



SDA
SERVICES

home & living choices

SDA Information Seminar
My Ability Pathway
Presented by Greg Barry



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About Us

- How we started
- Our team
- Why our services exist





Our SDA Engagements

- 1622 total engagements to date
- 1161 - Total number of participants we have supported across all engagements
- 673 SDA Approvals (that we know of)
- 442 still awaiting decision (or decision not communicated to us)



What is SDA and who is eligible?

Specialist Disability Accommodation



SDA Eligibility Criteria

Extreme Functional Impairment

- Mobility
- Self Care
- Self management

and/or

Very High Support Needs

Self-care

Self-care definition: activities related to personal care, hygiene, grooming and feeding oneself, including showering, bathing, dressing, eating, toileting, grooming, caring for own health care needs.

Impairments

- Eating and drinking
- Showering/bathing
- Dressing
- Grooming
- Continence and toileting
- Wound Care
- Sleep

Self- Management

Self-management definition: the cognitive capacity to organise one's life, to plan and make decisions, and to take responsibility for oneself, including completing daily tasks, making decisions, problem solving and managing finances.-SDA Services understands this to include the cognitive and physical capacity to undertake instrumental activities of daily living, such a domestic activities of cooking and cleaning.

Impairments

- Cognition
- Communication
- Behaviour
- Sensory processing

Functional impacts

- Decision making, Health and Financial management
- Social Interaction / Community Engagement
- Work / Study / Leisure
- Community Access / Transport
- Domestic Activities

Very High Support needs

The participant has a very high need for person-to-person supports, either immediately available or constant, for a significant part of the day





- Significant Part of the Day
- Limitations in the availability, capacity or capability of the participant's informal support network or risks to its sustainability
- The participant is at risk or poses a risk to others, and that risk could be mitigated by the provision of specialist disability accommodation



Needs requirement

The S 14 Comparison

1. Where a participant might reside in an SDA dwelling and receive other supports there, and,
2. Where a participant might reside in a non-SDA (“*mainstream*”) dwelling and receive other supports there.

Needs requirement

Subject Matters for the Comparison

1. Better assist pursuit of goals
2. Effective and beneficial
3. Stability and continuity of supports
4. Value for money

Needs requirement

What are the Comparable Mainstream Housing Scenarios?

1. Privately (usually family or self) owned dwelling.
2. Public and Social Housing.
3. Private rentals.
4. SIL Homes
5. Legacy Stock

Needs requirement

Who can provide Information to inform the comparison?

Anyone can provide relevant information to assist the decision maker. The comparison can also be assisted by *anything the Agency has learnt through delivery of the NDIS*

Should the Comparison Only Consider the Dwelling design Features of the SDA Scenario?

No. *SDA combined with other supports* scenarios should be compared through a broader lens which looks also at a number of other features of NDIS SDA support.



Needs requirement

What are some of the “other features” of SDA support which ought to be considered?

- All Providers of SDA Supports must be NDIS registered providers.
- SDA supports have been designed to ensure that SDA is affordable for SDA eligible participants.
- SDA supports can bring a level of security of tenure.
- SDA supports can bring possibilities for sharing of other supports and can bring opportunities to share community.
- SDA supports can assist the efficiency and compliant safety of the provision of formal supports.
- SDA supports can assist the facilitation of the provision of informal supports.
- SDA supports can bring safety for participants
- SDA is a portable right for SDA eligible NDIS participants and one which they are unlikely to lose.
- SDA can support assistive technologies
- SDA is an NDIS support. An object of the NDIS Act is to give *effect to* CRPD.

