

As regards the question on cost per month for residents to live in a supported accommodation group home. The overall cost is in three basic components. The cost of each component will depend on the service provider, the number of residents and the items contained in each component.

The three components of the total cost are, rent, housekeeping and personal expenditure.

We can give you an actual figures for our son. He is in a DHS house with 5 other residents. The cost per month is:-

Rent:	\$209.15
Housekeeping:	\$413.60
Personal Expenditure:	<u>\$139.00</u>
	\$761.75 per month

In the Non Government Sector, NFP/CSO. The overall cost is usually higher, as they, unlike the DHS, are not fully funded. This is a major concern of CSOs! We have one similar CSO service as \$850 per month

The DHS keep their support costs for residents quite covert, as they are high due to public service bureaucratic waste. And, as they keep the CSO tight on funding, they don't want to reveal the true cost for each of their residents. A recent figure, is around \$130,000.

In passing, it was interesting to see the Senator who had a son with a disability as the most vocal. And, that Senators, in general, were not too keen to hear our hit on public service services. Public servants and politicians protect their own - this is one reason things are so slow to change for the better.

Regards,

Tony Tregale (LISA Inc)