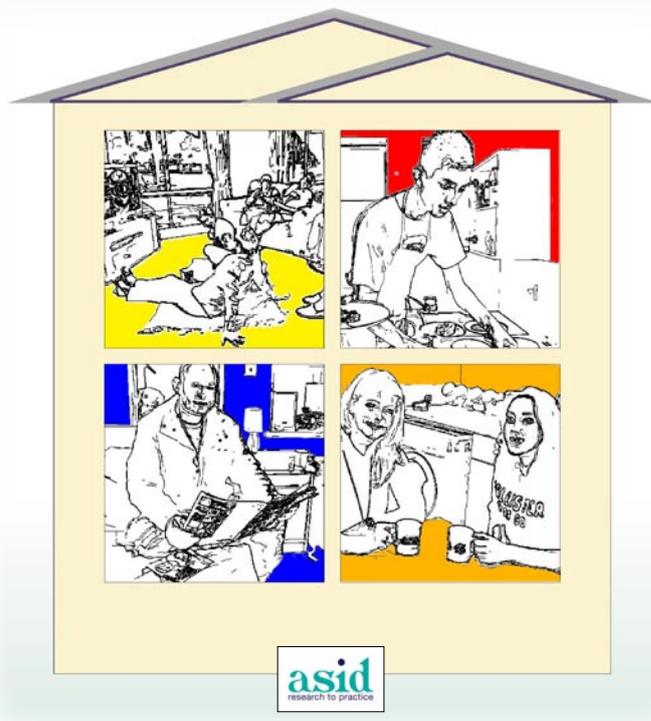


What makes a Good Group Home ?



Recently Professor Christine Bigby has presented seminars in South Australia, NSW and Victoria on what make a good group home.

We have four accounts of these seminars and the take home messages. For those of you who could not attend (all seminars were sold out) here is the link to one of the main JARID articles. This is an open access article so you should be able to click on the link and download the full article.

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/jar.12291/full>

Below is the title and abstract of the article:

Improving Quality of Life Outcomes in Supported Accommodation for People with Intellectual Disability: What Makes a Difference?

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Background

The quality of life (QOL) of people with intellectual disability living in supported accommodation services is variable, influenced by many possible factors. Various frameworks have attempted to identify these factors without assigning value, direction of influence or relative impact on outcomes.

Methods

A realist review of the literature aimed to expose different propositions about variables influencing QOL outcomes and review the strength of supporting evidence for these, to identify their relative influence. Evidence was reviewed for and against each of five clusters.



Prof Christine Bigby

Results

Evidence was strongest for the presence of staff practices (use of Active Support), front-line management practice (use of practice leadership), culture (enabling and motivating), human resources policies and practice (that support front-line leaders and recruitment of staff with the right values), adequate resources, and small, dispersed and homelike settings.

Conclusions

The evidence informs policy and practice but in some clusters remains limited, warranting further research which measures outcomes on all QOL domains. ●