

## Assistance with Care and Housing (ACH)

### **Programme Description:**

Monash Health's Assistance with Care and Housing team help elderly people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, on a low income, frail or at risk to access long-term secure and affordable housing.

Our aim is to ensure support older people have appropriate housing so they can receive the care they need to continue living in the community.

We do this by working cooperatively with multiple services and programmes to meet the housing, social support and community care needs of extremely vulnerable and disadvantaged members of the community

### **Eligibility**

- People aged 65+ years, or 50+ years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and
  - On a low income
  - Do not own their own home or have assets
  - Currently homeless or near homeless
  - Currently living in insecure, unsuitable, unsafe or accommodation.
- Prematurely aged 50+ years, or 45+ years for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders (people whose life experiences such as active military service, homelessness or substance abuse have caused premature aging).

### **Why we are different:**

- Our Assistance with Care and housing team are experts in the field with many years of experience and extensive contacts.
- Rapid response and 1-on-1 contact.
- Translation and interpreting services.
- We are a single point of contact with the expertise to provide your clients with all levels of care.
- Monash Health is one organisation with many options which makes us ideally suited to caring for people as they age.
- We provide specialist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Access and Support workers.

## Assistance with Care and Housing (ACH)

### **Services Offered:**

We provide practical assistance to get clients into safe, secure and affordable housing and can help by:

- negotiating housing needs
- actively advocating on a client's behalf
- help with forms and documentation
- locating appropriate and available services
- helping clients to settle into new surroundings
- organising further support if required
- Links to other services including referrals, assessments, financial and legal advocacy, and assistance with hoarding and squalor.

### **Referral Pathway(s):**

Clients can access the service directly or via My Aged Care.

### **Accessing services:**

Upon enquiry or receipt of a referral, a team member will contact the person referred to arrange an appointment.

Subsequent to meeting a plan made with the client outlining the services to be provided.

### **Costs:**

Free

**For more information about Assistance with Care and Housing please contact:**

PHONE: 9792 7579 Community Support Options