

A18. INDEPENDENCE

Content:	Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation Policies and Procedures
Version:	1.0
Section:	Home Care
Applies To:	Board, Management and Staff of all IAC Home Care Services
Date:	May 2014 (Review May 2017)

Background and Purpose

The IAC's Home Care policies articulate our aims, goals and philosophies in caring for our Elders. They explain how the Illawarra Aboriginal Corporation works with its staff, carers and other agencies to ensure that our Elders are afforded the best and most appropriate care and that we meet all of the requirements of the Department of Social Services.

Principle

The IAC recognises and understands the need to support, foster and encourage the independence of Home Care clients and to respect the clients' rights to make decisions and choices about their lives.

The IAC is committed to working with the Department of Social Services in an open and positive manner to ensure that clients are aware of their rights to make decisions and choices about their lives and that our staff are trained and focused on maintaining our clients' independence.

Our Commitment

The IAC will:

- ensure that clients are aware of their rights to make decisions and choices about their own lives.
- ensure that staff are trained to respect the clients' independence and rights to make decisions and maintain records of staff training in this area.
- reassess our clients' physical, social and psychosocial independence on a regular basis (at least every 6 months) and adjust our care plans accordingly to account for the client's strengths and abilities.
- provide support to our clients in daily living activities and aim to improve the clients' capacity for independent living rather than building dependencies.
- encourage and support clients to seek inclusive support from their family and the local Aboriginal community.
- promote and foster client participation in social, health, fitness and dietary programs.
- consider special needs groups in our planning and programming

COMPLIANCE

This policy complies with:

- The Aged Care Act 1997
- Community Care Common Standards
- Home Care Package Program Guidelines

REFERENCES

This policy should be read with:

- Community Care Common Standards - Standard 3 - Service User Rights and Responsibilities - 3.5 Independence
- HCPP Guidelines F - Rights and Responsibilities