

Media Release

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Pets welcome at ACH Group

Pet ownership offers many benefits to older Australians, according to not-for-profit aged care provider ACH Group.

ACH Group Real Estate Services Manager Nat Johncock said ACH Group allowed people to bring a small pet with them when they moved into most Retirement Living locations across South Australia and Victoria.

“We know that pet ownership is important to many people. One of the first questions people ask when they enquire about retirement living options with ACH Group is: “Can I bring my dog or cat?” Ms Johncock says.

“For many people, young and old, pets can be a connection point, a way of bringing people together, helping people form new relationships.

Ms Johncock said pet ownership was in keeping with ACH Group’s ‘Good Lives’ philosophy.

“ACH Group is committed to providing good lives for older people which includes supporting residents to be as healthy and happy as possible.”

There were many proven health benefits particular to older people.

“Pets are our companions, they can reduce loneliness and depression, relieve stress, lower blood pressure, provide opportunities for social interaction and exercise, and a sense of purpose and belonging.”

Many residents of retirement living units at ACH Group’s James Evans Court owned dogs or cats, including Barbara Brooks, whose Tibetan spaniel ‘Molly’ came with her when she moved into her Magill unit 18 months ago.

“I was looking for a place where I could bring Molly with me, because I didn’t want to leave her behind. She has been my companion for nine years, and has been very important to me in the years after my husband’s death.”

All of ACH Group’s eight residential care homes allow pets and provide similar social benefits.

End Media Release

About ACH Group

ACH Group is a not-for-profit aged care organisation that has been offering services to support good lives for older people in South Australia since 1952.

As well as accommodation options across Adelaide, the Fleurieu Peninsula and eastern Melbourne, the group offers a range of health, wellbeing, respite and support services, help at home and social activities.

Our 1700 specialist staff and hundreds of volunteers share the belief that older people should be valued and respected, connected to their communities and in control of their lives.

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