%	3	8%	3	4.5%
Total	27		39		66	

Comment: A reasonable spread of ages with all categories represented.

Q3 & 20. Gender	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Male	4	15%	23	59%	27	42%
Female	22	85%	14	36%	36	55%
Prefer not to say	0	0%	2	5%	2	3%
Total	26		39		65	

Q5 & 24. Aboriginality	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
No	26	100%	39	100%	65	100%
Total	26		39		65	

Q4 & 23. Location	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Metro	23	88%	27	73%	50	79.5%
Regional	2	8%	10	27%	12	19%
Interstate	1	4%	0	0%	1	1.5%
Total	26		37		63	

Comment: Responses match WA population statistics, with 79% of the WA population living within the greater Perth area.

Support

Q6 & 21. Support Funding	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Yes	14	54%	34	89%	48	75%
No	12	46%	4	11%	16	25%
Total	26		38		64	

Q7 & 22. Funding Type	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
NDIS	11	55%	14	36%	25	42%
DSC	2	10%	15	38.5%	17	29%
HACC	3	15%	5	13%	8	13.5%
MH	0	0%	1	2.5%	1	2%
Unsure	4	20%	4	10%	8	13.5%
Total	20		39		59	

Comment: 4 respondents indicated they receive funding from more than one source.

Q8 & 25. Support Type	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Personal care (e.g. eating, showering, dressing)	5	5%	31	10%	36	9%
Mobility (e.g. walking, getting out of bed)	12	11.5%	15	5%	27	6.5%
Communication	1	1%	17	5.5%	18	4%
Cognitive or emotional assistance (e.g. decision making, managing finances)	6	6%	29	9.5%	35	8.5%
Health care (e.g. taking medication)	4	4%	28	9%	32	8%

Support Type Continues >>

Q8 & 25. Support Type	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Reading and writing tasks	8	7.5%	21	7%	29	7%
Interpreting/translation	0	0%	4	1.5%	4	1%
Transport (e.g. for appointments, activities)	11	10.5%	34	11%	45	11%
Household chores	15	14.5%	36	11.5%	51	12.5%
Property maintenance	18	17.5%	27	9%	45	11%
Meal preparation	6	6%	31	10%	37	9%
Company/companionship	11	10.5%	29	9.5%	40	10%
Other	6	6%	4	1.5%	10	2.5%
Total	103		306		409	

Comment: Respondents indicated they receive support for several forms of assistance:

Comments

- I need help with communication sometimes other wise I a pretty good
- MHC plan
- Psychosocial support
- Advocacy with the Housing Authority, Department of Communities
- Advocacy
- Support with administration tasks i.e.. Centrelink, NDIS, service providers, workers compensation claim/insurance/TPD
- Accessing community
- Help with finances, running a home, general assistance to navigate and plan life
- Lifelong learning

Home

Q9 & 26. Current Home	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Living in family home (with parents and/or siblings)	5	19%	13	32%	18	26.5%
Living alone in a private rental property	1	3.5%	3	7%	4	5.5%
Living with other people in a private rental property (shared housing)	3	11%	3	7%	6	9%
Living alone in a property you are paying a mortgage on	3	11%	0	0%	3	4.5%
Living with others e.g. partners in a property you are paying a mortgage on	1	3.5%	1	2.5%	2	3%
Living alone in a property that is fully owned (paid off)	2	7.5%	0	0%	2	3%
Living with others e.g. partner in a property that is fully owned (paid off)	1	3.5%	2	5%	3	4.5%

Current Home Continues >>

Q9 & 26. Current Home	You		Person you care for		Total		
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
Living in a public housing property	6	22%	7	17%	13	19%	29%
Living in a community housing property	1	3.5%	3	7%	4	5.5%	
Living in a group home e.g. disability service provider home	0	0%	3	7%	3	4.5%	
Living in transient accommodation	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	
Other	4	15%	6	15%	10	15%	
Total	27		41		68		

Private rental
 Home ownership
 Social housing

Comments

- Living in a shed out in the bush because that's all I can afford. I cannot manage living here because it is not a proper home - there is not interior bathroom or kitchen. After fleeing family violence 7 years ago, a judge gave me 2 weeks to find somewhere else to live. This was all I could afford for \$100,000 (what else is there). You need at least one month to find private rental, if there is anything accessible. Housing organisations tell me that I'm 'housed' and not homeless. They only help homeless people. Meanwhile, I keep having falls or go without regular bathing because this property is NOT accessible. If I were elderly they would acknowledge that I cannot manage living where I do, but I'm 46 y.o. and they don't care. This place is causing further degeneration of my disability! Ehlers Danlos Syndrome. I'm stuck here until it kills me. :(
- Living with child in a private rental property
- Living in the family home with my son and granddaughter full-time paying a mortgage
- Living in short term private accommodation because I couldn't get any help elsewhere
- Lives in a private rental with his daughter, aged 16
- With Grandparents home
- Prison
- Living with single parent in public housing
- Living with me (carer)
- Living with partner in a rental property

Q10 & 28 Looking For	You		Person you care for		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Accessibility	19	17%	29	16%	48	16.5%
Independence	25	23%	31	17%	56	19%
Support	8	7%	23	13%	31	11%
Sharing housing	0	0%	8	4.5%	8	3%
Location	18	16.5%	27	15%	45	15.5%
Security	19	17%	29	16%	48	16.5%
Being part of the community	15	14%	27	15%	42	14%
Other	6	5.5%	7	3.5%	13	4.5%
Total	110		181		291	