Design Categories

- High Physical Support
- Fully Accessible
- Improved Liveability
- Robust

Building Types

- Apartment
- Villa/Duplex/Townhouse
- House
- Group Home



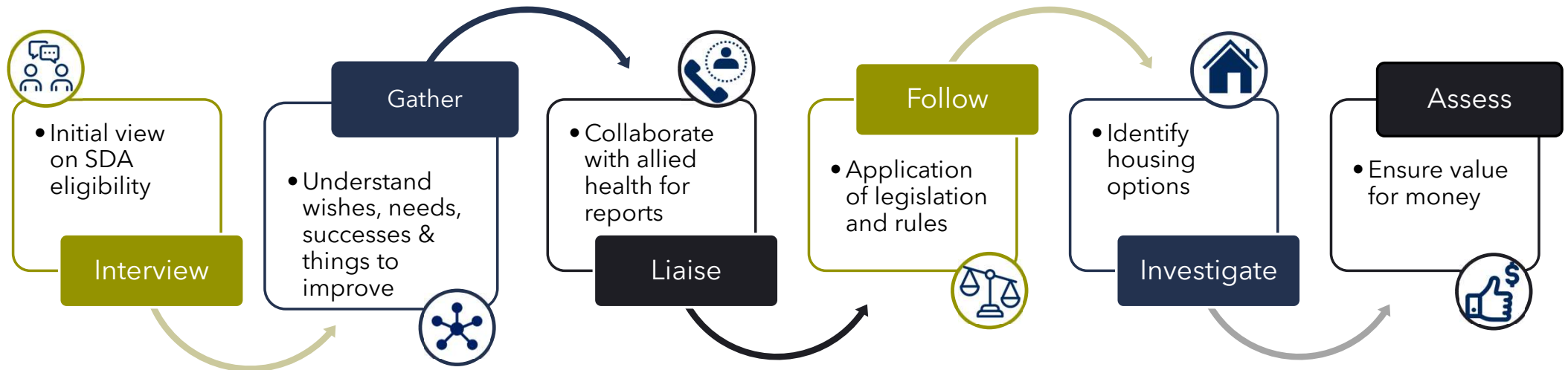
<https://www.sdaservices.com.au/eligibility-tool>

A screenshot of the SDA Eligibility Tool web application. The browser address bar shows "sdaservices.com.au/eligibility-tool". The page has a dark blue header with the SDA SERVICES logo and navigation links: Home, About, Services, Our Difference, Eligibility Tool (active), FAQ, Resources, and a Contact Us button. Below the header is a dark blue bar with ABOUT, HELP, LOGIN, and buttons for CLEAR ALL, START OVER, and SAVE PROGRESS. The main content area is divided into a left sidebar and a main panel. The sidebar, titled "SECTION MENU", lists: START (INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS), SECTION 1 (10 QUESTIONS: PERSON TO PERSON SUPPORTS / SELF CARE), SECTION 2 (3 QUESTIONS: MOBILITY & SELF MANAGEMENT), SECTION 3 (2 QUESTIONS: SUSTAINABILITY OF INFORMAL SUPPORT), SECTION 4 (2 QUESTIONS: RISKS TO PARTICIPANT OR OTHERS), and SECTION 5 (4 QUESTIONS: NEEDS REQUIREMENT). At the bottom of the sidebar is a "Back To Top" button and a "LOGGING HISTORY" link. The main panel, titled "START: INTRODUCTION & INSTRUCTIONS", features a progress bar with 10 segments, the first of which is highlighted. Below the progress bar is the heading "WELCOME TO THE SDA ELIGIBILITY TOOL" and two paragraphs of text. The first paragraph states: "This tool will walk you (the respondent) through a series of questions that aims at providing insight into your individual circumstances, including whether or not you would be likely eligible for Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA)." The second paragraph states: "Importantly, the tool will also prompt answers to assist collating supporting evidence when making an application for SDA. For more information, head to the About section." A small icon of a person is visible in the bottom right corner of the main panel.

The detailed application process



We analyse, investigate and report on all of the issues which are prescribed by the SDA Rules



