

SOON TO OPEN RECENTLY COMPLETED SALVATION ARMY CRISIS CENTRE IN ST KILDA

THE SALVATION ARMY CRISIS ACCOMMODATION ST KILDA

Providing accommodation for the homeless is not only about breaking the cycle of homelessness but also about breaking the cycle of hopelessness.

In this project we not only provide people with shelter, we provide housing which is independent, their own space, so they can regain control over their personal living space. The housing units are self contained, no shared bathroom facilities, other than within a family unit. They have control over bathing, eating, sleeping, cleaning. All the things those of us with housing take for granted.

The housing also attempts through its design, to lift people beyond their condition, to allow the triumphant human spirit to rise above their condition and excel again. The high ceilings over the bedrooms are intended to lift people's spirits, as well as giving access to north light and natural ventilation and cooling via thermal currents. The height above the other rooves signifies the importance of the individual, and their ability to rise above adversity.

Each unit has north facing living areas, with outlook over gardens and beyond. The out door space provides generous and private recreation in the fresh air, and hopefully opportunities for chance acquaintances, new friendships, informal supports.



Children are supported in an environment which is predictable for them in the company of their carers. Playgrounds are provided for junior and senior children, where carers can keep an eye on them. A space for BBQ is provided for functions or individual use.

All of this is supported by an office facility to accommodate staff for direct support of residents and to operate the service. Here there are meeting rooms and work areas, and of course parking for vehicles.

All of the facility at ground level is accessible for those with a disability,

with 4 single bedroom and each family unit having fully DDA compliant bathrooms and kitchens.

Often homeless people present with a partner, family or they may be a sole parent. The units can be combined when the need arises to accommodate an individual with dependents or a couple. Any number of people in a group could be housed.

So this facility is a world first, and is breaking new ground in the provision of supported accommodation for homeless people.



Connections between units allowing combinations in units sizes to exist



High ceilings; a gesture to improve ventilation, solar access and to lift the spirits of the occupants

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