# Providing support and services **Keys to citizenship**

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#### Freedom

Being a citizen means being in control of your own life – being able to make decisions, make mistakes, make your own way. Everyone can be in control – especially if we listen to those who know and love the person most.

#### Direction

Being a citizen means having a life of meaning – your own meaning. When our lives don't fit our passions, interests and abilities, we are diminished – but if we can find a path that is right for us then we help other people to see us with respect.

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#### Money (

Money is important but may be not for the reason we all think. Money gives us the means to be independent, to set our own course and to achieve our own goals. But too much money is an obstacle to citizenship – mad consumers and millionaires aren't citizens – but citizens do pay their own way.



### Home

We all need a place we can call our home, not just a shelter, but a place where we can have privacy, where we can be with those we love, where we belong. When we have no home, we appear almost rootless and disconnected – when we say someone has gone into 'a home' we mean they've lost their home.



### Help

We live in a world where we imagine that needing help is bad, even though we all need help every day and the giving and receiving of help from others is the key to a good society. The challenge today is to get help without having to give up your citizenship.

#### Love

The beginning and the end of citizenship is found in love. Through meeting, working with and joining in with other people we can form relationships, friendships, find lovers and make a family. Love is also the best guarantee of bringing into existence a new generation of citizens to help build a better world.

#### Life

By giving something back to our community we can really help others to understand our worth, and there are so many more ways to give back than we think. We can contribute by just being there, by buying, by joining in, by working, by laughing or even by crying. But we cannot contribute if we are absent.