



HealthShare NSW

SASH Home Modifications Program Update

January 2024



Program Overview 2018 - 2023



SASH PROGRAM ACTIVITY





Program Update

FY 2022-2023



2024

Funded until June 2024



1576

people assisted since 2018



289 individuals assisted



300 Purchase orders raised

Reasons for Referral

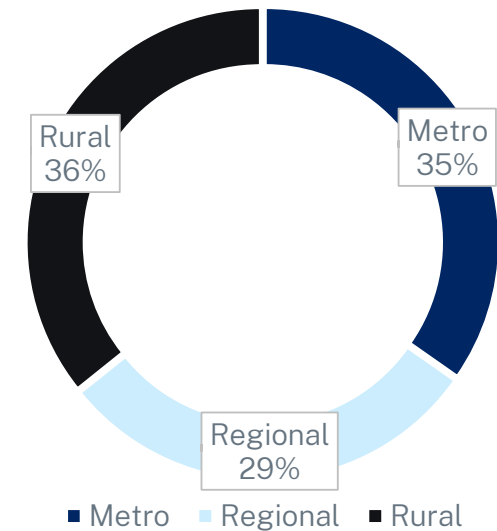


Remain safe at home 71%



Hospital Discharge 29%

Requests by Location



Total Spend by financial year



Total spend (excluding program management costs)

