



IN BLACK & WHITE



E. W. TIPPING FOUNDATION

Person Centred Support.

Inclusive Community Development.

Out of home care for kids in crisis

The EW Tipping Foundation has traditionally been associated with disability services—but did you know about our services for children and young people?

Our major children's focus is out-of-home care for young people in crisis.

We operate several homes across the state providing short and longer term support for children.

Our goal is to provide safe, structured and consistent environments, often involving young people in participating in home responsibilities, and getting them involved in their local community.

A great example is three young brothers who have moved into an EW Tipping home in Western Victoria.

The boys moved in just before Christmas, and began school in January.

They attend an after-school program once a week, not only to promote learning, but also to grow their social connections.

One brother has become involved in the local boxing program. "Again, not only



One of the many out-of-home care facilities that we now operate throughout Victoria for children and young people.

does he love the physical challenges, but he is also making some good friends," said Senior Co-ordinator Janet Wraith.

All three boys have joined a local AFL side, and two are completing a junior dog training course with the local obedience school.

They have a house meeting with their staff team once a fortnight to discuss things like food, activities they would like to do, house rules and jobs

around the house. If they complete all their jobs, they can choose something they would like to do or have—such as some pet fish, or going horse riding.

"The boys are strongly supported by our staff to make decisions about their lives and participate in their local community," said Janet. "They are learning great social and negotiating skills. We are seeing them grow and develop every day."

This month's "My View" is taken from an opinion piece by Richard published by The Age, 23 April.



Richard Dent

Amongst the ideas in the 2020 Summit was an inexpensive, far-reaching solution to the coming crisis in disability support—universal disability insurance.

Universal insurance for disability support services will define Australia's fair-go culture for the 21st century.

Most Australians significantly underestimate their personal risk of needing disability support services. And most think that somehow, their government or their health insurance fund will look after them. But you, and we, know that this is often not the case.

The type of insurance scheme being proposed would cost about \$40 per person a year, and would raise more than \$100 million in Victoria alone. It would slash waiting lists and strengthen families. Having carers back in the workforce would increase their wellbeing, reduce the benefits that governments pay, increase productivity, and help reduce the workforce crisis.

In the 19th century, universal education defined our progress. In the 20th century, we accepted that universal health care defined our progress. Now, in the opening years of the 21st century, let's accept that universal access to disability services defines our progress.

It's well worth a few dollars a year to make this Australian fair go a reality.

Frankston/Peninsula Carers Group

"Either we can stay victims of the system, or we can do something about it."

Those are the words of Marie Hell from the Frankston/Peninsula Carers Association, which is determined to build a new accommodation facility at Hastings to provide a home lifestyle and secure future for adults with intellectual disability.

The group is aiming at something different; a mix of independent and shared living units together with supported accommodation that will provide a home for up to 15 people. It will also provide training in independent living skills, respite and carer support.

"We listened to carers and people with disabilities and they all want a small community setting where the resi-

dents can live independently with on-site support," said Marie. "It will also give people an opportunity to move from home to independent living."

Already, the group has obtained funding of \$200,000 from the Mornington Peninsula Shire Council, and a low interest loan of \$200,000 from the EW Tipping Foundation.

CEO Richard Dent says that part of the role of the Foundation is fostering community capital. "This is a great project and we are proud to be able to support it," he said.

Marie said the group is achieving a great deal of community and political support, but needs to raise another \$1 million to get the project up and running. For more information contact her on 5983 8785.

Can you help?

When you rely on a wheelchair to get around, you want it to be in reasonable condition.

But that's not the case for one of the people supported by the EW Tipping Foundation in Traralgon.

Steve, a resident at one of our shared supported accommodation houses, desperately needs a new electric wheelchair.

His current one, which was second hand when he received it, is too small and is causing damage to his posture.

Steve's support worker, Emma Priest, says the chair also regularly needs repairs that Steve cannot afford on his disability pension.

A new chair will cost close to \$11,000, but government funding will only cover \$8000, leaving Steve and his team to find \$2800.

"For Steve, a good wheelchair will make all the difference because it means he's not so reliant on other people," said Emma.

If you—or someone you know—can assist with the costs of the chair is asked to phone Pauline Davies on 5622 7777.

Embracing independence

Henri's family was a little apprehensive about his dream of moving into his own place in Warragul.

But at the same time, they also wanted to support Henri as much as possible in his goals.

Now, a few months after the big move, they can't believe how happy Henri is, and how little time it took for him to adjust to sharing his new unit with flatmate Robert.

Robert's sister was also excited at his opportunity to move out. Both families have chipped in with furnishings and support.

The pair were previously living at "The Willows", one of the EW Tipping Foundation's shared supported accommodation homes in Warragul for people with disabilities.

In their new unit, they have discovered their living skills complement each other, and they receive regular support from Yoorooga, a family governed project auspiced by the EW Tipping Foundation. Yoorooga has now supported eight people in the district to live independently.

And as for Robert and Henri, they are loving it. "We really enjoy it here!" said Robert.

For more information about our West Gippsland programs, please phone 5622 7777.



Robert and Henri have discovered their living skills complement each other.

Karma currency

If you're looking for a great gift idea for a friend or family member, or you're having a big party but don't want any presents yourself, take a look at the Karma Currency website—
www.karmacurrency.com.au

Karma offers you a chance to purchase tax-deductible charity gift vouchers, which you can give away (or receive) as presents.

The person with the voucher can go onto the website and pick from hundreds of charities they would like to donate their money to. Of course, the EW Tipping Foundation is one of those!

You can fund bike helmets, day trips and many more activities for people supported by the Foundation, all with the click of a button.

Community kitchen launch

People with disabilities in West Gippsland now have the chance to bond over dinner.

The Yoorooga Project has launched a community kitchen with funding assistance from the EW Tipping Foundation.

Participants have the opportunity to shop for ingredients, prepare and cook the meal, sit together to share their creation, and plan a meal for the following week.

"The kitchen allows people to learn skills not only in meal preparation, but also in nutrition, food handling, hygiene and safety, budgeting, teamwork, networking and shopping," said Project Coordinator Kerry Vaughan.

"People living independently can become quite isolated and lonely, often causing depression.

"We hope this project will create some genuine and



Cooking up a storm at the launch are Sarah, Phil, Sam, Jess and Deb.

long-lasting friendships."

The Community Kitchen is open once a week at the West Gippsland Healthcare Group.

Yoorooga is a family governed project that assists people with disabilities to live independently. It is directed by a Governance Group, funded by the Department of Human Services and aus-

ponsored by the EW Tipping Foundation.

The project was funded for six months partly through generous donations towards our Christmas Appeal. We are again seeking support from donors to continue the project beyond June.

For more information about making a donation, contact Gail on 9564 1000.

Run Melbourne

Run Melbourne is offering a great chance to raise funds for the EW Tipping Foundation!

One of our staff, Gail Siracusa, is planning to participate in the event on 22 June—which includes a 5km run/walk, 7.5km walk, 10km run or a half-marathon through the most picturesque parts of our city. Gail has chosen the 7.5km walk.

Gail is inviting readers to sponsor her efforts through a donation via the website:

www.everydayhero.com.au/Gail01.

Gail has set herself a target of raising \$1000 for the Foundation, so all donations are very welcome! Donations are tax deductible and you will receive a receipt.

Information about the event can be found at the website www.runmelbourne.com.au, where EW Tipping is registered for donations.

For more information, you can also contact Gail on 9564 1000.

Our contact details:

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