

Wintringham

Innovation in providing housing
and services for people at risk of
homelessness

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Wintringham

Wintringham is driven by a simple and overwhelming conviction: we believe in social justice



Wintringham has consistently argued that the aged homeless have the right to access mainstream service. We believe that our clients are:

Elderly and homeless – and NOT
Homeless and elderly

This is not simple semantics but introduces a new paradigm: homeless people should not have to rely on underfunded homeless services.

They are entitled to mainstream aged care services.

Providing homeless services from within a mainstream service system that is not designed for homeless people, can be difficult



The aged care industry is very different to the homeless service sector. It is more conservative, less innovative and with a very different client base

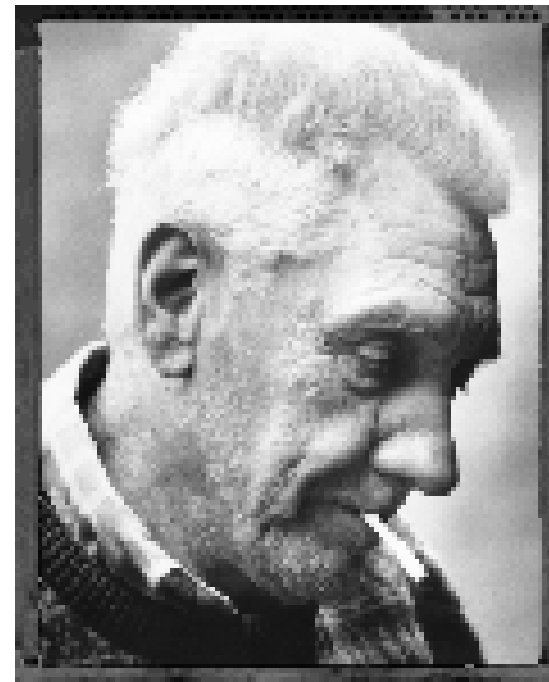
A typical client of the aged care sector is

- 85 years old woman
- Middle class
- Expectant of services
- With an aggressive son or daughter to lobby on her behalf



A typical Wintringham client however is:

- 65 years old
- Working class
- Reluctant to accept services
- Little or no family support



Wintringham has responded by developing a range of high quality residential and community based services.



The aged care industry talks about Independent Living – but this is a misnomer. None of us live independently.



To assist people live as independently as possible, Wintringham develops a range of targeted responses for each individual tenant.

First up we design quality housing that we would want to live in ourselves



- Into that housing we then provide appropriate levels of support
- For every tenant that support will be different
- We also attempt to create a village atmosphere with tenants supporting each other



Case example:

Ron Conn:

supported housing

- Saves public funds
- Enables greater independence for the client
- is good policy



With appropriate support services
Wintringham has demonstrated that it is
possible to create a permanent exit point
from homelessness





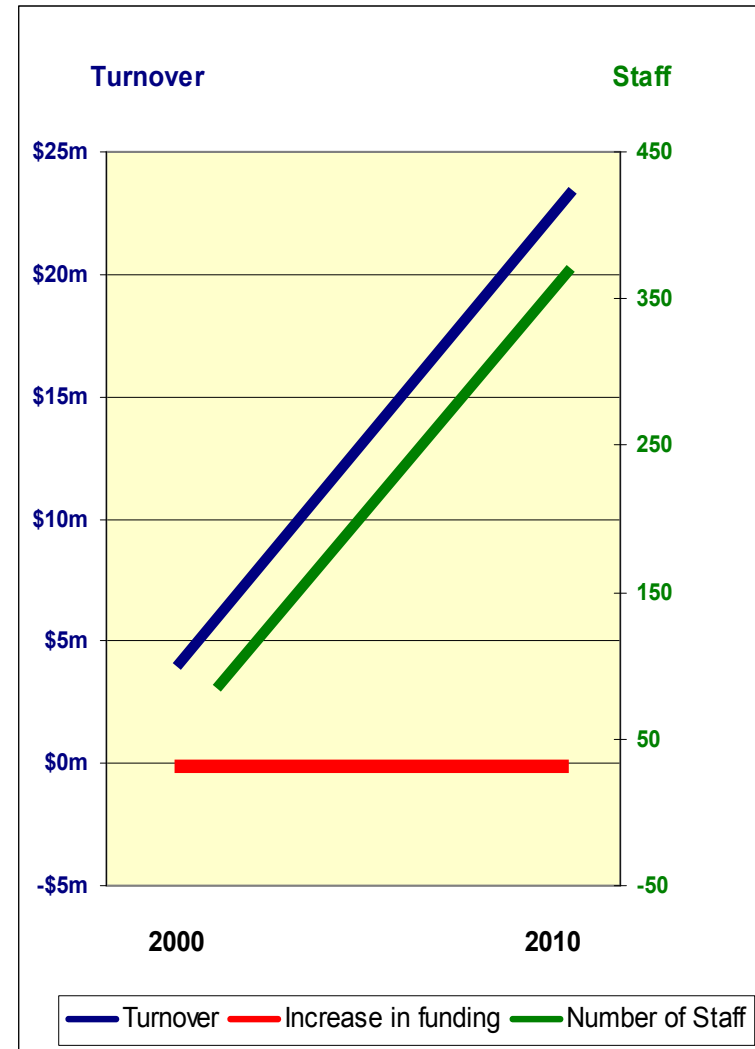


Both the Commonwealth
and a variety of State
Governments have
recognised that reducing
elderly homelessness
will require a
Whole of Government
response

- This Whole of Govt response is now urgently needed.
- Support dollars in particular are needed
- Wintringham non-CACP support funding commenced in 1997 (ACHA) and 2000 (HSA & OPOP).
- In 2000 we had a company turnover of \$4m and a staff of 80
- Today we have a turnover of \$23m and a staff of 400

So during the past 10 years we have grown by about 500%.

During that time we have had 0% increase in support funding



Wintringham

- The Elderly Homeless are entitled to receive services that the rest of the community take for granted.
- In the absence of families who can advocate on their behalf, homeless elderly people rely on NFP's and Govt
- It is time to act

