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**Brisbane Common Ground**

**Evaluation Snapshot**

Supportive housing successfully supports people with chronic experiences of homelessness to **exit homelessness immediately**, move into secure housing and sustain that housing.

**Brisbane Common Ground (BCG)** is run on a unified supportive housing model. The positive relationships and shared objectives of housing, support, and security providers are the key to the success of Brisbane Common Ground.

**THE BRISBANE COMMON GROUND PARTNERS**

- Share a vision
- Translate evidence into practice
- Understand the complexities and opportunities for effective service delivery
- Work to establish Brisbane Common Ground as a home for tenants
Tenants shared their experience at Brisbane Common Ground. They reported feeling...

**Connected,**
- 60% counted more than two other tenants as friends
- 71% socialised with other tenants at least once a week

**Communal Spaces**
It is not simply the design of the built environment that fosters social interactions but a common factor among residents that gives them reason to either come together in social spaces or use social spaces individually.

**Safe,**
- 86% of tenants felt satisfied with their safety

**Concierge Service**
The concierge service, including both the security and tenant services personnel:
- → monitor the building,
- → control access to the building,
- → respond to tenant need,
- → promote onsite safety for visitors and tenants,
- → ensure responsible use of communal resources, and
- → foster a warm and friendly environment.

**Supported,**
- 76% found BCG staff helpful with personal problems
- 71% found BCG staff helpful in accessing services

**Collaborative Onsite Support**
In addition to close onsite collaboration between tenancy and support providers, Brisbane Common Ground’s success relies on a shared vision for supportive housing.

93% felt Brisbane Common Ground was their home

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**The community saved $13,100 annually per Tenant‡**

**Total savings †**
- Health $832,335
- Criminal Justice $122,904
- Homelessness Services $169,364

**Service Use Reduction**
- **MENTAL HEALTH EPISODES**
  - 1,029 → 359
- **DAYS AS ADMITTED PATIENT**
  - 420 → 399
- **VISITS TO EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT**
  - 156 → 144
- **POLICE OCCURRENCES**
  - 50/24 → 24/11
- **APPEARANCES IN COURT**
  - 108 → 61
- **NIGHTS IN CUSTODY**
  - 45 → 27

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*† includes the cost of tenancy at BCG
*‡ figures based on the 41 consenting tenants
Feedback from the tenants

♀ 18–30 YEARS

I feel safe.
I have made it my own. I say who comes in and who doesn’t. I feel happy here and able to live the life I always wanted. … It’s my home … I feel safe here—which I’ve never experienced before.

♀ 18–30 YEARS

Being completely independent
… and living on my own gives me a great sense of pride in the sense that I am able to support myself in any and all ways required to lead my own life.

♂ 61–70 YEARS

I feel that it is my home
… which means that I can put things in it. I can make it my apartment and my room and my space and it all reinforces the emotional and material security.

♀ 41–50 YEARS

You can mix with people
… and get friends to mix with and they always give you a hand; they help you when you need things.

This snapshot is from Brisbane Common Ground Evaluation: Final Report. Prepared for the Queensland Government, Department of Housing and Public Works by the Institute for Social Science Research, The University of Queensland.

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For more information please contact Dr Cameron Parsell on c.parsell@uq.edu.au