


Jacob's Story



Jacob is a 21 year old man who lost his right leg after being involved in a serious motor bike accident with his girlfriend Kayla.

Due to the nature of Jacob's injuries he was rushed to the Royal Adelaide Hospital where the doctors advised his girlfriend Kayla, whom had not sustained any major injuries that Jacob's right leg was badly injured and would need to be amputated from below the knee.

The hospital identified that as a result of the amputation, Jacob was likely to be eligible for the Lifetime Support Scheme (LSS). The hospital social worker contacted the Lifetime Support Authority (LSA) to advise.

Application

The Lead Service Planner went to the hospital to meet with Jacob and Kayla to provide information about the LSA. The Lead Service Planner explained to Jacob and Kayla what the Scheme was and sat with them while they completed the application for Jacob.

The LSA sought information from the police reports to confirm the details of the car accident and the medical team provided information to confirm eligibility. Due to Jacob's amputation he was accepted as a Lifetime Participant of the LSS. This means from the date of acceptance the LSS would pay for Jacob's treatment care and support for the rest of his life including any hospital care related to his injury.

Hospital and Rehabilitation

A Service Planner was allocated to Jacob and visited Jacob in the rehabilitation hospital. Due to Kayla being involved in the accident with Jacob she was still traumatised. Kayla had difficulty understanding Jacob's injury and what to expect now that his leg had been amputated. Jacob's Service Planner arranged for some counselling for both Jacob and Kayla. The Service Planner maintained regular contact with Jacob and Kayla and attended meetings with the family in the Rehabilitation ward of the hospital. To facilitate discharge the following was arranged:

- Equipment – manual wheelchair and cushion, shower chair and toilet seat raise.
- Home modification – ramp to front door, bathroom refit to allow access to the shower and washbasin, widening of bedroom door to allow wheelchair access.

Jacob's Story

- Transport – reimbursement of Kayla's travel to appointments relating to the motor vehicle accidents, provision of taxi vouchers for approved treatment, care and support appointments.
- Pharmaceutical account for approved medications relating to motor bike accident.

1st Year Home

Once Jacob discharged home his Service Planner visited him within a few days to review the arrangements in place. The Service Planner arranged an occupational therapist to visit Jacob's home to do an assessment for any other equipment he may need for everyday living. Jacob also attended physiotherapy at Hampstead three times a week and the amputee day rehab. The day rehab program worked with Jacob to fit and trial different prosthesis and make any recommendations to the Service Planner about the best option for Jacob.

The following services were also provided:

- Further home modifications such as access paths in garden, allowing independent walking.
- Hydrotherapy.
- Vehicle modifications – to allow Jacob to drive his car.
- Counselling for Jacob and his girlfriend Kayla.
- GP consultations and medical intervention/treatment related to the motor vehicle accident injuries (MVI).
- Rehabilitation specialists consultations.
- Travel reimbursement for approved treatment care and support.
- Occupational therapy to support return to work transition – this would include a graduated return to work program and any other necessary work place modifications.



Ongoing Treatment Care and Support

Jacob's rehabilitation services will continue periodically as new goals are identified.

- Prosthesis provision and ongoing review maintenance.
- Psychology intervention.
- Equipment repairs, maintenance and replacement.
- Return to work support.
- Bursts of therapy services including physiotherapy as required.
- Gym membership to support a regular exercise program.

Lifetime
SUPPORT

Lifetime Support Authority
1300 880 849

Ground Floor, Wakefield House
30 Wakefield Street, Adelaide SA 5000

PO Box 1218, Adelaide SA 5000
Email: lifetime.support@sa.gov.au