

## Specialist Disability Accommodation Fund

# A glimpse into the impact of the Specialist Disability Accommodation Fund

In the heart of Moonee Ponds, a vibrant suburb of Melbourne, a transformation has taken place for Mark Miljons-Rostoks, a vivacious individual with an affinity for writing and blogging. Mark's journey is intertwined with the Specialist Disability Accommodation Fund, a fund created by Australian Unity that has redefined the concept of living with a disability. In a candid interview, Mark sheds light on his experiences and the impact this accommodation has had on his life.

Mark's personality shines through as he shares his favourite hobby – writing. His affinity for storytelling mirrors his journey of discovery and newfound freedom within the Specialist Disability Accommodation. Mark's infectious enthusiasm extends to his appreciation for hot sauce and the Boston Celtics, but it's his fondness for Paulo Coelho's "The Alchemist" that reflects the transformative nature of his own story.

Living in this specialised accommodation for the past seven months has allowed Mark to escape the confines of a 20-bed group home that resembled a mini nursing facility. Reflecting on his prior living situation, Mark acknowledges that his former residence catered more to his physical needs than his emotional wellbeing. However, the specialist disability accommodation supplied by Australian Unity represents a beacon of change in his life.

When questioned about his decision to choose this dwelling, Mark reveals that the shift was not necessarily a choice, but a compelling shift from limited options. While his former residence served high-care clients—primarily ventilator users—his current abode resonates with his individuality. He now revels in a place that reflects his personality and serves as an inviting hub for friends. The nearby shopping hub adds to his newfound sense of independence.

The location has had a positive influence on Mark's lifestyle. A self-proclaimed "fancy coffee and restaurant guy". Mark enjoys the cosmopolitan lifestyle that the heart of Moonee Ponds offers. Being surrounded by the energy of the suburb allows him to fully embrace his identity and experience life in its purest form. No longer confined to a group home, he feels truly human.

**“I have a lot more self-respect and self-love now too, like I feel as if I’ve not only achieved this long-term independent living goal of mine but it’s somehow made me whole”**

Despite the numerous benefits, Mark doesn't shy away from addressing any potential "dealbreakers" that could have influenced his decision. With a smile, he dismisses the notion, expressing overwhelming contentment with his new environment. The prospect of independent living triumphs over any potential downsides, and for that, he is incredibly grateful.

When asked about advice for his younger self, Mark's wisdom shines through. He encourages cherishing the mundane moments, finding solace in everyday activities like cooking, eating, and taking walks. This sentiment underscores his journey to embrace life's simplicity and find contentment in each passing moment.

Mark Miljons-Rostoks' story is a testament to the Specialist Disability Accommodation Fund's impact on individual lives. This initiative by Australian Unity has not only provided physical shelter but has also nurtured the soul and empowered independence. Mark's journey reminds us that true fulfillment lies in embracing the ordinary, and that, in the heart of Moonee Ponds, a remarkable transformation is unfolding, one life at a time.

## Open for investment

Portfolio Valuation \$128m<sup>^</sup>

Fund performance 8.29% p.a.\*

Portfolio Occupancy 96%<sup>^</sup>

Established in 2020, the fund focuses on acquiring and developing high-quality Specialist Disability Accommodation (SDA) in attractive locations to support Australians living with disability (National Disability Insurance Scheme Participants). The Fund's committed portfolio comprises of over 270 dwellings (including those contracted and under development). The Fund partners with property managers (SDA providers) and support providers to ensure the SDA operation provides efficient shared and individual care and support.

## To find out more contact us

[australianunity.com.au/wealth/sdaf](https://australianunity.com.au/wealth/sdaf)

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<sup>^</sup> Portfolio valuation and occupancy as at 31 July 2023

\* Since inception 30 April 2020. Performance as at 31 July 2023