

Submission

No 55

Outsourcing Community Service Delivery

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I would like to comment that services offered by government run group homes compared to those of the not for profits are infidently better.

Staffing in government group homes allow clients to live their lives and see the world as there are staff to take clients out into the community.

In not for profit there is usually only 1 staff member appointed to 3-4 clients in an 8 hour shift you often have a difficult client meaning its impossible to do banking with the clients in community as you dont have eyes in back of your head to keep an eye on the client who may be stealing or getting lost in shopping centre.

You take a client to the doctor with ADHC and its you the worker and the client. Whilst other staff member is at group home looking after clients.

In not for profit you go to doctors with 3 clients have to leave others in waiting room whilst you go into doctor with sick client.

In ADHC group homes there is always food in the cupboards for the clients to eat, to take out to their day programs.

In not for profit if there is no money or the manager in the office hasnt signed a bank slip you might be 2-3 days without food for client and they have to eat baked beans.

In ADHC group homes you have a core of staff who make working in disability their career and they know clients and client routines well and these staff members are well qualified and recieve regular training through ADHC.

In not for profit the core staff are alot less the workforce is alot more transient meaning people doing the job in between jobs, university students doing the job and those from a non english speaking background doing the job. End result for service delivery for clients are below standard compared to ADHC.

All ADHC houses have a van to access the community with on afternoons and weekends, meaning clients can go out and see plays, movies go bowling.

In not for profit there is often 1 car between 5-6 houses meaning clients have to pay out of their own monies to use taxis.

Last but not least the general health of ADHC clients compared to NON government ones is superior and i would hazzard a guess an ADHC client would have on average an extra 5 year life expectancy compared to a client in a non government group home.

Hence i would like to put my foot foward to say government run group homes are far superior to that of non government ones due to funding and should government run group

homes become privatised you would see the service delivery to clients with a disability drop immensely in NSW.