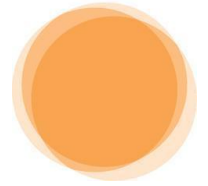


Solving the issue of YPIRAC

SUMMER
FOUNDATION



Summer Foundation Pre Budget Submission

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The issue of younger people in residential aged care (YPIRAC) is a solvable problem. The Summer Foundation looks forward to partnering with the federal government and the NDIA to solve the issue of YPIRAC once and for all by January 2025.

What is the problem?

Younger people are still entering RAC

Although there has been a decrease in the number of younger people entering RAC over the past two years, last financial year 497 people under 65 entered aged care.¹ Similar to previous YPIRAC programs,^{2,3} the current YPIRAC initiative has not created the systemic change needed at the hospital-NDIS interface to deliver better outcomes for this cohort.

Instead of going to RAC, younger people with disability are getting stuck in hospital for months or even years.⁴ Lack of housing for people with disability is not the main barrier to younger people with disability accessing age appropriate housing. There are 3,000 vacancies in disability housing across Australia, 1,000 of which are new build Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA).⁵ While NDIS participants are now stuck in hospital for 30 days instead of 170 days, a further reduction is possible. Younger people at risk of RAC need timely and skilled support to transition out of hospital into age appropriate housing.

Younger people are not moving out of RAC

Currently, few YPIRAC move out of RAC to live in better housing options. Most younger people either stay in RAC until they turn 65 or die in RAC.

There are currently 2,934 younger people with a disability living in residential aged care (RAC).¹ Nearly 80% of current YPIRAC are NDIS participants and an estimated 95% are likely to be eligible for the Scheme.

Currently, only 604 (26%) of the 2,336 YPIRAC who are NDIS participants have a goal to move. An estimated 2,000 YPIRAC who don't have a goal to move need independent, expert and patient support to explore options and make an informed decision about where they live. In the 2022 financial year only 39 young people moved out of RAC into SDA. YPIRAC are not getting the skilled support they need to transition out of RAC.

¹ [Younger People in Residential Aged Care Dashboard](#): Data to 30 June 2022

² Ryan, R., Lopata, T & Yeomans, J. (2009) [Mid Term Evaluation review of the Younger People with Disability in Residential Aged Care Program](#). Urbis.

³ Winkler, D., Holgate, N., Sloan, S., & Callaway, L. (2012). [The Victorian younger people in residential aged care initiative: Evaluation of quality of life outcomes](#). Summer Foundation.

⁴ Cubis, L., Ramme, R.A., Roseingrave, E., Minter, E., Winkler, D., & Douglas, J. (2022). [Evaluating the discharge planning process: Barriers, challenges, and facilitators of timely and effective discharge for people with disability and complex needs](#). Summer Foundation and La Trobe University.

⁵ [Housing Hub](#) website

What does success look like?

By January 2025:

- **Every young person in RAC is supported to make an informed decision:** The 2,934 young people currently in RAC have all received expert, patient and independent support to build their capacity and confidence, explored housing options and made an informed decision about moving out.
- **No new entries to RAC:** NDIS participants in hospital and other young people at risk of RAC receive independent skilled support to navigate and secure the timely disability, health and housing services they need to leave hospital and avoid RAC.
- **Timely NDIS funding decisions:** The NDIA routinely makes decisions about funding for housing and support for NDIS participants in hospital within 10 days.

Summer Foundation Track Record

The [Summer Foundation](#) is uniquely placed to partner with the federal government to deliver outcomes for YPIRAC because of its track record. The Summer Foundation has:

- Supported **over 750 NDIS participants** to navigate the NDIS and find new homes including **100 YPIRAC**
- Co-designed over **20 resources** to build the capacity of NDIS participants to make an informed choice about housing and support and move
- **Over 1,500 disability housing providers** listing both SDA and non-SDA vacancies on an online platform called the [Housing Hub](#)
- Partnered with the Victorian and South Australian governments in the [Hospital to Home](#) program to support **over 230 patients** with disability to navigate the NDIS and identify suitable housing
- Delivered [Upskill](#) support coordination **training to 2,183 attendees**
- Published over **40 peer reviewed journals** and is the **leading international expert** and thought leader on YPIRAC and alternative housing options
- Secured **over \$30 million** in philanthropic support to solve the issue of YPIRAC in 2023-2025

What are the solutions?

The gap is information and support for NDIS participants. Choosing where to live is a big decision and navigating the options available under the NDIS is complex. There is currently inadequate support and information provided to NDIS participants to make an informed decision. There is also insufficient demand data which inhibits the development of housing and support options for YPIRAC and younger people at risk of RAC.

There are four initiatives that address this gap and together will solve the issue of YPIRAC once and for all.

1. YPIRAC Exit Demonstration Project: The Summer Foundation will set up a team of 20 Transition Navigators to support YPIRAC to move out of RAC. Each YPIRAC with a goal to move requires 40 hours of expert support from experienced allied health professionals to make an informed choice about housing and support options.

Cost: \$10 million over 3 years

2. Hospital Exit Demonstration Project: To prevent new entrants to RAC, NDIS participants will be supported to move from hospital to the best available disability housing that matches their needs and preferences. Ongoing support will build the capacity, confidence and independence of NDIS participants to make an informed decision about longer term housing.

Cost: \$5 million over 3 years

3. Training Transition Navigators and scaling: The Summer Foundation will train other providers to scale the availability of Transition Navigators across Australia. Transition Navigators will be funded by Specialist Support Coordination (level 3) in NDIS plans. Transition Navigators will focus on securing appropriate housing and support and work with NDIS participants for a limited time rather than replace existing Support Coordinators. Scaling this workforce will also involve creating an online directory of Transition Navigators that have a track record of effectively supporting NDIS participants in aged care and hospital to move to age-appropriate housing.

Cost: \$2 million over 2 years

4. Housing demand data for YPIRAC and young people at risk of RAC: The Summer Foundation will collaborate with Transition Navigators to collate and publish SDA market data specific to the housing and support needs and preferences of YPIRAC and NDIS participants in hospital. This will enable SDA providers and state governments to build housing for current and future unmet demand. A follow-up study in partnership with La Trobe University will evaluate the impact and outcomes of the Transition Navigators program at 1 and 2 years post intervention.

Cost: \$3 million over 3 years

The Ask

The Summer Foundation seeking **\$20 million of federal government funding over 3 years** to develop and scale a national workforce of skilled Transition Navigators to solve the issue of YPIRAC once and for all. The evidence base from this program will support the SDA market and state governments to deliver housing that meets the current and future demand of younger people at risk of RAC and other NDIS participants at risk of lengthy hospital admissions.

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