



Supported Living Fund – What is it?

The Supported Living Fund is an initiative that aims to provide people with a disability and their families and carers greater opportunity to create a good life, build sustainable networks and person centred living arrangements. The Supported Living Fund is a recurrent source of funding which is both individualised and portable.

The focus of the Supported Living Fund

The focus is on giving people with a disability and their families and carers a truly flexible and person centred option in the planning of ongoing living supports. What this looks like and how it is achieved will reflect the aspirations of the individual and their network of support.

What will the Supported Living Fund look like?

Every person who accesses the Supported Living Fund will have their own plan and vision for the future. For some people this may be to move out of the family home to their own home as soon as possible. Family and friends may be involved in the planning and transition, and a mix of formal and informal supports will have been put in place. For other people, the formal transition to their own home may be the goal of the plan, but will require further planning, increased skills and a broader network of support. The Supported Living Fund will give the person and their family the opportunity to use their supports, both formal and informal, to plan for this transition.

What the Supported Living Fund could be used for?

It is envisaged that the packages will be used to purchase a combination of traditional disability supports and mainstream services, complementing a person's existing informal/formal supports and networks.

In other states, supported living initiatives have been used to:

- Develop plans for moving into one's own home
- Pay for support to live in your own home
- Attend life skills programs and other courses (e.g. cooking, work skills)
- Increase circles of support and informal networks
- Purchase specialist accommodation and needs based equipment (e.g. home modifications)
- Facilitate relationship building and social supports

It is also envisaged that people may utilise the fund as either a recurrent or one-off source, and their level of assistance from the Supported Living Fund may change over time. The average amount of a Supported Living Fund package will be \$50,000 per person per annum.

The commencement of the Supported Living Fund for eligible individuals will occur in 2012. Should you have any questions or suggestions about the Supported Living Fund, please email slffeedback@facs.nsw.gov.au or call 9277 5633.

