



# Positive Life South Australia Incorporated

*Our Mission: To improve the quality of life for all those living with or closely affected by HIV/AIDS*

## **Access to Practical Help (particularly when you're sick/ageing)**

### **Recent experiences and concerns of people living with HIV in S.A.**

**(People's names have been changed)**

*I live by myself. I'm not sure what will happen when I can't cope with house maintenance (clearing gutter, gardening, shopping and house cleaning). I'll have to move, 'cos I don't have public transport nearby. (Bruce)*

*Due to my health and looking after children, I'm having trouble keeping up with the jobs around the house. RDNS tried to get HACCC to help, but they said I'm not eligible. My ex-wife helps ... and I have to pay privately for services like home cleaning, lawn mowing and gardening. (Earl)*

*I'm worried about the day when I can't get up on a ladder or mow my lawns. I've got my own house and I just don't meet the criteria\* for Council home maintenance services ... and even if I'm accepted, the Waiting List in my area's 3 – 6 months ... and even then, I'll have to pay and I don't know HOW I can afford this on the pension. (Carolyn)*

*\*NOTE: Each Local Council has different criteria for Home Help Services.*

*My family won't have anything to do with me, so I won't get care from my family like other people. I just want some hot young guy to bathe my cancer lesions when I'm old ... to be cared for by my own kind. (Sanjib)*

*Because I don't have a large extended family, I'm worried about being isolated, alone and no-one finding me for weeks. (Beryl)*

*PAWS was great. Pets are SO important to my social and emotional health. My animals give me a reason to get out of bed in the morning. (Marg & James)*