Looking For Continues >>

Comments

- Close to public transport, doctors, shops
- Privacy. When you tell people that you're a cripple, they either avoid you completely or keep turning up everyday to check on you, talking down to you like you're 3 years old. Also, the exterior of the property needs to be low maintenance. Some garden is nice but not more than I can manage - I can't mow lawns. And they need to understand that assistance dogs are not guide dogs. I've had rental applications denied because my assistance dog, who picks up dropped items or helps with some light household duties (laundry collection, opening doors), is not a guide dog. They think that there are only guide dogs and nothing else. Real estate agents and property owners need to be aware that there are different types of assistance dogs.
- I am very involved in the community and the NDIS is helping me more independent
- Permanency to age in place with dignity, integrity, respect - provides financial security, easily maintained including yard area, clean, good neighbours and community
- Affordability
- Safety is my priority due to previous assaults
- Being able to come and go as she pleases
- Public transport at the door. With high frequency of service.
- I'm looking
- Being closer to other family members
- Near and accessible to their life , connections, work and family supports
- Mental health and wellbeing
- A courtyard or main table space where a small dog could live , an efficient hot water system and a house that isn't hard to heat

What sorts of housing are they looking for? Responses from organisations / other

- Accessible housing
- Short and long term
- Mobility accessible homes, shared living with compatible people. Rentals that are accessible
- Supported independent living, group homes, cluster homes
- Community Housing properties for single people with enough room to accommodate 24/7 support.
- Community Housing properties that can be used for groups of people in Supported Accommodation through NDIS SIL quotes.
- Wheelchair accessible housing and bathrooms suitable for commode, etc.
- Wheelchair accessible housing
- Wheelchair accessible housing that meets all of their needs

Disability

Q15 & 32. Disability	You		Person you care for		Organisation/ Other		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Cognitive	8	15.5%	19	24.5%	8	25%	27	21%
Neurological	10	19.5%	19	24.5%	8	25%	29	23%
Physical	18	35.5%	21	27.5%	8	25%	39	30.5%
Mental Health Issues	10	19.5%	12	15.5%	7	22%	22	17%
Other	5	10%	6	8%	1	3%	11	8.5%
Total	51		77		21		128	

Disability Continues >>

Comments

- Sensory Impairment - Blind. Guide Dog user.
- Endocrine, homeostasis, etc. I say “cognitive” because I have a bit of “brain fog” at times. Similar to what a Fibromyalgia patient might experience. Not like dementia.
- I do not like some of the wording that it is on this list I have a learning disability
- Sensory / blind
- Blind
- Asd
- Motor Neurone Disease
- Autism (wide) Spectrum (Anxiety disorder, Tourette’s, OCD, etc)
- Terminal life lonyprogressive wasting away no treatment or cure
- Autism spectrum. Anxiety. Tourette.
- Autism with sensory issues
- Sensory, Intellectual, ABI (acquired brain injury), Autism, chronic disease

Further Communication

Would you like to receive further communication on the Accessing a Home project?

	You		Carer		Organisation/ Other		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q16 & 33.								
Yes	11	58%	16	80%	3	60%	27	70%
No	18	42%	49	20%	2	40%	12	30%
Total	19		20		5		39	

Would you like to take part in an in-depth interview about your experience accessing a home?

	You		Carer		Organisation/ Other		Total	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Q17 & 34.								
Yes	9	47%	11	55%	0	00%	20	51%
No	10	53%	9	45%	0	00%	19	49%
Total	19		20		0		39	

Barrier to Housing

Key Themes

- Accessibility:** Especially for wheelchairs. Cost and difficulty of retro-fitting.
- Availability:** Very limited in private rental market. Several comments that disability housing needs to be tailored to the individual, and is not “one size fits all”. Social housing seems to be a more secure option, but there’s comments about long waits and unsuitable (in terms of the property design and location) offers of accommodation.
- Safety:** Several comments about unsafe locations
- Location:** Preferably close to shops, medical services, public transport, support services.

Barrier to Housing Continues >>

What barriers have you faced in accessing housing with these characteristics?

Individuals (Q11)

