

Case Study



**Changing Places
Transforming Lives**

My son is 14 years old and has severe Cerebral Palsy. He is cognitively aware, is a mad Hawks supporter but don't hold that against him. He loves going out and about and we get out as much as we can. He loves to go down to Eastland and Ringwood Lake where he knows that his personal needs will be met.

What has been put into place at Eastland is just outstanding. The accessibility, and space provided is incredible. I love the space as I can go into the room and move my son in his wheelchair and to where I can change him with ease. The fact that there is a hoist and change table is incredible. And then to have a shower there in the corner as well is even better for those times of accidents.

Prior to Changing Places being installed we had to resort to going home or attempt to change my son in the car which is extremely difficult in lifting someone who is 45kg. Imagine having to lift someone on your own who is 45kg, it's a hell of a job, then the reverse and get him back into his chair.



Changing Places has changed not only my son's life but all of the family.

We now go out regularly for dinner in Town Square at Eastland, go for walks around Ringwood Lake and get to the footy nearly every weekend. The footy prior to Changing Places was something we only occasionally went to, and when we did, we left most games early.

Changing Places not only allows us to go out more but also to spend longer at places we go to, all without the constant worry about what to do when my son needs the toilet. The quality and enjoyment without this stress can never be underestimated. Spending money has never been so much fun.

My son has now experienced the zoo and eagerly awaits new Changing Places facilities. He cannot wait for the opportunity to shop at Chadstone, see concerts and watch the tennis at Rod Laver. With every Changing Places toilet built, our options increase along with my son's confidence.

My son can now see a future which includes employment and independent living.



www.changingplaces.org.au