

Evolution of HOME

HOME was inspired by the Intentional Community operated in Toronto, Canada, by Deohaeko Support Network which began with a small group of families who came together to develop support for their sons and daughters with a disability.

They developed an Intentional Community in which people with a disability live with people without a disability in a collaborative and supportive way.



Deohaeko, Toronto, Canada

HOME is currently establishing partnerships to build HOMECommunity. For more information please contact us.

What Does HOME Believe?

People who have a disability should have the opportunity to:

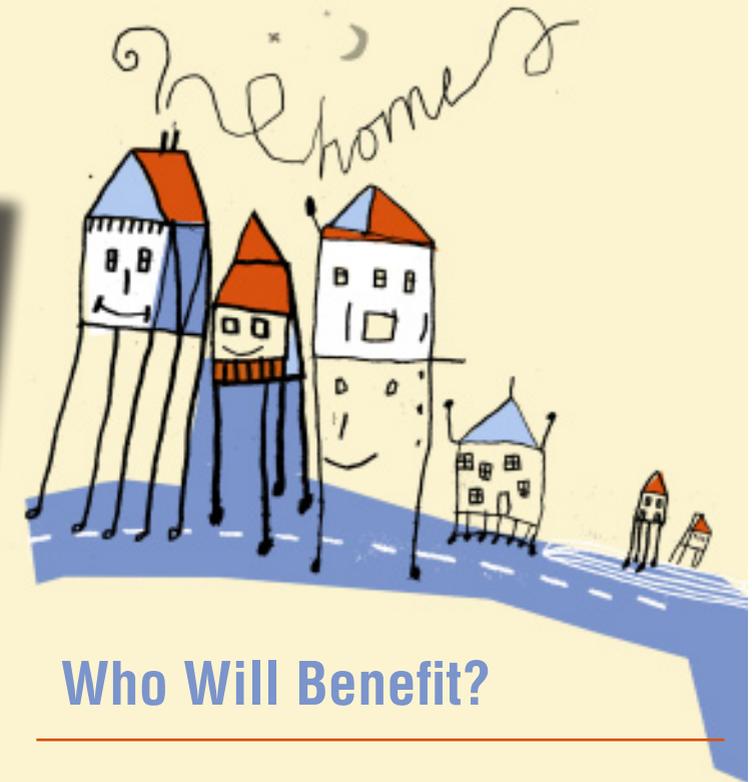
- live in their own dwellings separate from their family if they so wish
- live in a community where they receive on-going support according to their needs
- live in a diverse community where members are welcomed and opportunities for new relationships are planned for and recognised
- live in a community that is safe and secure
- live in a community that encourages involvement with the wider community
- live in accommodation that is environmentally sustainable, architecturally exciting, high quality and available at a reasonable cost
- live in a community that is managed to the highest standards

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Home Occupiers Mutual Enterprise

HOME is a group of parents of people with disabilities, professionals and individuals concerned with the lack of housing options faced by people with disabilities. HOME aims to establish long-term accommodation and assistance for people with significant support needs within, and supported by, an Intentional Community.



HOME Proposal

HOMECommunity will be a purpose built, environmentally sustainable, two to three storey apartment block of about 40 dwellings. It will be made up of one, two and three bedroom apartments built according to Universal Design Principles. Fifteen percent of the residences will house people with intellectual and/or physical disabilities.

The HOMECommunity will be built in the inner west of Sydney on land zoned residential / commercial. It will be within walking distance of public transport, shops, libraries, health services, recreational and educational facilities. Facilities on-site will include the Community Co-ordinator's office, a commercial cafe and community centre, together with a resident's courtyard and BBQ area.

The HOME Board will oversee the project. Management of the building and other facilities will be outsourced.

Support

UnitingCare Supported Living, with whom HOME has an established partnership, will provide professional expertise. Residents with a disability will be eligible for Supported Living Fund packages. This funding will enable residents with a disability to receive the appropriate amount of formal support.

Who Will Live Here?

Residents will be people who are attracted to the idea of living in HOMECommunity - people who are seeking to live with more connection to their immediate community. They will represent the typical mix of people in Sydney's inner west who are looking for housing.

Who Will Benefit?

An Intentional Community is a proven, innovative way of enhancing community activity and independent living for people with intellectual and other disabilities. It is an alternative to isolating people from the wider community in social categories: retirement villages, group homes for people with disabilities. It provides housing at a reasonable cost so future residents can continue to live and be involved in the inner west of Sydney.

The HOME model has received support from government, NGOs and business. In 2009 the Department of Human Services-Ageing, Disability and Home Care selected HOME for a major grant for a Feasibility Study. This study has now been completed and showed that the Intentional Community is a viable model which has great community support.