- Being a Guide Dog user, I have faced barriers from potential Landlords and Property Management organisations - saying "No Pets Allowed" a Guide Dog is not a pet. I have been forced to pay an extra BOND for the potential damage caused by my Guide Dog.
 - Bathrooms not accessible Affordability Limited choice of suburbs that are affordable and safe
 - Location, physical accessibility of the home, physical accessibility of the community
 - How and where do you find such places?
 - Gardens transport access
 - My disability is not a physical disability so I do not need a special toilet Or hand rails or ramps
 - Unsafe. I have been broken into several times and keen to move
 - \$ and accessibility.
 - Access, modification cost, finding suitable access consultant to assist/liaise with builder as it was eventually worked out as to expensive and time consuming to renovate an existing place. Also getting into some display homes to help us make a choice was not possible. Attitudes of some real estate agents.
 - Income, age
 - Need for assistance with dressing
 - Accessibility and access to the community.
 - Too scared to discuss with Dept Housing that I need to move desperately in fear of being thrown out.
 - Lack of social housing, long waiting list bureaucracy.
 - Once applied long time ago said they could not help us us I have a share in the family home.
 - NO assessment of needs prior to entry into Social Housing system - on priority wait-list - assured of OT assessment and housing modifications to suit me and my family needs - this has not occurred with out me negotiating time and time again. The Housing Support Officers all the way to the Regional Manager DO NOT support persons with disability, poverty and cognitive impairment. The system is not set up to cater for persons with complex medical/disability needs, personal safety e.g.. no street light for over 9 years - took a ministerial to get this done, Housing Support officers have no understanding of inpatient/outpatient/ community assessment or what is available.
- There is no social work to assist complex situations. My god I have such a long list of process/policy issues and blatant discrimination.
- Not many dwellings that are being built are disability accessible; not close to the public transport, GP, shops and other needed amenities; private landlords don't want to spend the money on modifying their dwellings because they can rent it out to someone else; Dept. of Housing keep selling off their stocks or move people with disability out if their income exceeds \$500 per week. The house I live in has to be close to public transport as I don't drive, close to the intersections with traffic lights that have audio signalling, close to my family and social supports; the GP and the shops.
 - Affordability. Location-not near family or in a shit area.
 - On waiting list for public housing since 2018. I am only eligible for 1BR flat ... but I would like a dog and 1BR flat is not suitable. I need a duplex or small 2BR house with yard & fences. Public housing is not secure - no window security screens. I don't feel safe without window security - window locks are not a deterrent. Front & rear doors are hollow core & no security screen doors in public housing. Hollow core can be kicked in by a teenager. I want to feel secure in my home, not vulnerable or an easy target for break-ins.
 - I am only in receipt of Newstart because of the lengthy delays for DSP. I have no living relatives or family support. I don't even know where to ask for help. I connected with several organisations that said they could connect me with help but in the last 12 months not one has even made an appointment to meet me. The reason given is always the same. Everyone is saying since the roll out of the NDIS they don't have time or placements to help any more people. Without advocacy it's diffic One of my conditions is Autism and there is no support for older autistic adults in WA nor for rare genetic disorders for people my age so most of my funds pay for surgery and medical expenses leaving little for accommodation. No one will rent to a single person my age on Newstart.
 - Support
 - Location
 - location, accessibility, affordability
 - Finding suitable accessible housing
 - Not finished to a safe accommodating level

- Expense
- As above, real estate agents or social housing groups, do not know about service / assistance dogs beyond guide dogs. Also, on the rare chance that an accessible property becomes available, it is usually given to a non disabled person or couple. Disabled people are seldom given a job, so real estate

agents or property owners know that we are likely to be unemployed and will approve the application of the non disabled person. I've been trying for 7 years and not even social housing will approve my application! UGH!!!

Carers (Q29)

- Doorways tend to be quite narrow on older (more affordable) properties. Many properties have steep driveways/stairs at entrance. There's usually a step in to the property at the front door. Hallways are often narrow and have sharp turns that the wheelchair cant get around. Toilets and showers generally aren't wheelchair accessible (and/or she would have to unsafely transfer in to the cubicle)
- Special disability trust not allowed to borrow money i.e. obtain mortgage, most private rental properties outside the price range he can afford. Because he is now legally blind, many properties are not safe for him. Long waiting lists for public housing & then offered properties are not suitable for his needs or in unsafe neighbourhoods.
- Not fully wheelchair accessible.
- Locating a safe and affordable accommodation option in a regional area.
 1. Big Change - anxiety.
 2. Distance of new location- possibly south of the river, to current situation which is north of the river.
 3. Costs.
 4. Not sure what's available.
 5. Not skill ready for independence
- Truly accessible housing to rent or buy is non-existent.
- As previously stated he is at risk of homelessness due to his mental illness and the fact that private rental is not suited to him in many ways
- Not yet been there...
- Privatisation of accommodation services limits choice and reduces quality of service immensely.
- Limited options cost
- His disability allowance is not enough to support him in the current rental market and he would not manage without some kind of support
- It has made the house a very tense space. With his lack of emotional regulation and control it has resulting in a very anxious household.
- My son needs to have an accessible home.

We currently will be applying for SDA Funding with the NDIS. This will be a long process . There is also the barrier of Support Workers and having flexible shifts and care.

- History of serious mental health and alcohol and other drug issues plus a criminal record = too hard for accommodation providers.
- Cost, information, sharing opportunities.
- Hard to find suitable accommodation in safe neighbourhood within his budget. His current rental has steps and trip hazards, so is not really low vision friendly but it is in a relatively safe area close to facilities with good neighbours. However as his vision is deteriorating rapidly, he needs to move to a low vision friendly home soon. This will be difficult to find in the rental market- new properties which meet his requirements are out of his price range. We are currently investigating a shared equity home loan with Keystart to see if we can afford to support him to buy his own home, but this is likely to impact our financial security in retirement
- Accessing a house that is wheelchair accessible is the biggest hurdle. Wheelchairs cause a lot of damage to walls, doors, etc. which makes private rental out of the question. Also, his service provider has been cost cutting & reduced the number of support workers in the home. I am extremely worried about my sons' health, safety & happiness due to not enough staff or untrained/agency staff. Ideally, I would like to choose a suitable house, suitable house mates & suitable staff to provide my son with the care he needs & deserves.
- Land options are not available - local gov needs to provide for low density 2,500 sqm blocks to allow 6 dwellings. Also no interest from our cohort as they cannot imagine an option of this kind.
- Lack of decent sized deposit
- People we spoke to at WA housing had no idea about disability/accessibility. I tried to explain about accessible shower/toilet and the chap had no idea what I was talking about. They put us down for a pensioner unit which we explained would be unsuitable but they

