

## Social Enterprise Finance Australia

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# Social Enterprise Snapshot

## Community Connection purchases new headquarters

Community Connection has purchased new offices that allow it to grow and develop its tailored support services for people with disabilities in Townsville communities.



**'We highly value the intensive support we received from SEFA. We had helped us put together a rock-solid business case.'**

Ann Greer, Manager, Community Connection

Community Connection has connected people with disabilities to their Townsville communities for more than 22 years. Unlike traditional respite centre-based care, Community Connection's model supports people and families on a day-to-day basis and is focused on the needs of each individual. It's a shift away from a model where people with disabilities are surrounded by people paid to be with them, to one that connects disabled individuals to those without disabilities in their own communities. Services range from facilitating co-living arrangements to finding someone to share experiences with such as walking. Community Connection operates with 60 field staff and seven office-based managers.

For more than a decade the organisation has rented the premises that house its headquarters, but they eventually outgrew the space. The cost of renting a larger space was almost equivalent to the cost of buying. SEFA provided a tailored finance solution to acquire Community Connection's new headquarters. The building also offers flexibility in the face of a changing disability sector with the option to divide the space for rental income.

The property will form a solid base for Community Connection to not only continue placing the individual's needs at the centre of their support services, but also to successfully transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.



### What SEFA says

The team at Community Connection pursues a very personal delivery model for providing much-needed care to people with disabilities. We were able to match this bespoke approach with a tailored finance solution.