

# DISABILITY SERVICES

KEY ASSETS WA





## INTRODUCTION

**Key Assets strives to make a positive and lasting difference to the lives of children and young people.**

It is our aim to provide solutions that help individuals achieve their potential. We specialise in services for children, young people and their families, delivering supports that are centred on the individual and their strengths, needs, interests and goals.

Key Assets promotes flexible and responsive person-centred practice, encouraging the individual's participation in all aspects of the

service they receive. By employing our unique Team Parenting® framework, individuals are supported to explore safe and realistic options in independent or semi-independent living arrangements and community support.

Key Assets maintains its commitment in offering alternative family care arrangements to children and young people, providing a “pathway” to independent living, where independent life skills can be developed, nurtured and strengthened.



## TYPES OF SERVICE

### COMMUNITY & FAMILY SUPPORT

Key Assets provides flexible person-centred services to children and young people with disabilities wishing to explore safe, community-inclusive and realistic options for independent or semi-independent accommodation and support in the community.

### ABILITY CARE

Key Assets provides alternative long and short term care arrangements for children and young people with disabilities and complex care needs. Complex care needs may include autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disability, sensory needs, physical disability and/or psychosocial disability (mental ill health).

### INDEPENDENT LIVING

Key Assets support young people to build their skills and capacity to live independently in the community. We do this by guiding the individual to explore their options and to secure services with regards to accommodation and employment, as well as being a contributing member of their local community.

We also mentor the individual in learning life-skills such as budgeting, cooking, using public transport and meeting their personal care needs.







## HOW OUR SUPPORT WORKERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**Jane's support helps young people develop better connections to their local community. She does this by walking alongside individuals while they grow and develop into adulthood. Jane supports young people in taking their own steps instead of doing it for them.**

Recently Tom was dissatisfied with the service he was receiving from Centrelink. Tom wanted Jane to contact Centrelink on his behalf to resolve his issue. Jane encouraged and assisted Tom to express his concerns by writing them in a letter, to Centrelink. Jane and Tom used the letter to practise having a telephone conversation with Centrelink. With Jane's guidance and encouragement, Tom was able to have a calm and respectful conversation with Centrelink using his letter as a guide. The conversation was productive and Tom was able to have his concerns heard with Centrelink offering solutions to his issue and leaving Tom satisfied with the outcome.

Jane had promoted Tom's self-advocacy and guided him in how to follow a complaints procedure. Previously Tom had relied on the agency to do this for him. Tom's self-confidence grew as he found he was able to resolve his problems independently with a little bit of support.

Jane is an active member of her community. She has been able to link young people in with community supports which have assisted them in becoming more independent and less service dependent. She does this by ensuring that the initial contact is a positive experience. Jane encourages young people to build healthy natural support networks and create and pursue a plan for their identified goals.



I SET MY OWN GOALS  
AND SOMETIMES I MAKE  
MISTAKES AND I GET MAD  
BUT SOMEONE IS ALWAYS  
THERE TO TALK TO AND  
HELP ME GET OVER IT.

## SAM'S STORY

I lived with Key Assets foster carers and now I have left care and live on my own. I feel like I am still a part of the Key Assets family because they haven't given up on me. I have support from someone that really understands what I need.

Key Assets helps me to keep myself and my house clean and healthy, manage and understand about money and helps me understand what it means to make decisions.





## ABILITY CARERS – WHO ARE WE?

**We are a family who shares our home with a 19 year old woman who has an intellectual disability. Her dream is to one day live close by, in a 2 bedroom unit of her own but right now she needs our guidance to develop the skills and knowledge needed to achieve her goal.**

Some of the things we teach her are how to cook, budget, and access public transport. We guide her to seek out vocational / career building opportunities and encourage her to build her own social networks. Mostly we recognise she has the ability and the right to make her own choices, we are there to mentor and guide her along the way.

We have worked to help her reconnect with her biological family. She has regular contact with her father with whom we share open communication.

Sometimes we need to advocate for her and have found that having an open and honest relationship with the various agencies involved is the best approach.

The young woman who lives with us has regular contact with her Key Assets support worker who does meaningful goal oriented and person centred work with her.

We are compensated for her living expenses by way of an allowance which also ensures she has everything she needs. There is also a carer rewards component built into the allowance. We assist her in working alongside Key Assets to make decisions regarding accessing any extra supports she decides to utilise.

We have found that being consistent, reliable, and flexible and most of all having a good sense of humour has helped us to be the best Ability Carer family we can be. It's not always easy but every family have their ups and downs. What's important is that we work together.





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THE CHILDREN'S SERVICES PROVIDER