- said that's all there is. I know that accessible housing is available but they had no idea about it. We spoke to them a second time but we still got a letter back saying that we had applied for a pensioner unit. Staff obviously have no training re disabilities or accessibility.
- It took four years of advocacy to secure appropriate wheelchair accessible accommodation that was affordable. Very few suitable properties available at all in Perth and suburbs, then the cost of rental is a problem unless community housing.
 - Finance assistance. Finding the right house in the right location, constantly being told we are ineligible for shared equity or other options even though I have a decent deposit.
 - Finance
 - Was in an enclave of homeswest housing where other tenants had colossal disadvantage and antisocial and dangerous behaviours that impacted significantly on our family member and support staff
 - Due to a relationship breakdown and family separation Deacon and I need to find a rental property to live in that allows animals and is flat ground no stairs or steps no sunken sections and wide enough door frames for his chair to get through easily THE PRICE OF RENTAL PROPERTYS IN THE IMMEDIATE METRO AREA ARE OUT OF MY BUDGET RANGE TOTALLY IM FORCED TO SEEK HOUSING FURTHER AWAY
 - Finding one
 - Financial struggles. Suitable quiet locations. Suitable home that does not constantly have burst water pipes & everything else going wrong with them.
 - Living in a house that is not wheelchair friendly.
 - My mum accesses a bond assistance loan to gain a private rental but had to break lease after 5 months due to a rape home invasion, unfortunately she has the legacy of debts from the removalist costs and bond loan . Private real estate agents are judgemental , it's hard to find a place close to a mental health recovery service and where my Mum wishes to live
 - Impossible in the private rental market. Public housing is very limited and only in certain areas. Some older places have not been renovated to current building standards
 - No age appropriate shared housing is available for a younger lady like 25 - 30's every availability is within a home where everyone is aged 40 plus. Or the location of the group home is not within a reasonable travel time, like one hour away.
 - Hard to find information
 - I have started working and been told I do not qualify to be upgraded but can continue staying where we are
 - Too many to count considering he was 13 when he moved out of the family home
 - Waiting times due to lack of suitable accommodation
 - I would not live with her as she is very rude due to her mental illness and makes me feel stressed but I still care for her and do everything every day for her
 - Money (cant afford) and government red tape . community housing not having enough houses to go around
 - Homes west changing the rules and making it to expensive
 - How to start! We want to build for her but don't know where to start

What are the key barriers to people finding this kind of housing?

Organisations / Other

- Limited housing stock in regional areas, exacerbated by extremely limited accessible housing stock.
- There are not enough Community Housing properties available to accommodate people currently being assessed as eligible for SIL. Private rentals are often unaffordable and need adjustments to accommodate people with disabilities. Often the adjustments needed are a substantial investment with no guarantee of long term accommodation.
- Not enough mobility accessible homes in the rental market. Not always compatible people in the shared living homes.
- Availability, suitability, location
- Remote area
- None available, not being suitable for wheelchairs, or too expensive
- Not enough stock of accessible housing Disability housing is not one size fits all accommodation. Each person with a disability have different needs. Housing linked to services often do not go back into stock once vacated and are used by the service provider for one of their people.
- Not enough available stock. Disability housing is not a one size fits all.

Agency Help

Key Themes

Many comments that there is no assistance available. This supports the contention that better access to information is required (navigator service).

Various support services are utilised. Some government organisations; e.g. Centrelink, Department of Communities, and a wide range of non-government organisations.

What agencies have helped provide information?

Open-Ended Response (Q12 & 30)

- Google. My own research.
- DSC
- A friend of my father has done renovations to make homes accessible, so his information (about things that are easy/cheap/DIY to fix vs things that would be difficult and costly)
- None/no-one/N/A (x 15)
- I am always include myself in Community events through looking on the Internet and Community newsletters
- Centrelink.
- DSC: access and inclusion branch. Private access consultant. Equal. PWDWA
- None
- RUAH through the STEP program but they lost the contract recently. New mob is terrible.
- Uniting Care West
- Homes West
- Homeswest DSC Visibility Independent living centre
- Banks and real estate agencies.
- Housing Dept WA
- None so far
- Summer Foundation which we have been following with for some time and of which accessible housing and keeping young people out of nursing homes is there area of expertise
- People with Disabilities, Fremantle Community Legal Service, People Sense, Disability Service Commission, Town of Mosman Park Council, NDIS, WA Health Allied Health Services, Jacaranda Community Services, Visibility, Vision Australia, MRD, Police, Fremantle Support Network, Anglicare etc - there are many more, Judicial System, TADWA, 100 families project, Advocare
- Community housing, disability advocate ,lac
- Disability Services Commission, Department of Housing, NDIS, Centrelink
- Independent Living Centre.
- Local Real estate agencies. Dept of Housing waitlist was too long so did not proceed with application.
- Therapy Focus
- Real estate agents and websites for renting and purchasing Homes.
- Disability Services Commission/Dept of Communities.
- LWB government housings Ng org
- Autism Association
- UCW
- Just Centrelink
- Google
- Co-housing WA
- WAIS, PWDWA, Nulsen Cam Can
- Access housing, dept of communities when dsc
- none that have been helpful.
- Valued Lives
- None. Difficulty getting responsible agencies to help
- Community mental health
- Nulsen, Rocky Bay, United Care and Mosaic
- Dept of housing
- WA Housing.
- Social Worker - Neurosciences Unit and Specialised HD Service at HWA
- Dsc, Atlas
- Community housing, homeswest.

