

**INQUIRY INTO HOMELESSNESS AMONGST OLDER  
PEOPLE AGED OVER 55 IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 25 May 2022

---

Partially  
Confidential

I am a 75 years old woman. I am a full time Carer of an adult son with Complex PTSD, a Psychosocial disability, this acquired after acts of crime in his childhood by a perpetrator connected with issues of DFV and separation issues.

Fourteen years ago I stopped working full- time as the Trauma inflicted on my son required 24/7 assistance ( this due to flashbacks) and as I was on my role of supporting, it was imposible to attend a job from 9-5 where it required my 100% concentration for delivering competently. From that point my financial situation changed for the worse as I required government assistance with Carer Pension.

The first thing to go was my Home as I could not pay my mortgage and everything else's followed: car, private health insurance do important in the circumstances , little outings, coffee, etc.

At around 2013 I was dealing with a health issue on one of my legs which left me wheel chair bounds) As I was privately renting, and any money left I had saved went into my private renting and I got late with my rent , I was served with a noticed of eviction.

I was devastated and in shocked. A very independent professional person, always paying my bills on time, on my own attending a very needed traumatised son, I reached out to Redfern Legal Aide , who referred me later to CARES NSW and later to DoH of NSW which assisted me some 18-20% of my rent. Unfortunately after rejecting 2 offers of Inappropriate dwellings, and successfully self- advocated with documentation and mental health trauma needs I was waiting for a further offering.

Unfortunately during that waiting period 2017 my rental premises was about to be demolished and DoH was incredible unhelpful to say the least, to the point I moved out to another private property closed by in Kensington ( this due that anther family members lives /owes his unit) and he is the only emotional and physical support I have in times of crisis). Department of Housing Strawberry Hills office contacted me 48 hours after I had signed my new leased , and this time offering a property!.

The stress, the innuendo, the discrimination, the lack of understanding of mental health needs issues, the lack of Trauma Informed Caring, absolutely NO compassion or even a bit of understanding of most of staff, in this case was a team leader: appalling behaviour from an staff's leader. I continue living on a private dwelling in Kensington. , I continue being a Carer. I need assistance and support for permanent dwelling.

Thanks.

Thanks for your time.