## **Martin Luther Homes**

# Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP)

#### Life at Martin Luther Homes

Martin Luther Homes is a welcoming community located at the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges. Surrounded by peaceful, leafy gardens, our environment is designed for accessibility and comfort, with spacious communal areas and inviting outdoor courtyards ideal for relaxing and social connection.

Our vibrant community life encourages older persons to engage through shared meals, group activities, and quiet reflection in our dedicated spaces, creating a warm and inclusive atmosphere.

We are committed to delivering high-quality, person-centred care that supports each individual's independence and wellbeing.

Our experienced team, allied health professionals, and specialists in medical and dementia care.

For older persons living with severe behavioural and psychological symptoms of dementia (BPSD), we offer a dedicated Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP) tailored to individual needs in a secure and supportive setting.

Each day, our kitchen team prepares fresh, home-style meals that respect cultural preferences, dietary requirements, and personal tastes.

Menus are developed using seasonal produce and feedback from older persons to ensure variety, nutrition, and enjoyment.

Rooms at Martin Luther Homes are light-filled and thoughtfully designed for comfort and safety, with built-in storage, nurse call systems, and warm, homely furnishings.

Life at Martin Luther Homes is enriched by our lifestyle team, who coordinate a diverse program of activities, social events, and outings to keep older persons active, connected, and engaged.

### What We Offer at Martin Luther Homes

- Social outings, concerts, and themed events led by our Leisure & Lifestyle team
- Bilingual staff available to support older persons from diverse backgrounds
- Access to allied health professionals including inhouse physio, podiatry, and more
- Spiritual and pastoral care tailored to individual needs
- On-site hairdressing services available weekly

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# Specialist Dementia Care Program at Martin Luther Homes in Eastern Victoria

Martin Luther Homes is proud to be one of the few providers in Victoria offering the Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP) — a highly specialised care program designed to support individuals living with very severe dementia, particularly when behaviours are complex and difficult to manage in other care settings.

The program will feature eight private rooms and a dedicated "bounce back" room—designed to support older people through a stabilisation period before transitioning back into mainstream aged care or a more suitable long-term environment.

This important development is part of a nationwide initiative by the Australian Government, aiming to deliver just 35 units across the nation. We are honoured that Martin Luther Homes was selected through a competitive tender process to provide this highly specialised service under a five-year Federal Government contract.

#### What is the SDCP?

The Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP) offers highly specialised care for older people living with very severe dementia, particularly when symptoms include:

- Aggression
- Severe agitation
- Constant vocalisation
- Extreme depression or anxiety
- · Suicidal ideation

Our Wattle House, also known as the Specialist Dementia Care Program (SDCP), is designed for individuals whose behaviours cannot be safely managed in other aged care settings—even with the involvement of specialist dementia services.

#### **Eligibility Criteria**

To be eligible for the SDCP, an individual must:

- Have completed an Aged Care Assessment
- Have a diagnosis of dementia
- Exhibit severe behavioural or psychological symptoms that have persisted for at least three months

For more information, please visit the Department of Health <u>website</u>. Most referrals are coordinated through Dementia Support Australia – click <u>here</u> to learn more.

At Martin Luther Homes, we believe every person deserves dignity, understanding, and the right to compassionate care—no matter how complex their needs may be. The Specialist Dementia Care Program at Wattle House: Where person-centred, tailored dementia care begins.