Further Information and Support

Key Themes

Support and advocacy, especially in dealing with government agencies.

Guidance (navigator service) to the correct and complete information. Several comments about not knowing where to start.

What further information or support do you need to help you access the housing you want?

Individuals (Q13) and Carers (Q31)

- For Landlords and Property Management organisations to know and understand that Guide Dogs are not pets.
- Unsure
- Accessibility
- Where to start this process
- N/A
- The idea that I live in a shed in the bush, because that's all I could find and it doesn't have steps, is NOT 'housed'. I cannot manage here! I really, absolutely cannot! I would be happy to share a house with someone who needs supervision and wants to maintain their independence, like an elderly person who does not want to move into a nursing home. If I live in a home with a proper kitchen (unlike where I live now) and proper bathroom, I would be able to manage but my son and I have been left out here to rot! Or, an intellectually disabled parent/s at risk of losing their child/rent via child protection because they don't have support in their home. I could help them with that and love kids, but no one will connect me up with at risk parents. I read stories a lot about intellectually disabled parents having their kids removed (abducted) by CP, I could help! Win, win. Children should be with their parents. They parents get support from me (I can drive, help with shopping or ordering things and make appointments), their kids get to stay with their parents and my son and I get a place to live. No one wants to listen or care. :(
- I am happy living at home and my house dose not need any special access in it as my disability is not physical
- How to fund it. How to build/modify it to make it work for me.
- None -have it now
- How to go about being independent but still needing assistance sometimes
- Easy to understand information to give to builders on specifications verses wants when building a home.
- Advocacy. My son and I are living in a 1 bed DoH apartment. I have several medical disabilities and son has complicated MH probs. We basically care for each other in a way.
- Legal. Assistance
- Not sure do not know where to go and get information from ??
- Someone to be by my side when speaking with Housing Authority i.e.. advocate that has both business (financial); legal and policy skill set at state level to assist in change
- I need support to get to view the available properties, help with checking the property listings;
- Idk
- I don't know who else to go to. Housing said single persons only get allocated 1 BR flat. Rules are rules. If I am offered 2 flats & don't like either I go back to bottom of the list.
- The names of organizations that can actually help not organizations like NEAMI, Anglicare etc that makes false promises but don't actually refer you to anyone.
- Not sure
- Affordability, location, access to transport
- Nil
- Affordability
- Improved filtering on real estate websites. many of the main ones don't allow accessibility items to filter (flat block, no stairs, etc)
- Help to investigate Special Disability Accommodation options for him. Advocacy to change laws preventing Special Disability Trust from obtaining a mortgage.
- N/A
- A support person to assist with completion of required documentation, access to funding to relocation expenses and provision of information throughout the relocation process. Emotional support would be of assistance as moving house/relocation can be extremely stressful.
- I would like to be able to find suitable accommodation for people with autism. It would be great if there was a dedicated site on the internet with step by step information for people with autism about housing in Perth metro & the assistance available.
- Building standards need to change so that accessible housing is the standard, not the rare exception.
- For housing to be available as there is nothing that suits his needs available to him.
- Not sure where to start or who to go to yet
- Help with transition to the NDIS and maintaining levels of care.
- More options and alternative ways to share accommodation
- Any kind of information would be more than welcome
- Respite care or a care to relieve some of the stress as we have no family support

- We need WA to look at the recommendations of the Summer Foundation. There are models of care currently working in the eastern states, but this requires a whole of community approach. Because we are only commencing our NDIS journey as a state, I feel we are not even helped in regards to housing. The NDIS has SDA funding in capital and there are specialist OT 's and builders that we as a family have been liaising with for 2 years, but no support from DSC or our service provider. Valued Lives in WA in my opinion seem to be the only organisation interested in assisting people with a disability into housing options that work for the differing needs of people with a disability.
- I don't really need information or support. I need my family member to be given a choice of accommodation - not homelessness or an unsuitable hostel.
- Where to begin, who to contact, what options are available, who can support - full gamut of information.
- I need access I'm homeless
- Advice on local affordable housing to buy
- Promotion and land made available for such use
- Planning support
- Shouldn't this be to access the housing the person wants, not what the carer wants???
- Quality supported decision making materials for people, especially people with complex communication needs, specific to living and accommodation choices would be very useful
- Some one to show us the way to make it happen, I have no debts, I work part time, I care for my son, he receives a disability pension but because we are not aboriginal we keep getting doors slammed in our face.
- Impact of renting with Centrelink payments. Should we both share a lease or only one person. How can we afford to buy a home?
- They now have been able to stay in their home of 9 years safely after 8 years of other tenants dangerous antisocial behaviour as the other tenants were managed appropriately by DOC. We had someone advocate with us that it shouldn't be our family member re locate to a peripheral suburb where they would have totally lost their life and connections. People need to understand that people with intellectual disabilities have needs to access housing — i.e. it must be safe and convenient and part of the regular community- not in an enclave of disadvantage. We look upon this as an access issue for a person with intellectual disability as much as ramps etc are to a person with physical disability might be
- I would like some help with finding possibly a home that has been built with disability in the forefront of the architecture and thoughtfulness for my son and his daily challenges I would love to get some information on DISABILITY KEYSTART Home ownership. I want to provide everything I can for him into the future
- Lots
- We need to be given a fair chance to live a life without added pressure. My sons disability is enough to cope with...without added paperwork. Constant meetings...constant maintenance being done on the old place which interrupt routines & without the need to constantly prove we have a low income. Why shouldn't we be able to save & why cant those with disabilities & their carers have the help needed to buy a new home of their own. We feel discriminated against.
- To have a current home modified
- A bond loan or grant , a no interest appliances loan , either community housing or public housing , or a long term lease , maybe a private rental subsidy , a plan for ongoing community living support either as part of ndis or not
- Support to get public housing authority to listen and provide more housing for people with disabilities. Remove restriction on number of bedrooms allowed as we often require extra bedroom for other people to stay
- Notification of when a suitable support home becomes available
- Not sure
- We need an advocate to approach WA housing to put us on the accessible housing list, not the pensioner units. We can't seem to get them to understand.
- At this time I am aware of what is available
- Help to navigate the shared equity option & the Keystart application process and buy/build his home. My research so far suggests we cannot buy/build in a suburb that does not have Homeswest properties. The most suitable suburb we have found (Catalina Ridge in Albany) has no social housing, so he may not qualify for shared equity, which would mean it is unaffordable for him to purchase there.
- Someone to listen
- I need a house
- How to start