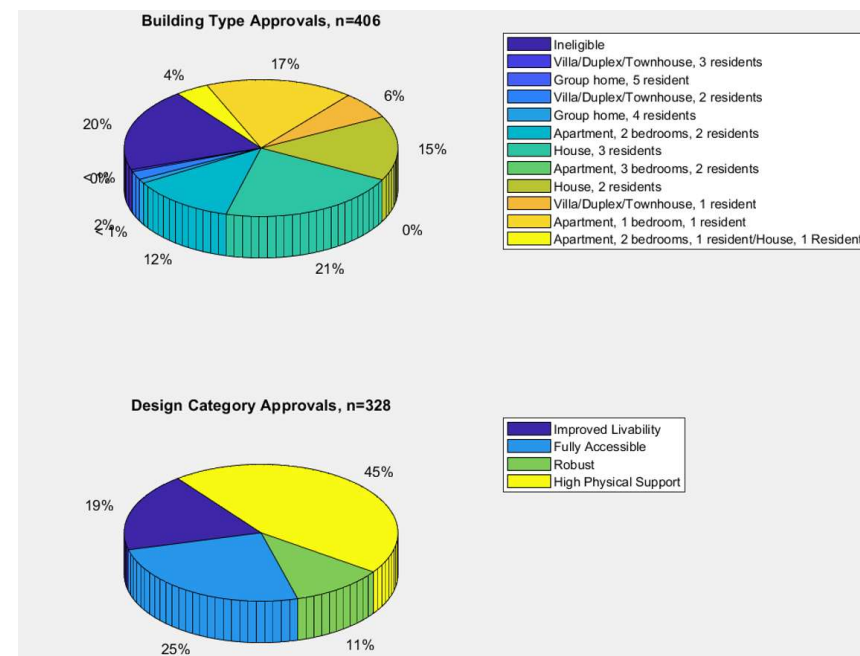
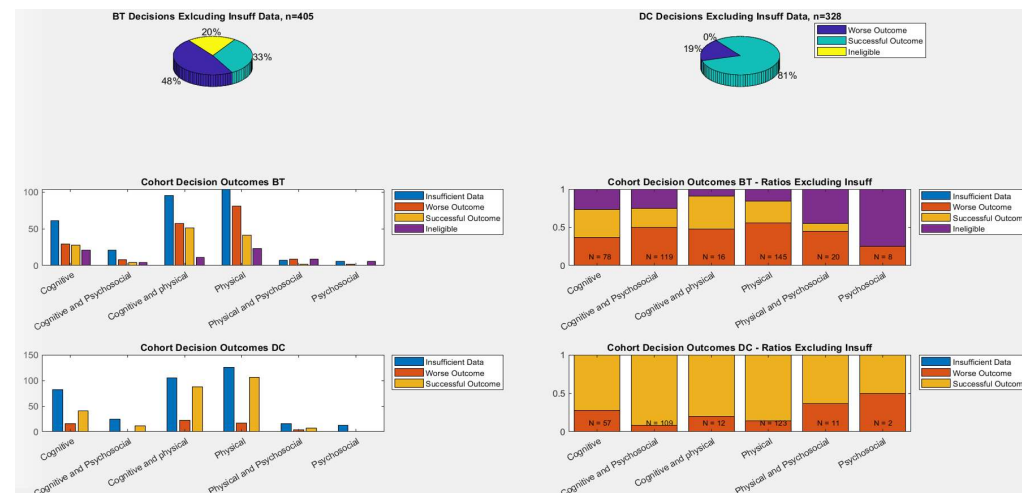
Our final report includes participant eligibility, expected benefits to the participant, a consideration of what design categories, preferred and appropriate building types and living arrangements and locations of housing which are preferred and suitable, and analysis of value for money from the perspective of the NDIS. We also provide deidentified tables of past decisions.



Decisions Register

Example of “Comparison with previous SDA decisions” table

Factor	Participants Name	Participant J202150	Participant J00523	Participant J202294
SDA Outcome	Outcome sought:	Outcome provided:	Outcome provided:	Outcome provided:
	2 SDA-eligible residents, 0 non-SDA-eligible residents	2 SDA-eligible residents, 0 non-SDA-eligible residents	2 SDA-eligible residents, 0 non-SDA-eligible residents	2 SDA-eligible residents, 0 non-SDA-eligible residents
	House	House	House	House
	Fully Accessible with OOA	High Physical Support with OOA	High Physical Support with OOA	High Physical Support with OOA
Diagnosis	Spastic Quadriplegia Cerebral Palsy	Cerebral Palsy	Hereditary Spastic Paraparesis	Spinal Cord Injury
Recommended hours of support per day	19 Hours per Day	24 Hours per Day	24 Hours per Day	11 Hours per day
OT assessment tool results	CANS: Level 5	CANS: Level 7	CANS: Level 7	CANS: Level 4