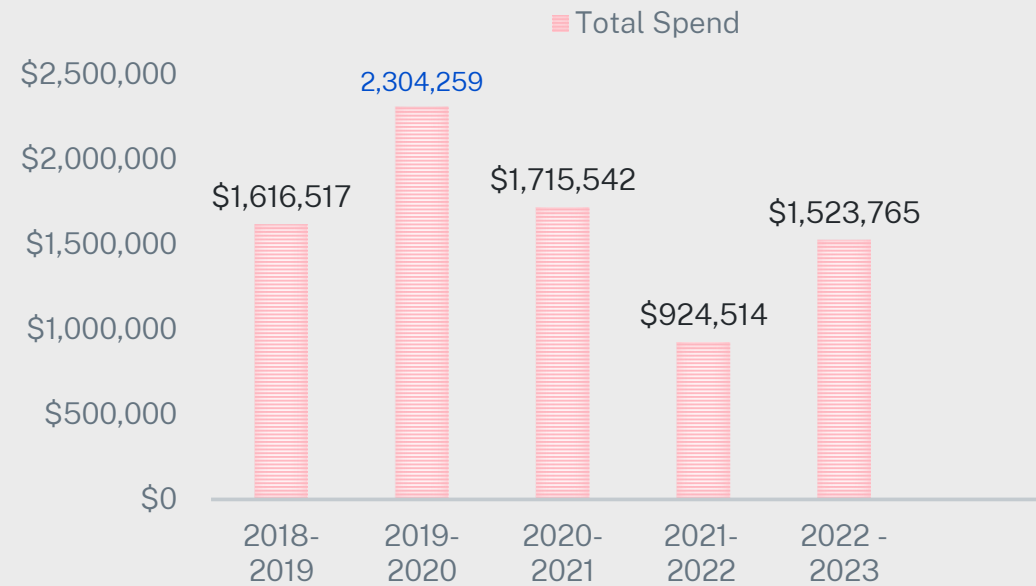


\$1,523, 000

Total Spend by financial year



TOTAL SPEND

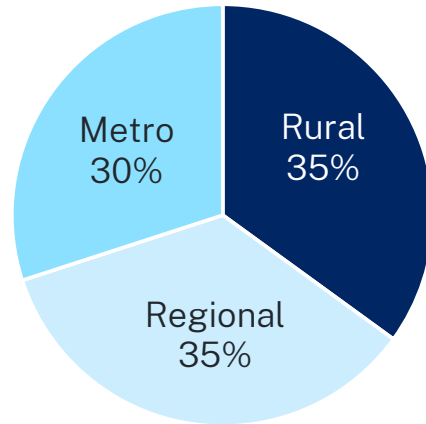




EnableNSW Safe and Supported at Home (SASH) Home Modifications program



1352 people assisted since 2018

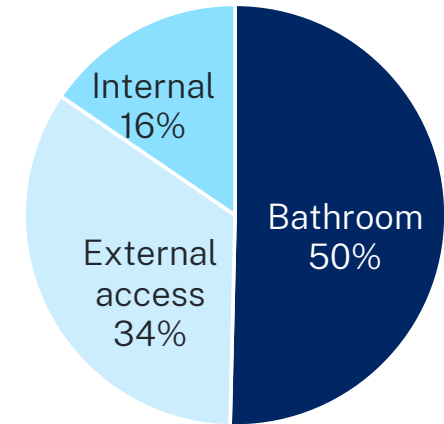


State-wide coverage



Reason for Referral

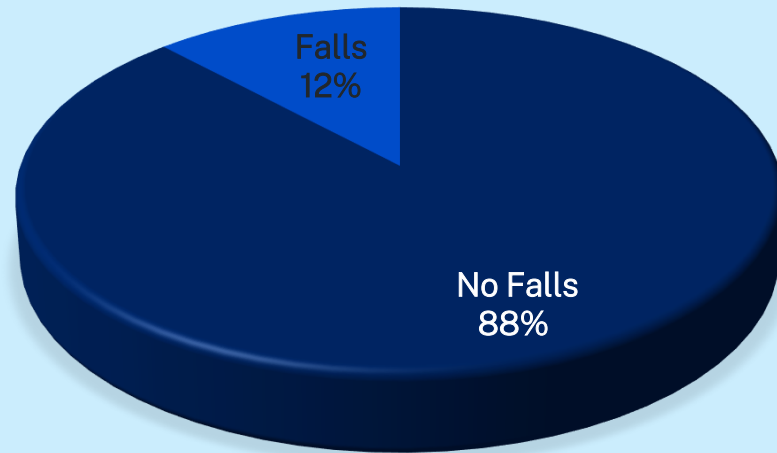
Remain at home 64%
Hospital discharge 36%



Type of modifications

Falls

88% of people who reported falls prior to modifications reported no falls since the modifications



In 2019-20 there were 87,668 fall related hospitalisations in NSW¹



In 2019, there were 1,249 fall related deaths in NSW¹



The average cost of treating falls related injuries in the community is \$4,000 per fall²

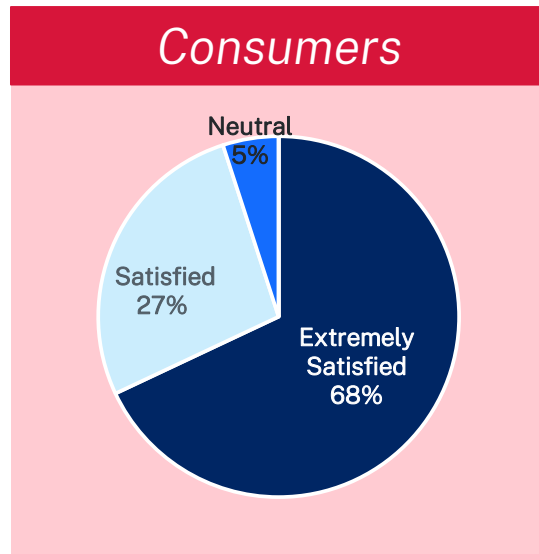
Satisfaction



High level of satisfaction reported by prescribers and consumers



100% of prescribers support SASH HM continuation



“Much valued funding program, so much in need in the under 65 community who have health and functional concerns. Please continue this funding”
– Prescriber

“I now have total reassurance and I am happy with quality of work”
– Consumer

Positive Outcomes



Independence

64% people said they can complete self-care tasks following the modifications

Makes it easier to use bathroom and I'm able to do things I couldn't do before
- Consumer



Safety

98% felt safer at home after the modifications

Feel safer particularly at night going to the toilet
- Consumer

Positive Outcomes

Carer safety

45% consumers report that the modifications have made it safer for their carer



Program Effectiveness

96% of prescribers reported the program was easy to access

Low Abandonment

98% of people report that they are still using the modifications

Positive Outcomes



Confidence

89% feel more confident at home as a result of the modifications

I no longer fear going to the bathroom
- Consumer



Community Access

59% reported safer and more independent access in/out of the home

Fantastic thing! Easier to move up and down. If it wasn't for ramp, I wouldn't be able to go inside and outside.
- Consumer

Case Study

58 yo male living in own home in rural NSW



"A weight has been lifted off my shoulders. I no longer need to climb over the edge of bath" – Mr M

"The program was easy to access and processes were easy to follow. I was kept well informed throughout the application process" – Prescriber

Reason for home modifications: To remain at home safely

Health conditions: Bariatric Weight 165kg, Rheumatoid Arthritis, Stroke, Liver Cirrhosis

Background

- Mr M was unable to manage steps at his front door using his walker or access his shower and toilet safely
- Equipment solutions failed
- Bedside commode used as an alternative to toileting however requires a carer to empty pan
- High risk of injury and hospitalisation for Mr M and his paid and unpaid carers

Home Modifications Provided

- Ramp at front access
- Ramp access between kitchen and bathroom
- Major Bathroom Modifications including removal of shower over bath, installation of level access shower, relocation toilet and hand basin
- Widening of bathroom doorway

Cost of Home Modifications

\$23,652.80

Outcomes

- Safe and independent toileting
- Improved safety whilst showering
- Improved safety for paid and unpaid carers
- Improved community access
- Safer indoor mobility
- Improved confidence and dignity

SASH Process

14 weeks from receiving a completed application until modifications were installed.



