

CASE STUDY: FAMILY DAY CARE VILLAGE



The Family Day Care Village empowers women from a refugee or migrant background to train for and own their own business while also accessing affordable housing.

AT A GLANCE



Target Participants

Women from a CALD background



Aim

To provide business skills, child care training and support for families to achieve suitable housing solutions



Organisations Involved

Communicare Family and Employment Services



Location

Perth, Western Australia



Funding

Communicare Social Enterprise

The Family Day Care Village Program began

seven years ago when Communicare Family and Employment Services in Western Australia identified a need for affordable accommodation suitable for the purpose of Family Day Care.

The initial plan was to set up a family day care business for women from CALD backgrounds to help them gain financial independence while allowing them to move into affordable housing.

With the help of Communicare six two-story houses were built in which a family lived and ran a family day care centre for up to 5 children.

The program included a training course in which participating women could not only improve their English skills but attain knowledge and skills necessary to work with children. Through this innovative program, women from CALD backgrounds were able to attain a qualification, form lasting links with the community and eventually be in a position to own their own homes and, for some, their own businesses as well.

Successful Outcomes:

The Family Day Care Village Program ensures long-term affordable rental as participants are given a three-year lease. During the lease, they are encouraged to save up for a housing deposit, leading to eventual home ownership.

By providing women with the opportunity to participate in vocational training courses, they were able to successfully plan and run their own business.

To date 18 women have completed the program with some of them going on to gain further qualifications in childcare.

'I would be happy enough to be able to find a job in childcare, but this is so much better - I'm actually running my own business and making money for the family. Best of all, I enjoy it, it doesn't even feel like work!'

Sara

from Somalia

For More Information Visit:

www.communicare.org.au

