

# Independent Housing Project (IHP): Eligibility Criteria

## 1. Primary need

Medium to long term minimally supported housing

## 2. Assessment

When a referral is made, if there is a vacancy, an assessment interview will take place. Each prospective resident will be assessed for their suitability and ability to live in a minimally supported situation with other young people or on their own.

## 3. Target group

Young people who are:-

- Eighteen (18) to twenty four (24) years on admission
- Young people aged sixteen (16) years to seventeen (17) years may be assessed under special circumstances. Their eligibility will be determined by their income, maturity, individual situation, and the legal issues of accommodating a young person in a minimally supported housing service
- Homeless and/or in crisis, long term homeless, itinerant, living in temporary supported or unsupported accommodation services, or living in other unsafe, unstable housing options or identified as being at risk of homelessness.
- Unable or chose not to reside in their family homes.

Young people who are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islanders and young people from non-English speaking backgrounds form part of the target group.

## 4. Locality

The young person should be local or have ties with the area, for example, schooling, relatives or family living in the local area.

## **5. Special conditions**

- Be receiving a stable income.
- Be able to live independently with minimal support.
- Be willing to abide by the rules and responsibilities of the household including that of the residential tenancy Agreement.
- Positive discrimination in favour of young women.
- Young people who are the direct responsibility of the State Government will be accommodated and each stay will be negotiated between the staff of this Association and the departmental representative. Written commitment to cover the costs involved must be provided. Future placement will be the sole responsibility of the Department.
- Young people who are offenders and involved with the relevant Department or with other legal undertakings will be assisted, but support and assistance is required by the relevant Departments.
- At all times the Staff reserve the right to decline services where it is assessed there is a threat or danger to staff or other clients.

## **6. Factors that will be considered when assessing a referral**

All young people referred will be considered and an individual assessment of each young person undertaken.

The over-riding consideration will be the health, well-being and safety of the existing clients and staff.

Factors to be considered in each individual assessment are:-

- Can the agency with its current staffing and resources, provide adequate and appropriate support to the person being referred?
- Does providing services to the person being referred pose a risk to other clients, staff or others?
- Can the agency access the supports and resources to minimise the risk to other clients, staff and others?
- Does the person being referred want services from the agency?
- Is the agency the most appropriate service for the person being referred?

Where the person being referred cannot obtain the full range of services from the agency, information and referral to a more appropriate agency or department (where they exist) will be provided.