

Nexus - a proud tradition

Nexus was formed in 1998 as a community based specialist disability service. We trace our roots back to 1988 and the start of deinstitutionalisation in Tasmania when the first children left Willow Court.

Nexus started operating supported accommodation for adults with an intellectual disability. Since 2013 we have provided support to a wide range of people including those with an acquired disability, young people with psycho-social or behavioural issues, people with autism and people with complex health needs.

Nexus has always been committed to skills development, being an early adopter of Active Support and other tools to help people build capacity and learn new skills.

Nexus is an independent not-for-profit organisation that is overseen by an experienced Board of Directors. All of our resources support people with a disability.

Our management team are dedicated professionals with qualifications in psychology, direct care, health studies and business. House and program managers mostly have Certificate IV or Diploma and frontline management qualifications. Our team leaders are not office based and do hands-on shifts having regular contact with clients and families. Our support staff mostly have Certificate III or IV as well as training in first aid, medication administration, fire safety, manual handling and attend specialist training as required by their client's individual needs.

At the core of our service are four values:

- Listen to and acknowledge the perspectives of others, always recognizing we all are different and have something unique to offer.
- Providing reliable and dependable support to our clients and colleagues that is fun, enjoyable and valued.
- Being adaptable, approachable and responsive to our clients and colleagues and finding ways to tailor our services to be inspiring and engaging.
- Be compassionate and connected to empower the clients and colleagues we work with.



Nexus has an extensive list of NDIS support registrations in Core and Capacity Building Supports.

Our supports are coordinated around four Divisions:

- **Supported Living** - which provides a range of "SIL" services under NDIS. Our houses range from low support independent houses to those with complex medical and behavioural supports.
- **Community Services** - which offers social and community participation and a range of capacity building supports. Most of these services are community based but we also operate a small high support day service in Granton as well as in home support.
- **Complex & Individualised Support** - provides a range of services to people with complex behaviour and psycho-social needs. We also operate intensive capacity building residential services where client are mentored to develop their independent living skills.
- **Client Support** - provides complex case management, Coordination of Supports and Specialist Support Coordination.

Who is Nexus

Our mission is to encourage, advise and support people with a disability to live the life they aspire to. We have a vision of a community where every individual is valued and free to live an independent, happy, safe and rewarding life of their choice.

NEXUS – A PROUD TRADITION

Nexus has been at the forefront of deinstitutionalisation in Tasmania and a leading specialist disability service in this State. While we look back at a proud tradition we also look forward and continue to develop new services to support Tasmanian's with a disability.

1987-8	Children begin to move from Willow Court and the first Southern group home is established at Droughty Point Road Rokeby by the Action Group for Children which became part of Tagari Lia Community Living Association in 1993.
1998-99	1st October 1998 - Southern Residential Services and Tagari Lia Community Living Association merge – Nexus begins.
2000-01	Willow Court formally closed on 30 Nov 2000. Nexus creates Resident Support Coordinators, developed pilot of client Personal Health Records.
2002-03	House Managers achieve Front Line Management qualification and take on house budgets. Medication training expanded to all staff. "Leisure Team" commences to increase community access. Nexus turn over exceeds \$3m.
2003-04	Annual Plans created for all residents. Nexus begins lobbying government for the right for people with a disability to "Age in Place" in their own homes.
2004-05	DHHS introduces Triennial Funding Agreements. Nexus Policy & Procedures Manual introduced.
2005-06	University of Sydney Professor Roger Stancliffe hired by Nexus to conduct Active Support training. Nexus commences Active Support and presents NDS seminar on Active Support.
2006-07	Quality Audit system implemented across all houses.
2007-08	Resident Meeting system gives clients a greater say in how their homes run.
2008-09	Decade of Difference DVD launched at 10 year anniversary. A new Sensory Garden opens at Granton house – all 36 residents involved in the new garden.
2009-10	Shooting for Success DVD's – Nexus creates training videos featuring clients talking about new skills.
2010-11	'Board of Governance' skill based model and KPI's introduced. Managers complete Diploma of Disability and Work Place Mentor role created.
2011-12	New Strategic Plan focuses on maximising client outcomes. Modern Award, Nexus converts staff to Level 3 key workers. House Managers take more responsibility for client outcomes and Quality Audit system devolved to houses.
2012-13	Renovations and accessibility improvements to house gardens. First client moves to her own unit; Nexus helps her achieve living in her own home. Review of Active Support program changes house meetings formats; staff retrained in Active Support. Staff review retains a House Manager per house.
2013-14	Nexus Community Services launched and begins taking community access, in-home support and NDIS clients. New Strategic Plan focused on preparing Nexus for the NDIS. Turn over to exceed \$6m.
2014-15	Nexus established 1:1 sleep over house model for independent clients with high support needs. Nexus Independent Living Program (NILP), which helps young people leave home and learn life skills, starts.
2015-16	Small day centre for clients with challenging behaviour established. Began youth program to provide support using a trauma informed model.
2017-18	Nexus Complex & Individualised Support commences. Employees reach 200 and turnover exceeds \$10m. Planning commences on two new high support houses. Nexus moves to office at TechnoPark.

Nexus Inc. is a public benevolent organisation funded by the Crown through the Department of Communities (Tas.) and the NDIS.