



New home for people with disability in Murray Bridge

Four people with disability will have the opportunity to live independently in Murray Bridge thanks to the completion of a new home by Bedford - the State's most diverse provider of services to people with disability.

Minister Jennifer Rankine will officially open the five-bedroom home which has been designed to incorporate the special needs of tenants. It is the fifth group home built in a regional area as part of the 'Homes for 100' Programme – a joint venture between Bedford and the State Government.

Bedford Chief Executive Max Dyason said the completion of the home was a momentous occasion as it would help to address increasing demand in the region for high support needs housing.

“‘Homes for 100’ is a vital programme that recognises the diverse needs of people with disability and highlights the benefits of living independently within the community,” he said.

“Homes like these are particularly vital in regional areas like Murray Bridge - where people with disability have traditionally found it more difficult to gain access to accommodation and services, often necessitating a move to Adelaide.

“Together with the State Government, we believe this home is of great importance to Murray Bridge and look forward to seeing the positive outcomes it brings to the local community.”

The house, located at Carex Court, is the second five-bedroom group home to be built in regional South Australia by Bedford.

Sekisui (formerly A.V. Jennings) built the home based on one of its existing five-bedroom designs. However, the design was modified to incorporate the special needs of the client group including a larger living area, MDF sheeting to all the walls, reinforced door jams, modified bathrooms, wheel chair accessible entry points, laminated glass and security to all windows and separate living areas for visitors.

Four men aged under 30 with mild to moderate disability will live at the property. They will be supported by Community Lifestyles Incorporated – a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to providing assistance to those with learning disabilities in the Murraylands area for 28 years.

The home's features also provide the necessary facilities to address behavioural challenges and teach important independent living skills.

“The new house has been designed to provide all the necessary living requirements for people with a range of needs ,” Mr Dyason said.

“We're thrilled to open the home today and look forward to seeing the new tenants prosper as they begin to live a more independent life.”