Impact

Key Themes

- Impact on mental health, anxiety, depression, stress
- Financial stress, especially due to high rent / housing costs
- Lack of privacy and respite
- Uncertainty over housing security of tenure

If you are not happy with your current housing arrangement, what impact has this had on you and/or your family?"

Individuals (Q14)

- My physical disabilities has worsened because I'm expected to get water from outside my home (no indoor plumbing) and light a wood stove. I have Ehlers Danlos Syndrome and can only bathe about once a month. My son, who also has EDS and ASD, has developed an eating disorder because we both hate living here. We are victims of family violence, with IVOs in place. When I contact our region's FV organisation, when the IVO has been breached, they have tried to have me sectioned (I have the screenshot of the threatening text messages) or they have told me to give my assistance dog to the RSPCA 'or [they] won't help me). My health has seriously degenerated since we moved here (2 weeks to find something after a court order, fleeing FV). My heart conditions are way worse and I have lost count of how many falls I've had. Even today I had another fall and hurt from head to toe! Also, we are out in the middle of the bush, in a parochial, ableist, small, country town. If one of my perpetrators where to come here and murder us, no one would notice we were missing. People say, 'Just sell your home and buy another one'. This place was cheap because it's a shack in a forest, connected to a tiny solar system. It's just enough to charge a laptop and mobile phone. Yes, that's all. It's crap. I'm supposed to have a C-PAP machine, but can't because the solar system cannot handle it. We have to turn off the power and fumble around in the dark after 6pm. If I were to sell this place, where would I move to? There are no houses worth \$100,000 unless they are a "renovators delight" and I'm a cripple! I can't renovate one darn thing! Melbourne had a housing boom and even the far, outer suburbs don't have anything worth under \$300,000! I don't have a fairy godmother. I don't talk to my remaining, living family because of the strong history of family violence. I was the scapegoated child in an abusive family; singled out for all kinds of abuse because I'm disabled. If I were to get back in touch with them, I put my child at risk of family violence and I don't want to do that. My son and I have C-PTSD. He has had thoughts of self harm. We've been stuck here for 7 years and that is half of his life. He needs real house to live in.
- I can't afford to move. The difficulties getting a rental property while I use a Guide Dog, prevent me from moving to another more suitable location, that has better lighting, closer to transport and amenities, closer to my family. I can't afford taxis to visit my family and family "choose" not to visit me because I live too far away.
- Impacted mental health - exacerbating deep depression and suicidal thoughts, isolation, feeling unsafe, isolation.
- Social isolation
- Stress
- I am very happy with my current housing arrangement of living with my parents
- It was stressful time trying to work out where to live as it relied at first on where an accessible place was identified when we were seeking to modify an existing place. Exhausting trying to cover all requirements ourselves when we knew more of needs than the builder or the access consultant- but we still missed 1-2 significant areas that would do differently next time if ever built again- i.e. high cupboards above sink - can't reach. access from garage is too big a gradient to be comfortable when trying to bring shopping in. Kerbing to get in and out door is difficult if carrying something- and trying to push chair or use crutches without tripping. Angles of some corners in hallway could be different- after seeing how others planned out their own places later.
- Wasn't able to go to my volunteer job I was stressed out crazy
- Feeling unsafe due to neighbours aggression.
- Cannot afford to move and rent is taking 3/4 of my fortnightly pension

- Severe. My son sleeps on the couch in the lounge room so we are very cramped and tight for space. He is so depressed that cleaning is extremely hard for both of us.
- Mental health depression social isolation
- I only have a half share with ex husband and would like to own my own house. we have no privacy and scared every day although ex- husband does not live in the house.
- Very very stressful - current court hearings, fatigue, depression, financial oppression - having to access my superannuation to get changes for kitchen and bathroom modifications as a "mobility home" is not suitable for my needs, deterioration in my psychological, physical and emotional wellbeing and that of my family
- It's not close to my family and social supports; it costs much more to maintain an older dwelling. the dwelling is not as accessible as I would like it and I don't have the means to modify it.
- Family arguments. Feeling trapped. Embarrassing and less adequate that you live at home with your parents. Feeling like you have no options.
- Financial. My rent is half my disability pension. Paying bills is difficult.
- The accommodation I live in will be sold shortly so I will actually be homeless.
- Stress of ensuring I am "cared" for
- Isolation, mental health, physical health
- Negative attitudes towards house and each other because walls are peeling, driveway is uneven, backyard is sand, doors, taps and Internet have problems continuously.