Costs and Social Impact

- Ineligible for other funding pathways
- Reduced risk of preventable injury
- Reduced likelihood of hospital admission
- Decreased manual handling risk and carer burden
- Paid carers no longer in jeopardy of stopping service
- Reduced likelihood of becoming housebound
- Reduced likelihood of early entry to aged residential care at an average cost of \$100,000 per year¹

1. <https://www.gen-agedcaredata.gov.au/Topics/Spending-on-aged-care>

Case Study

11yo with new injury in metro Sydney



"We received an amazing service. My child feels more confident at home and is improving independence. Overall quality of life has improved due to the modifications" - Parent

Background

- Master M was a healthy 11 year old boy when he had a sudden deterioration in his mobility and was admitted to hospital
- Surgery to remove the spinal tumour resulted in a permanent spinal cord injury
- Master M now requires a wheelchair for all mobility
- He was unable to return home without a ramp and bathroom modifications

Reason for home modifications: To achieve hospital discharge

Health conditions: Spinal Cord Injury – Incomplete paraplegia (T2 Asia C)

Home Modifications Provided

- Ramp at primary access to house
- Minor bathroom modifications (remove shower screen and installation of hand held shower hose)

Cost of Home Modifications

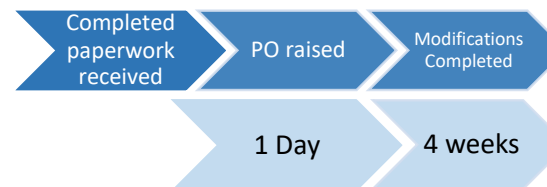
\$4,180.50

Outcomes

- Achieved timely discharge to family home
- Safer wheelchair mobility
- Improved safety whilst showering
- Opportunity for Master M to regain independence in personal care tasks
- Safe manual handling for parents and carers

SASH Process

Less than 5 weeks from receiving a completed application until modifications were installed



Costs and Social Impact

- Reduced length of hospital stay - estimated 200 bed days saved compared to using alternative funding source NDIS
- Discharge to accommodation other than the family home would have adverse impact on the whole family
- Improved transition back to school and social activities for Master M and his siblings
- Decreased burden to family/carers and disruption to work and other responsibilities

Alternative Pathway



Case Study

61 year old male living in a share house in metro Sydney



Background

- Mr D can mobilise short distances only with a walking stick
- His mobility and function are limited by shortness of breath, weakness, poor balance and poor vision
- He has had several falls and is at risk of further falls and injury

“In NSW, there are 27,000 hospitalisations and 400 deaths annually from falls”¹

Reason for home modification: Avoid hospitalisation from fall

Health conditions: Ataxia, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, epilepsy, diplopia, nystagmus, pericarditis, left sided weakness, fracture C spine from MVA ~30 years ago, trigeminal neuralgia, frequent falls

Home modifications provided

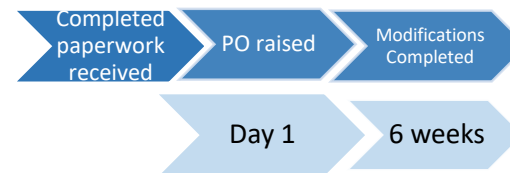
- Handrail at main entrance to house
- Grab rail x 2 in shower
- Grab rail at entrance of shower
- Removal of towel rail
- Installation of hand held shower hose

Cost of Home modifications

\$1,610

SASH process

<5 weeks from receiving a completed application until modifications were installed.



Outcomes

- No falls since modifications completed
- Improved safety whilst showering
- Improved safety for carers
- Improved community access
- Improved confidence and dignity

Costs and Social Impact

- Ineligible for other funding pathways
- Reduced likelihood of hospital admission
- Reduced risk of injury due to falls
- Decreased manual handling risk and carer burden
- Able to remain in current home and maintain existing social supports

“Falls cost the health system more than any other single cause of injury, including road trauma”²

“The average cost of treating falls-related injuries in the community was \$4000 for each fall”