



Growing Local Care: Tambellup's Staying in Place Journey



Staying in Place - Program at a Glance

A snapshot of where the program is today



Clients currently supported

7 Local workers



Casual, flexible, and meaningful support work for community members

Local & community led



Designed to help residents stay living locally

6 Stay in Place



People we have helped stay in their own home

2023



Program commenced (late 2023)

A Timeline Summary of the Journey So Far

Growth has been steady and community driven



Early 2024:
Lost 1 client
2 clients transferred
from HACCC to SiP



2024-2025
Slow growth of program
Long wait times for ACAT
assessments (6+ months)
Up to 1 year wait for package



December 2023:
Program start
1 client
1 active support
worker



Mid 2024
Staying in Place
Coordinator employed
for 1 day per week



December 2025:
5 clients
8 active support
workers

Where We Started

The Beginning of Our Staying in Place and Social Enterprise Journey

The Tambellup CRC began the program in late 2023. We had just one client, and the program was simply a way to help our older residents remain living in Tambellup.

At the time, income generation was not our focus, we were responding to an emerging local need.

In hindsight, beginning the program was a leap of faith. We didn't fully understand the complexity of aged care systems or the coordination required.

Growth was slow and quiet. Trust built gradually through word of mouth.



“ *We wouldn't be able to maintain our home or garden without this service.* ”

Early Challenges and Turning Point

The early stages were challenging, particularly during a Centre leadership transition

A new Coordinator had to quickly learn aged care systems, Home Care Packages, and compliance requirements.



A turning point came when we secured funding for a dedicated Staying in Place Coordinator. This gave the program the consistency and focus it needed.

Where We Are Now

Two years on, the program currently supports four clients.

Over time, we have supported more community members. Some have since passed away or transitioned as their care needs changed, and they remain an important part of our story.



The initial kickstart funding has now been fully utilised, and the program now generates income to directly employ the Staying in Place Coordinator.

Client numbers directly influence coordinator hours, strengthening the program's sustainability.

Building Local Workforce



The program is creating meaningful, flexible local work opportunities.

Support workers value the ability to choose their clients and form genuine relationships.

Support includes transport, food preparation, social outings, cleaning, gardening, and personal care.



For some workers, it has opened additional opportunities they would not have otherwise accessed.

“I like the flexibility and being able to choose my clients”

“I can form good relationships with clients... This is emotionally beneficial for both of us”

“It allows me to have a small, extra income”

Community Trust

The program now has strong grassroots recognition.

Community members are increasingly approaching us when they notice a neighbour may need support

“ We appreciate having somebody local who we can easily visit and speak to. ”

“ We wouldn't be able to maintain our home or garden without the service. ”



Looking Ahead

Future Challenges

The Aged Care landscape is changing, with new reforms that may impact whether clients access services and how their need are assessed.

These changes may influence future client numbers, package uptakem and overall program viability in our small, regional community.

To remain sustainable, we may need to be flexible and innovative in how we deliver services and continue to generate income.

This sould include diversifying services, exploring partnerships, or identifying alternative delivery models that continue to meet community need.



Looking Ahead

Where We Want To Go

Our priority is long-term sustainability and high quality, person centred care.

As the program grows, we aim to reinvest income back onto expanded supports and community initiatives.

Future aspirations include a community meals program, local training opportunities for workers, and whole community wellbeing events.

At its heart, Tambellup's Staying in Place program is about dignity, choice, and connection, while strengthening local employment and community resilience.

