



BedfordTM

Media Release

New home for people with disability in Millicent

Construction of the final home to be built as part of the existing 'Homes for 100' programme, a partnership between Bedford and the State Government, will commence in Millicent this week (26 August) with an official 'turning of the sod' ceremony.

Bedford Chief Executive Max Dyason will join with Minister for Disability Jennifer Rankine to turn the first soil at the Bonshor Street site to formally mark the milestone.

The home – a five bedroom group home for four people with disability – will cater specifically for people with high support needs and is the sixth of its kind to be built as part of 'Homes for 100'.

"Today's event marks the start of the end of an era and a period of significant achievement in providing community housing for people with disability in South Australia," Bedford Chief Executive Max Dyason said.

"We are thrilled that we can deliver our final home to a group of four people who need it most right here in Millicent and thereby deliver on a promise we made when Millicent Day Options joined Bedford."

Over its 5 years, 'Homes for 100' has seen 32 houses built and provided homes for 70 people from Bedford and Disability SA waiting lists.

The decision to build the final property in Millicent comes from an increasing need in the region to accommodate those with high support needs in community housing.

Ann Altschwager is a committed local mother to 27 year old son Scott who has high disability support needs and has been driving this project for over 12 years.

"It really is rather surreal to think that after all this time, the home is actually going to be built and provide the much needed support and care for families - I am truly delighted". Ann said.

Mr Dyason said the home would be built and designed by local architect Stephen Herbert (Chapman Herbert Architects) with all the necessary 'ease of living' attributes taken into account.

"The design of a property for people with disability, especially those with high support needs, is of particular importance," Mr Dyason said.

"We're happy to have a local designer on board again to create a home that not only makes the tenants feel comfortable, but provides them with the opportunity to feel a real sense of independence."

Tenders will now be invited from local builders with completion estimated by May 2012.



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PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

What: Bedford Chief Executive Max Dyason and Minister Jennifer Rankine 'turn the sod' at the site of the latest housing project for people with disability in Millicent
Other guests include local mother Ann Altschwager, Deputy Mayor Rob Dycer, and Architect Stephen Herbert.

When: Friday, 26 August
11am

Where: Bonshor St, Millicent

Bedford background: Visit www.bedfordgroup.com.au/news_and_info

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