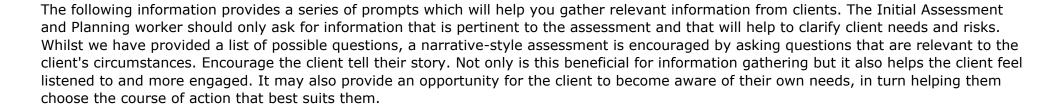
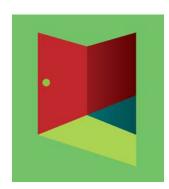
Opening Doors Initial Assessment & Planning Worker Prompt Sheet





1. Engagement 2. Identify needs and risks 3. Prioritise needs and risks 4. Develop a plan

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Target group	Considerations	Needs Analyses
People who have experienced family violence	 Family Violence is any behaviour that in any way controls or dominates a family member that causes them to fear for their own or other family member's safety or well being. To maximise the opportunity for a person to disclose, the Initial Assessment Workers should, as a matter of course, preface all initial assessments by telling clients about the service's commitment to their safety and ask them if they feel safe. The Common Risk Assessment Framework (CRAF) offers a clear process for identifying risk and taking action to reduce/control risk. Initial Assessment Workers will usually use the Preliminary Assessment Tool. Work from a strengths and rights based approach. Respect clients' answers and provide information about help that is available. Don't tell them what to do. 	□ Are you feeling unsafe? □ Can you tell me what has been happening to you lately? □ Is there someone that you are afraid of?
Gay , Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (GLBTI)	 May have experienced prejudice Fear of being misunderstood or discriminated against Emphasise confidentiality and consider privacy issues especially in rural areas Consider safety implications — especially for congregate care 	☐ Are there any accommodation considerations because of your sexual identity?
People released from hospital	Poor health may increase a person's vulnerability	□ Do they have a discharge plan from the hospital?□ Do they have any temporary accessibility requirements?
Indigenous people	Indigenous people are more likely to: • have family connections and community obligations • more likely to be distrustful of authority, government and paperwork • more likely to take in homeless friends and family members • Don't regard lack of eye contact as a sign of non engagement (cultural context informs this practice)	☐ Is there a preference for an Indigenous specific service? ☐ Are there community or family issues that affect where you live?
People with possible mental health issues	Be non-judgemental, give reassurance, encourage self help strategies, encourage the person to get professional help if needed.	Use the following prompts with care as they are designed to determine whether a person may have a serious psychiatric illness: Have they recently been an inpatient? Are they taking prescribed medication? Do they regularly see their doctor or a mental health worker? Could they pose a suicide risk or is there a risk of self-harm?
Young people	Young people experiencing homelessness are a vulnerable group	 □ When did they first leave home? □ Do they have a support network? □ Would they prefer a specific youth homelessness service? □ Do they have access to income?

Other considerations

- Do any other people's details need to be recorded on the client's form?
- Can the client be contacted on the phone number provided?
- What type of income do they receive? When will they be paid next?
 When your service or another service assists the client with an application for public/social/private rental housing, then you may consider collecting further information such as an overview of their housing history, and whether there are any outs
 Does the client have access to transport?