What impact has the current housing arrangement had on you and/or your family

Carers (Q27)

- Financial stress, distance from family home, lack of funding for support meaning that family member lives with him whenever no support worker present
- Modifications had to be done to accommodate a wheelchair and a wheelchair friendly bathroom.
- His current housing arrangement impacted on my time as I was heavily and directly involved in supporting him to access Centrelink/ Rent assistance and Newstart benefits to be able to afford to rent the property. This took many hours of administration, advocacy and the completion of an Authority to Act on his behalf. The housing issue is currently manageable.
- Only 3 bedrooms, so me the carer lives in the Lounge room. Until I could afford it, I slept on mattress on floor, then bought a bed later. I suffer from anxiety & depression.
- As we get older we want her to have independence and help close to us.
- We live 30 km from the regional town where our son lives. He has lived there for 2 1/2 years and has only had overnight support 2 nights per week - soon to be 4 nights. So we support him at all other times. While he lived with us, I saved most of his pension (we supported him financially despite our own low (pension) income) so that he could afford furniture and ingoing expenses for a rental. It took 8 years to save enough money to set up his home. He has been on the Homeswest waiting list since 2013. The first offer of a property was in 2017, just after we had signed 12 month lease. The unit was in a low socioeconomic suburb with high crime statistics. The next offer from Homeswest was a unit in the same suburb, which had been a drug house, had barely concealed graffiti on internal walls, yelling and fighting in the street at 3pm on a week day, and the back yard was being used as a toilet by someone. The property was unsuitable for his needs because he is legally blind so needs low vision friendly home, so we turned down this unit. After speaking to his DSC LC, we discovered there is a disability housing unit that facilitates finding suitable housing. We promptly received an offer, again in a suburb with high crime rates. Areas that are unsafe with high crime rates are not suitable for people like my son - it leaves him too vulnerable.
- My family member is at risk of homelessness due to issues associated with his mental illness
- Need to ensure high levels of care and safety are maintained at all times.
- It is not wheelchair friendly.
- Financial burden support him to maintain the property lives alone and spends some evenings at our home due to loneliness
- Because he has an A. B. I. and is in his twenties , there are always terrible disagreements, which causes massive stress on my husband and I as we are 69 & 70 and

my husband has mental health issues as well, so I am a carer for both of them. We really need to find him a suitable place to live and do his own thing with a little supervision

- Currently we have support workers in our home. This effects our privacy as a family, so therefore we currently reduce the number of days we have support workers to Monday to Friday. We can not have any SW for overnight stays , which we do need but as we have no spare rooms and do not have the availability to provide the SW with the requirements agencies request for sleep over shifts. I have requested that a caravan which would alleviate this issue and discussed this with our service provider, but have had no response as yet. This would allow my husband and myself to have a night away. something which we have not been able to do in 6 years. We have a house which it is not accessible for my son to enter his bathroom in his wheelchair. My son requires support workers to do tasks only. Our home was built in the 1970's and is not accessible for him to improve his independent living skills.
- Dreadful impact as the person cannot access adequate mental health services in prison plus is weeks away from release but no accommodation or plan is in place.
- We are getting older and less able to manage.
- Her conditions r worsening very quickly and she's becoming almost 24/7
- Worry about future as do not own the property
- Would like to explore co-housing option to share burden of care and leverage collective resources - better health, social and economic outcomes. Will mean we can stay together for longer. Eventually my husband will go into care
- My son was living with his brothers & myself until he was 19. Physically caring for him damaged my nerves in my arms to the point where I couldn't physically care for him any longer. Moving to supported living means I am now able to put all my time & efforts into all his other care needs, eg appointments, communication, researching & planning. For my son - it has enabled him to meet new people & make friendships he wouldn't have if he was still at home. The main problems occur with staff - agency & untrained staff cause me, as his mum, the greatest concerns because his needs are then not adequately met - eg they don't know how he communicates, missed feeds & meds etc.
- Huge financial impact and indescribable impact having a son in care (we are his parents and guardians) since the age of 13 due to his behaviours of concern
- Much better than group home. NDIS challenging cost of supports to remain in this community housing with 24/7 support, at times, two staff required at the same time.
- They do not care about disabilities and have had us in mould infected homes making us sick. We are unable to buy our own home, too many red tapes.
- So very over having support workers in my private space/home. I found one asleep on my bed !!!!
- Has enabled the person to have their own life and independence Has enabled the rest of the family to have privacy and not have support workers coming into our own home. We have a life too
- He is unable to undertake personal care like showering safely due to the bathroom being quiet dangerous for him. The shower recess is very small a shower chair will not fit there is also a Hob and its a Major fall hazard. I literally sit outside the bathroom door and ask him constantly if everything is ok.. so stressed out
- No privacy
- Financially & emotionally draining. 1st public home for 2 years made us very ill with mould illness in our lungs.
- My mother moved in due to a home invasion which also included rape. I did not plan to have my mother live with me but I had needed to do that to give her an escape from a house that was causing her PTSD
- House has damp issues and causing ill health for carer. No maintenance has been done since property built and we have been told it wont be done whilst someone is living in house.
- We are exhausted and feel it would be healthy for our adult daughter to gain independence and a wholesome life of her own outside of the family home.
- Having to make accessible changes to our home was very costly and still having on going changes to be made
- It is now too small and we are unable to get a bigger accessible house
- Unaffordable on pension - causing financial/emotional stress. Not accessible for wheelchair/limited mobility.
- As the primary carer I have been sleeping at my daughter's house and take over as care support workers come and go. At the same time I care for another daughter.