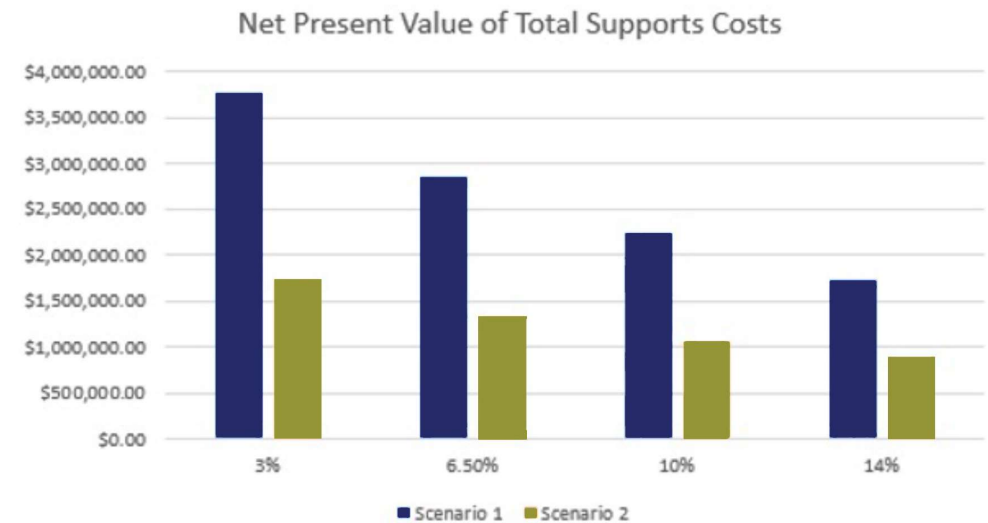


Our Value for Money 20 year modelling

NPV Supports Costs				
Discount Rate	3%	6.50%	10%	14%
Non-SDA	-\$3,764,362.86	-\$2,864,062.57	-\$2,226,795.15	-\$1,713,317.16
Apartment, 2 bed, 1 res	-\$1,714,421.36	-\$1,321,797.62	-\$1,065,684.23	-\$871,208.81
SDA Cost Saving	\$2,049,941.50	\$1,542,264.94	\$1,161,110.92	\$842,108.35

Discount Rate Justification			
3%	6.50%	10%	14%
Risk-free rate	Social discount rate	Example expected return on investment for providers	Example expected return on investment for providers

Note on RBA Rate: This rate was suggested in 2018 Applied Economics paper, *Choosing the Social Discount Rate for Australia*. It uses opportunity cost of capital. The Reserve Bank of Australia have approved of this rate.



The elements of our engagement and how our work is funded?

Initial Engagement: Explain the process, initial participant information populated, files created, bookings, quoting and drafting service agreement.
Define Housing Needs: Gather in and read material/reports
Participant Interview: Conduct 1-2 hour interview with participant and supports and transcribe this information which forms a part of the basis for the application.
Occupational Therapy Support: Either facilitate a referral to an SDA experienced OT or work with current OT to assist in producing an SDA focused OT report, internal review of OT report to forensically consider it has the correct SDA focus, provide guidance and support to external OT's.
Value for Money Desktop Research: Review OT report and PI findings to assess if Value for Money modelling will positively support the submission.
Compile Detailed Application: Combine elements of Participant Interview, OT report, other relevant allied health reports and Value to Money findings to respond to NDIA SDA rules, Act and legislation.
Review previous like decisions: Access data to research previous outcomes via an internal decisions register to support consistency with NDIA decision making and include deidentified details of past relevant positive outcomes and insertion of details of those decisions into SDA report.
Thorough Application Internal Review Process: Assess, edit and review reports by internal peer reviewer for reasons including to ensure elements are in line with current SDA legislation, Act and Rules. Final review and approval process via our Senior Consultant with over 4 years of SDA application experience.
Home and Living Support Form: Compile current NDIA Home and Living Support form to ensure it is consistent with application and not exposed to any 'traps'.
Application Lodgement and follow up: Lodge SDA application and Request for Home and Living Support form, 4 weekly follow up with NDIA via email and phone until outcome received, Submission of Freedom of Information if outcome not sought after 3 months.
Total Indicative and Maximum Cost \$4,506.30 Or 45 hours of Support Coordination (Level 2)



I am not
happy with
my SDA
outcome,
what now?

