

# TRANSFER OF DISABILITY SERVICES TO LIFE WITHOUT BARRIERS

## Fact sheet for Participants and Families



## SHORT TERM ACCOMMODATION ASSISTANCE (STAA) SERVICES

This fact sheet provides information for participants and their families about Short Term Accommodation Assistance (STAA), once services transfer from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to Life Without Barriers, under the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).

### What is Short Term Accommodation Assistance (STAA)?

Short Term Accommodation Assistance (STAA), formerly known as 'respite', is temporary support that Life Without Barriers provides to people who live with a disability and who usually reside with their family or primary carer.

This service provides an opportunity for participants to meet new people and experience new things, as well as allowing the participant's carers to take a break from their everyday duties.

STAA services can provide support for just a few hours, through to multi-night stays. With 24/7 support from our friendly Life Without Barriers staff, we can accommodate each participant's individual

support needs. We also work to match participants based on personalities and ages so that every person enjoys their stay.

### Will the NDIS change STAA services?

Short term options in your area such as recreational respite, in-home respite and facility-based respite are still able to be funded as part of your NDIS Plan, if you're eligible, but may be described slightly differently. Our team can help you identify the funding and services you are entitled to. We will work with you and your support network to review your respite requirements and identify what is available through your NDIS funding.

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### How is my STAA funding decided?

The National Disability Insurance Agency who implement the NDIS have recognised the importance of being able to maintain and sustain the informal support and close relationships of family or carers of people with disability. These usually will come under 'Supports for Sustaining Informal Support'. The NDIA refers to three levels of support "determined by level of disability and intensity of support required from family or informal carers."

### How do I make a respite booking?

For the foreseeable future, if you need to make a STAA/respite booking outside your confirmed bookings, you can contact the house directly.

Over time, we will review the booking system to see if it can be improved, but we will notify you of any changes.

#### **Devonshire Road, Watsonia**

Phone: (03) 9434 5372

#### **May Street, Doncaster**

Phone: (03) 98423980

**Got a question about the transfer of services to Life Without Barriers? Contact us!**

**Email:** [asklwbvic@lwb.org.au](mailto:asklwbvic@lwb.org.au)

**Telephone:** 1800 955 229

**Website:** [lwbvictoria.org.au](http://lwbvictoria.org.au)

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