

Resort-style retirement, with help at hand

Most of us want to stay living in our own home for as long as we can, whether it's the family home or it's independent living in a retirement village.

However, time catches up with us and we may suddenly need extra support to maintain our independence.

Home care funded by government then becomes a key element, providing services that can range from cleaning and mowing to laundry and personal care.

However, after an Aged Care Assessment Team (ACAT) has assessed a person as being eligible for a home care package, applicants might have to wait 12- to 18 months for their home care funds to be released.

The wait can drain savings or push some people into residential aged care before it's strictly necessary.

At Mount Gilead Estate, a resort-style retirement community near Campbelltown, a solution to the dilemma is to offer the benefit of services worth \$10,000 with every unit sold.

The \$10,000 in services will be available across all Mount Gilead's accommodation options: independent-living villas and apartments, as well as to those who purchase one of Mount Gilead's new assisted-living apartments.

These disability-friendly, studio-style apartments are the next stage in the estate's plan to provide a "continuum of care".

Units have their own kitchenettes, as well as access to communal dining and recreational areas so that residents can maintain some independence while receiving higher levels of day-to-day care.

New residents can draw down on the



Mount Gilead Estate's general manager Andrew Giles (left), with residents.

\$10,000 fund while they wait for their home care funding or "bank" the entitlement and use it as the need arises, says Mount Gilead Estate general manager, Andrew Giles.

The services will be provided by RFBF Care at Home, the home care arm of the Royal Freemasons' Benevolent Institution (RFBF). It is a leading not-for-profit aged care provider, a charity dedicated to

providing quality care and services that are accessible to all older people and which make a positive impact on their lives. RFBF's chief executive, Frank Price, says his organisation has a culture of care that began 139 years ago when a group of Masons felt drawn to helping the vulnerable in Australian society.

"We are not part of the Masonic

'Should someone require additional services such as clinical care, cleaning or transport to doctors, our on-site team will assist.'

Frank Price

fraternity, but we adhere to the same values, including honesty, respect, ethical practices, friendship and goodwill," he says.

"Now we're walking hand-in-hand with Mount Gilead in looking after their retirement community.

"Should someone require additional services such as clinical care, cleaning or transport to doctors, our on-site team will assist."

Andrew Giles says the estate's \$10,000 of services is part of its commitment to helping residents age in place.

RFBF was chosen to provide the services because "they are very passionate about what they do and that's a bonus for our residents".

Mount Gilead Estate, established in 2008 and located 10 minutes' drive from Macarthur Square at Campbelltown, is home to more than 500 residents.

With its own clubhouse, golf course, swimming pool, cinema, wellness centre, community shed and courtesy bus, Mount Gilead caters to retirees seeking an active lifestyle as well as those needing greater support as they age. The estate's open day is on Saturday, June 15, from 10am-3pm.

BONUS
\$10,000
WORTH OF HOME
CARE SERVICES*

ASSISTED LIVING APARTMENT

Start your retirement at Mount Gilead Estate from \$232,000



**OPEN DAY 10AM - 3PM
SATURDAY JUNE 15**

- ✔ Explore retirement living apartments & villas that start from \$232,000 & include a bonus \$10k worth of home care services.* Conditions Apply
- ✔ Take a tour of the village facilities, meet residents in the clubhouse or tee off over a friendly round of golf on our private course.
- ✔ Attend a seminar on home care services available to all residents through RFBF Care at Home. Seminars begin 11am & 1pm.

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*Conditions Apply. mountgileadestate.com.au/opacity



RFBF
Care at Home