Our Participant Survey Results 2023

115 participants assisted us by answering our survey which compares multiple aspects of their experiences and circumstances before and after moving into SDA



88% reported overall that they were either satisfied or very satisfied compared to life before SDA.



77% of participants reported that their quality of life got better after moving into an SDA dwelling.

Percentage of participants surveyed reported better or much better results in the following areas:

Visiting the community



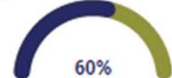
Comfort



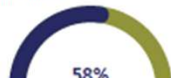
Hosting guests in their home



Safety



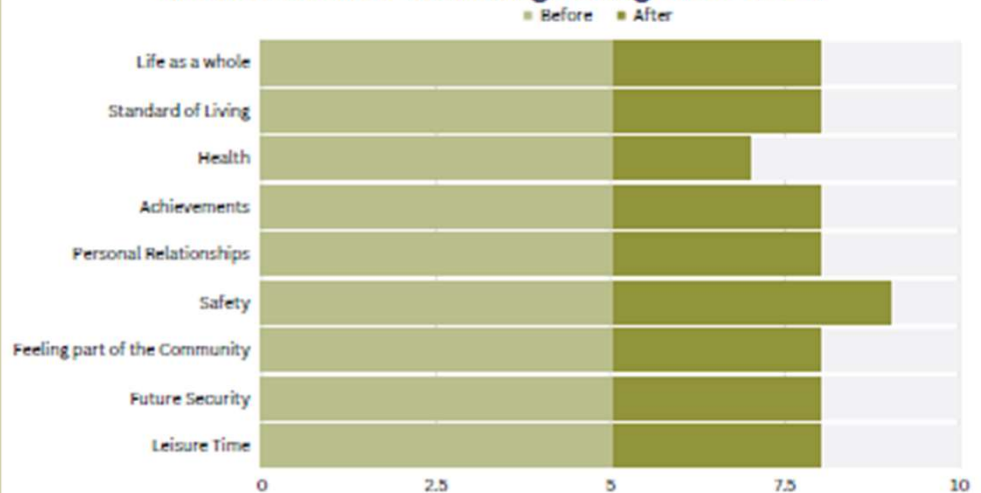
Isolation and loneliness



Privacy



Before and after wellbeing Ratings (out of 10)



Contributors' SDA residencies averaged 1.57 years.

43% reported an increase in Formal Supports after moving into SDA dwelling, 15% reported a decrease and 42% indicated either no change or did not respond for that issue.

The most common reasons provided for increases in Formal Supports within SDA were to the effect that the amenity of SDA dwellings better enabled formal supports.



