

# Social Impact Investment for People with Disability

 Easy Read

 SVA Consulting

the  
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foundation

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## How to use this report?



Social Ventures Australia wrote this report for The Achieve Foundation.



When you see the words **'we'** or **'our'**, it means Social Ventures Australia and The Achieve Foundation.



When you see the words **'you'** it means the person reading this report.



This report is written in an easy-to-read way.



You may see some hard words. We will explain what they mean.



You can find the original version of this report on this website here: [www.theachievefoundation.org.au](http://www.theachievefoundation.org.au)

## What is in this report.



What is social impact investment?



Why is social impact investment important?



How to be successful.



Homes for people with disability.



Jobs for people with disability.



Technology for people with disability.



What we need to do to make social impact investment work.



## What is social impact investment?



**Investment** is when you spend money on something that you hope will get you more money.



For example, if you buy a house, you hope it will be worth more money in a few years.



People who spend and make money on different things are called **investors**.



**Social impact** is when changes happen that make life better for people.



So **social impact investment** is when investors spend money on something and they make money, while also making people's lives better too.

Here is an example of a social impact investment:



- A **company** spends money building a new house that is designed for people with disability



A **company** is a business that makes money by selling things to people.



- A person with disability moves into this house and pays **rent** to the company to live there



**Rent** is money that is used to pay for living in a house that you do not own.



- The company makes money from the person with disability paying rent



- The person with a disability gets to live in a house that is perfect for them and makes their lives better

# Why is social impact investment important?



Social impact investment is one way to make life better for people with disability.



Right now, people with disability in Australia have poorer life outcomes than people without disability.

Some of the things that make life harder for people with disability include:



- Feeling sick often



- Feeling alone and left out of events and services



- Being hurt

This is not ok.



We want to make the lives of people with disability better.

We want to help people with disability to:



- Live in a house that is accessible



- Get a job

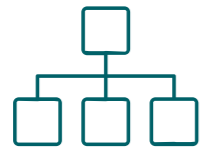


We want to help the organisations that work with people with disability to use to better **technology**.

**Technology** can be using computers, phones, or other electronic devices to make your life easier.

# How to be successful

Here are some things you can do to make sure that social impact investment is good for people with disability and the investors:



1. Use **catalytic intermediaries**.

**Catalytic intermediaries** are organisations that link people with disability to organisations that want to help people with disability and investors. They make sure that the social impact investment works for everyone.



2. Make sure people with disability are included at every stage. People with disability are the experts!



3. Develop better ways to check that the social impact investment is working.



4. Provide a range of quality products that have worked for people with disability before.



5. Promote the opportunity to investors that believe in positive social change.



6. Make sure the government supports the social impact investments.



Social impact investment for people with disability has grown since the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) started.



# Homes for people with disability



Having a home is important for everyone.



Social impact investment is helping to build homes for people with disability who can get NDIS specialist disability accommodation.



But only a very small amount of people with disability can get NDIS specialist disability accommodation.



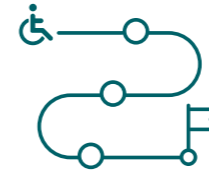
So not all the people with disability who need homes that suit them are getting them.



The Government has a plan to build one million houses in Australia with the help of investors to make a social impact investment.



These houses should also be suitable for people with disability.



To make this happen, people with disability, their service providers and their advocates also have to be included in this Government plan.

Social impact investment in housing can help people with disability to:

- Have more accessible houses to choose from
- Have an accessible house to go to when leaving an accommodation service



An accommodation service is where people with disability live together in a house that is owned by a service provider or the government.



- Choose where they want to live and who they want to live with



## Jobs for people with disability



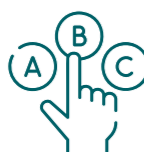
It can be very hard for people with a disability to find and keep a job.



Many people with disability choose to start their own business.



This means they make their own work and are their own boss.



This is good, but people with disability should have the same choice as everyone else to get a job.



Social impact investment can help make this happen by:



- Giving money to services who help to set up new businesses



- Giving money to help businesses who want to make life better for people with disability

Social Ventures Australia already has a service that does this called 'Upscaler', but there needs to be more services like this



- Giving money to people with disability who want to start their own business

## Technology for people with disability



Technology, such as using computers, has made life easier for people with and without disability.

Making new technology can cost a lot of money, but social impact investment can help with this by:



- Connecting people with disability with technology services, investors and **inventors** to make new technology

**Inventors** are people who make new things



- Find new ideas for people to pay for technology



- Get banks excited about giving money to make new technology



- Get rid of old technology

## What we need to do to make Social Impact Investment work

There are 8 things that need to happen to make social impact investment work to improve the lives of people with a disability:



1. Include people with disability when coming up with ideas, setting up and giving money to social impact investments.



2. Include people with disability in places where all the work done under social impact investment is controlled, such as Boards and Advisory Groups.



3. Find ways to see if a social impact investment is successful or not.



4. Set up a place where there is a lot of information about social impact investment that lists what kind of work they are doing for people with disability.



## What we need to do to make **Social Impact Investment work (cont.)**



5. Give money and build people's skills to ensure that the demand for social impact investment is met.



6. Make sure there is money to make social impact investment happen for people with disability in all areas including technology and housing.



7. Find people who have the skills to work with investors as well as people with disability, to make sure that social impact investment does good work.



8. Reward investors for putting money into social impact investment for people with disability.



To do all this, the following people and groups need to work together:



- People with disability



- The government



- Disability Service Providers



- Investors



- **Philanthropists**  
**Philanthropists** are people who give money to something that makes life better for other people.

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