- Our house burnt down in bushfires 2014. Due to lack of accessible house, we had extreme problems renting temporary accommodation and finding an existing home to purchase. After months of trying we decided to build a new accessible home which cost us much more than if we could have found an existing one, and had to pay rent for years while the new home was built, plus live in inaccessible temporary accommodation.
- I have two children, one with a disability and 1 with a medical condition. I need a 4 bedroom, 2 bathroom, 2 toilets house. I have tried homeswest but they wanted to include my back pay for my maintenance. I can't afford 4 hundred dollars a week if I could i would be in a private rental. Where I am now is 3 hundred a week and its inadequate to suit our needs. I am currently with community housing but they don't have any houses to suit our needs
- Not enough toilet s and shower because one child has a disability and one has a medical condition
- We were living in this property prior to my partner's injury (which resulted in permanent disability and reliance on wheelchair). Workers compensation do not have funding for making a property safe and we have been told we're not eligible for any other funding due to workers comp. She also cant get up/ own our driveway as its steep, and has to be driven up to the door level. She can therefore not independently exit the property and is totally reliant on others to go out.

What is the name of your organisation	What is your position?
Individual Disability Advocacy Service	Disability Advocate
BRAMS (Broome Regional Aboriginal Medical Service)	Manager
Brightwater	Community integration Coordinator
Brightwater Care Group	Social Worker
UnitingCare West	Practice Lead
Elba Inc.	Field Supervisor
People With disabilities WA	Individual Advocate

Survey Questions

<p>Are you:</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> A person with a disability? <input type="radio"/> A carer of a person with disability? <input type="radio"/> A service provider or peak body? <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) <input type="text"/> </p>
<p>What is your age? / What is the age of the person you are caring for?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Under 18 <input type="radio"/> 18-24 <input type="radio"/> 25-34 <input type="radio"/> 35-44 <input type="radio"/> 45-54 <input type="radio"/> 55-64 <input type="radio"/> 65+ </p>
<p>What is your gender? / What is the gender of the person you are caring for?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Male <input type="radio"/> Female <input type="radio"/> Prefer not to say </p>
<p>What postcode do you live in? / What postcode does the person you care for live in?</p>	<input type="text"/>
<p>Do you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander? Does the person you care for identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander?</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No </p>
<p>Do you currently receive any funding or support? / Does the person you care for currently receive any funding or support? If yes please indicate the support received.</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) <input type="radio"/> Disability Services Commission (DSC) <input type="radio"/> Home and Community Care (HACC) <input type="radio"/> Mental Health Program <input type="radio"/> Unsure </p>
<p>If you require support for daily living please indicate the support you need. / If the person you care for requires support for daily living, please indicate the support they need. (please select all that apply)</p>	<p> <input type="radio"/> Personal care (e.g. eating, showering, dressing) <input type="radio"/> Mobility (e.g. walking, getting out of bed) <input type="radio"/> Communication <input type="radio"/> Cognitive or emotional assistance (e.g. decision making, managing finances) <input type="radio"/> Health care (e.g. taking medication) <input type="radio"/> Reading and writing tasks <input type="radio"/> Interpreting/translation <input type="radio"/> Transport (e.g. for appointments, activities) <input type="radio"/> Household chores <input type="radio"/> Property maintenance <input type="radio"/> Meal preparation <input type="radio"/> Company/companionship <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) <input type="text"/> </p>

<p>What kind of home do you currently live in? / Where does the person you care for currently live?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Living in family home (with parents and/or siblings) <input type="radio"/> Living alone in a private rental property <input type="radio"/> Living with other people in a private rental property (shared housing) <input type="radio"/> Living alone in a property you are paying a mortgage on <input type="radio"/> Living with others e.g. partners in a property you are paying a mortgage on <input type="radio"/> Living alone in a property that is fully owned (paid off) <input type="radio"/> Living with others e.g. partner in a property that is fully owned (paid off) <input type="radio"/> Living in a public housing property <input type="radio"/> Living in a community housing property <input type="radio"/> Living in a group home e.g. disability service provider home <input type="radio"/> Living in transient accommodation <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
<p>What are you looking for in a home? / What is the person you are caring for looking for in a home? / What sorts of housing are they looking for? (please select all that apply)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Accessibility <input type="radio"/> Independence <input type="radio"/> Support <input type="radio"/> Sharing housing <input type="radio"/> Location <input type="radio"/> Security <input type="radio"/> Being part of the community <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
<p>What barriers have you faced in accessing housing with these characteristics / What are the key barriers to people finding this kind of housing?</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
<p>What agencies have helped provide information?</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%;"></div>
<p>What further information or support do you need to help you access the housing you want?</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
<p>If you are not happy with your current housing arrangement, what impact has this had on you and/or your family?"</p>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>
<p>To ensure we get a wide range of responses, what best describes your disability / the disability type of the person you care for / the people you support have?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Cognitive <input type="radio"/> Neurological <input type="radio"/> Physical <input type="radio"/> Mental Health Issues <input type="radio"/> Other (please specify) <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 20px; width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"></div>
<p>Would you like to receive further communication on the Accessing a Home project?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
<p>Would you like to take part in an in-depth interview about your experience accessing a home?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No