



## HOPEs Hopkins St Community - Initial Criteria for Residency.

### HOPEs Background

HOPEs was established 15 years ago to research and advance supported accommodation options for people with acquired disabilities and neurological conditions. It became an incorporated body in 1997, to assist with obtaining funding for the development of a co-operative living project, based on the needs and aspirations of potential residents. Details of this concept are available separately.

HOPEs Inc has finally been successful in obtaining access to a group of 14 single storey units in Moonah, with plans already passed by council and building underway. Supported by the Housing Innovations Unit, we have been able to request some internal and access changes to make the units wheelchair accessible, and to convert one unit to a 'common or multi-purpose' house, and use another for respite and transition.

### Hopkins Street Community Living

The "Laetare Place Community" is HOPEs first co-operative living project, designed to give people with cognitive, neurological and/or acquired disabilities a safe environment in which to live as independently as they are able. The project offers a financially viable, and personally empowering supported living model for people who are unable to live satisfactorily in the community without support.

The Hopkins Street site consists of 14 independent two bedroom units, all with garages and three with an additional study. Two of these are planned to be converted into a common house and respite/transitional living area, the balance to be used for individual or shared living. This configuration is designed to encourage residents to interact and support each other, while retaining their personal space. Residents may choose to live alone, or share their unit. The 'common area' will be used for social activities, shared cooking and/or meals for those who wish to be involved. The adjoining unit will be used for respite, and transitional living for potential residents; with a study/office for overnight support, and maintenance of management documents etc.

Rent, paid according to individual resident income, will be paid to HOPES Inc., who in turn will be responsible for total tenancy payments to Housing Tasmania.

Residents requiring medium or high levels of support may need to demonstrate access to adequate support (paid or informal) with agreement to share some of their support dollars/hours to enable on site support 24 hours per day. This is supplemented with rostered volunteer and peer group assistance (for such activities as cooking, gardening, shopping etc.)

A Co-operative body, established under Co-operative model rules and consisting of each resident with an advocate, plus a member of HOPES executive, will be responsible for managing day-to-day lifestyle issues - e.g. determining Hopkins community rules, future residents, organising volunteer rosters, maintaining garden areas, resolving minor resident disputes, arranging social activities etc.

### Residency Criteria

Some residents have already been identified, as they have been supporters of HOPES for several years, they qualify within the HOPES target group, they have expressed a wish to live in a 'community' model, and they have displayed potential compatibility with each other.

Similar criteria will apply for the remaining residents, i.e.

- ✓ Have an acquired disability or neurological condition
- ✓ Wish to live in a 'community', with some shared responsibilities,
- ✓ Have a family member, friend or advocate prepared to volunteer an agreed period of time each week to the community
- ✓ Agree to abide by the community rules
- ✓ Be respectful of other residents - i.e. not have behavioural issues which might impact on others
- ✓ Have the ability to obtain sufficient support, and agree to consider sharing some hours with others to enable on site overnight support.
- ✓ Not own another dwelling
- ✓ Be prepared to pay weekly rent in advance by direct debit

### Residency Process

On receipt of expressions of interest from people meeting the above criteria, HOPES will arrange for potential residents to meet and discuss issues in more detail. Final decisions re additional residents will be made by the existing core of residents and their advocates - as compatibility is paramount for this community model to be successful.