

Nexus – a proud tradition

WHO IS NEXUS

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 commenced operating supported accommodation in the community with nine group homes, each housing four adults with an intellectual disability. Since 2013 Nexus has expanded and now provides support to a wide range of people including those with an acquired disability, young people with behavioural issues, and people with complex health needs. Nexus has always been committed to skills development, being an early adopter of Active Support. Our team works with NDIS clients to provide a range of capacity building supports, helping people learn new skills, engage in the community, and to live more independently. We support clients with cognitive or developmental difficulties, autism, or communication and anxiety related issues that impacts their ability to go about their daily life.

Nexus is a fully independent not-for-profit organisation that is overseen by a Board of Directors who have wide ranging experience that enables them to guide and monitor performance through regular Board meetings, staff reports and detailed Key Performance Indicators. 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 a Diploma in Disability Care as well as frontline management qualifications, and also do hands-on shifts having regular contact with clients and families. Our direct support staff mostly have Certificate III or IV in a support field as well as training in first aid, medication administration, fire safety, manual handling, and also attend specialist training as required by their client's individual needs. We are committed to the positive engagement, and the development of our staff.



NDIS AND NEXUS

Nexus is NDIS ready and provides services related to; assistance with daily life at home and in the community; support with education and at work; transport requirements to access daily activities; supported independent living; improved daily living skills; increased social and community participation; improving relationships; improved learning; and improved life choices. We provide Support Coordination services to implement all supports in a participant's plan, including informal, mainstream, community, and funded supports.

We understand that the disability system can be a bit daunting, so we are always happy to meet with you and help you plan your next steps to get the support you need.

HOW DO I GET SUPPORT FROM NEXUS?

Nexus provides services funded by the Tasmanian Government, NDIS, carer funding, compensation, and individual funding arrangements.

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NEXUS – A PROUD TRADITION

Nexus has been at the forefront of deinstitutionalisation in Tasmania, tracing our past to the first children leaving Willow Court. Each year we have assessed and improved our service so today we can safely claim that Nexus is one of Tasmania's leading specialist disability services.

- 1987-8 The first children begin to move from Willow Court at New Norfolk.
First group home in Southern Tasmania at Droughty Point Road Rokeby is established and managed by the Action Group for Children. Taken over by Tagari Lia Community Living Association in 1993.
- 1 Oct 1998 Southern Residential Services and Tagari Lia Community Living Association merge – Nexus is born.
- 30 Nov 2000 Willow Court formally closed.
- 2000-01 Nexus creates Resident Support Coordinator position
Nexus introduces client Personal Health Records – one of the first services to do this.
- 2002-03 House Managers achieve Front Line Management qualification and take on house budgets. Medication training expanded to all staff. "Leisure Team" commences – focus on increasing community access. Nexus turn over exceeds \$3m.
- 2003-04 Annual Plans created for all residents. Nexus begins lobbying government to support "Aging in Place" for residents.
- 2004-05 DHHS introduces Triennial Funding Agreements. Nexus Policy & Procedures Manual introduced.
- 2005-06 Nexus brings in University of Sydney Professor Roger Stancliffe to conduct Active Support training. Nexus commences first Active Support Houses.
Nexus present NDS seminar on Active Support.
- 2006-07 Quality Audit system implemented across all houses.

- 2007-08 Resident Meeting system formalised to give clients a greater say in how their homes run.
- 2008-09 Decade of Difference DVD launched at 10 year anniversary.
Tasmanian Community Fund grant used to build new Sensory Garden at Granton house – all 36 residents have a part to play in the new garden.
- 2009-10 Shooting for Success DVD's – Nexus creates training videos featuring clients talking about and learning new skills.
- 2010-11 Board adopts 'Board of Governance' and skills based model and KPI's introduced. Most House Managers complete Diploma of Disability. Work Place Mentor role created.
- 2011-12 New Strategic Plan focuses on maximising client outcomes. Modern Award created – staff roles reviewed, Nexus converts staff to Level 3 key workers based in each house. House Managers take more responsibility for client outcomes and Quality Audit system devolved to the houses.
- 2012-13 Major renovations and accessibility improvements to house gardens completed. First resident moves to her own unit and asks Nexus to help her achieve independent living in her own home. Review of Active Support program – house meetings formats changed to use Active Support model and staff retrained. Staffing review affirms one 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) helps young people leave home and learn life skills takes first clients at Queens Walk.
- 2015-16 Commenced a small centre for clients with challenging behaviour. Began to provide support 1:1 using a trauma informed model for young people.

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