“To effectively provide a seamless service to people with a disability as they age, the focus must be on individual needs, the development of a plan that addresses specific age related needs, and the provision of support and education to assist individuals to gain an understanding of the ageing process and how those changes may affect their everyday living.”

Filling the Gap is a training resource addressing the current needs of the staff working in a Residential or Accommodation setting. As clients age, staff are required to address complex, changing needs.

What does this resource do?
It identifies the training needs of staff, and through a CD Rom, exercises & tutorial type training sessions staff share their experiences and collectively work through the material.

“A training resource for existing staff employed in a residential or accommodation setting

Fairhaven Services Ltd

A training resource developed to provide accommodation and residential disability support workers with the relevant information and skills to enable them to identify and respond to the changing needs of residents who are ageing.

The resource is both flexible and innovative. It can be a self-paced individualised program, an interactive CD Rom tutorial program, or a combination of both. Participants complete 3 Learning and Assessment Workbooks which contain information and activities based on media reports, conference papers and peer discussions.

The resource provides facilities with a cost effective method of training staff and places successful participants in the unique position of having the skills and knowledge to support people with disabilities age in place.

“From my perspective, it is not sufficient to just have qualifications in aged care and disability support, as this ‘gap’ (ie, the particular needs of people with an intellectual disability who are ageing/exhibiting symptoms of dementia) remains and needs to be addressed. A more specific qualification, such as this which is being offered is required.”