



“Different is Great”

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When young Nick welcomed the who's who of the SA disability sector including the SA Minister for Disability Tony Piccolo and Shadow Minister Duncan McFettridge to the opening of his new supported accommodation home yesterday he summed things up brilliantly when told the large audience in attendance "different is great"



The new accommodation house is very different, please see the photo attached. (More photos can be seen on the Ministers website and Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/TonyPiccoloMP>)

1. Purchased by the family of the residents
2. Located in one of Adelaide's best suburbs
3. In a delightful setting next to a park
4. With two mates sharing the house
5. With service support from their selected NGO
6. With Disability SA funding the services

Minister Piccolo in his official opening speech praised the partnership between parents, clients, service providers and government describing it as the way of the future. He is undoubtedly correct. The days of academics, disability advocates, NGO's or Government agencies stipulating how people with a disability will live are being positively challenged and will never be the same again.

Cathy Miller CEO of Minda Ltd the leading SA NGO who is providing service to this house with a core focus on person centred planning and community engagement advised that this was the "eighth different model of accommodation" that Minda had developed in recent years.

There is no doubt that the future will be different.

Let's hope state and federal governments invest more time and more money in working with clients and families to develop a broad range of service models that are flexible, personal and cost effective. Leading NGO's like Minda are already progressive in this area and should be congratulated for their vision and willingness to enter such partnerships.

NDIS can deliver a great future

We need it, expect it and demand it

David Holst

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