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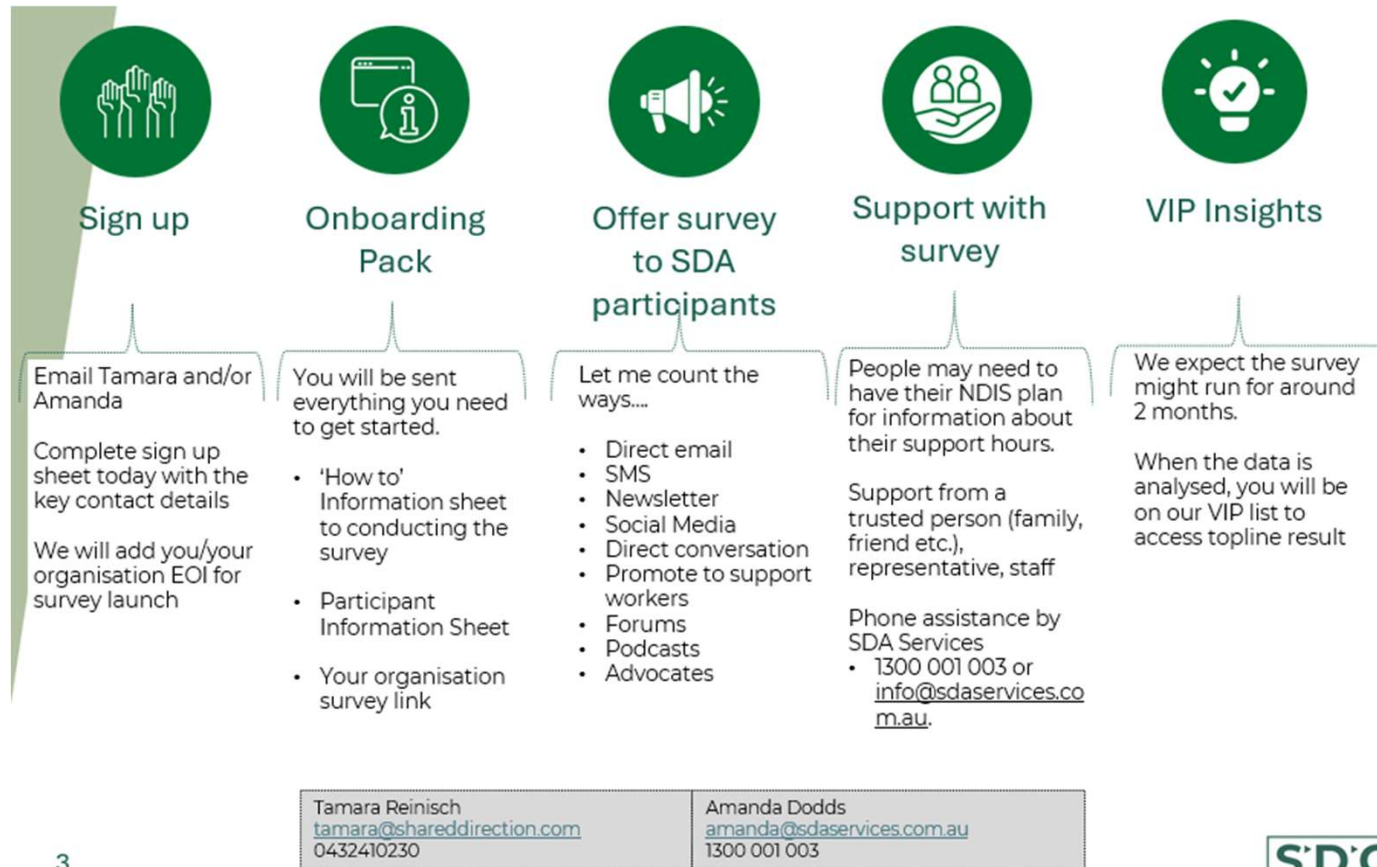


Survey 2.0 - We have made improvements

- We have tried to make it easier for people to provide information about their SDA
- We are capturing better information about
 - the model of SDA
 - people they live with
 - reasons for changes in their support
 - hospital stays
 - Level of choice in their accommodation (aligned with human rights framework)
- We will also get their views on SDA in their words
- Respondents have the chance to win 1 of 5, \$50 Freedom Vouchers



Survey 2.0 – How it will work





How to get involved in the survey

- Add your info to the sign-up sheet and we will get in touch

OR

- Head to our LinkedIn or Facebook page and follow the link

OR

- Reach out directly to our CEO Amanda Dodds, amanda@sdaservices.com.au



Contact us if...

- You would like to discuss SDA eligibility, even if you are unsure
- You support someone who would benefit from our service
- You and/or your team regularly face challenges in longer term housing outcomes for people with a disability

*There is no obligation in conversation...
but it could change someone's life*





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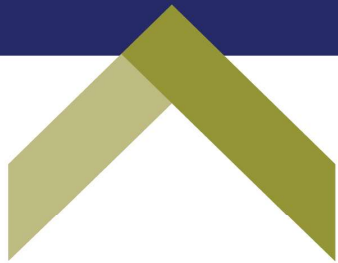
Thank you!

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