

# eNews 2014 ShelterTAS

## Peak Body for Housing and Homelessness

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## 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014

### Housing and Homelessness News

#### Homelessness Australia Survey

Homelessness Australia (HA) is collecting information about how young people experiencing, or at risk of homelessness are assessed for employment assistance purposes by the Department of Human Services (DHS, formerly Centrelink) or Job Services Australia (JSA) providers. HA plan to use this information to inform their general advocacy on behalf of youth homelessness services and consumers. They may also use it to write a paper on the topic for the federal Department of Social Services (DSS), which provides funding to states and territories for homelessness services, or to update toolkits for JSA providers and Specialist Homelessness Services that they prepared with the National Employment Services Association (NESA, the peak body for JSA providers) in 2010. If you are aged 15-24 and would like to contribute, please click this link to complete the survey:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HA\\_young\\_people\\_and\\_JSA\\_streaming\\_2014](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HA_young_people_and_JSA_streaming_2014).

#### Call For Contributions for the February 2015 Edition of Parity

The Council to Homeless Persons (CHP) have put out a call for contributions for the February 2015 'Homelessness Outreach' edition of their magazine, 'Parity'. All contributions should be submitted as Word attachments to an email addressed to [parity@chp.org.au](mailto:parity@chp.org.au). Contributions can be up to 1,600 words, which will be a double page spread. Single page articles can be up to 800 words in length. Contributions of a greater length should be discussed with the Parity Editor. If you have any questions at all about contributing to this edition please contact the Parity Editor by email [parity@chp.org.au](mailto:parity@chp.org.au) or ring (03) 8415 6200. Detailed information on referencing and writing guidelines for Parity can be found [here](#). All contributions need to be submitted by Friday Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 2015.

#### Congratulations to Zac Lockhart – Human Rights Champion!

Shelter Tas would like to congratulate Zac on his 'highly commended' placing at the Tasmanian Human Rights Awards recently. Zac is the consumer representative for the Tasmanian Youth Housing and Homelessness Group (TYHHG), which was established in response to the unmet need of Tasmanians aged 17 and under who experience homelessness. Zac has also taken part in communications and social media training on behalf of TYHHG, in order to improve methods of communication for young people at risk of or experiencing homelessness. [Click here](#) to see the full list of Human Rights Award winners, and congratulations again to Zac!

### **Factoid of the Week | Poverty Rate**

The overall poverty rate for renters in Australia is more than twice that for mortgage holders (22.6% against 10.0%) and three times the rate for owners without mortgages (at 6.8%).

Falling Through the Cracks: Poverty and Disadvantage in Australia. Bankwest Curtin Economics Centre, October 2014.

## **Media Releases**

### **Market failure in housing drives social need across health, employment and more**

National Shelter, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014. [Click here.](#)

### **Helping Neighbourhood Houses to provide mental health support**

Minister for Health, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014. [Click here.](#)

### **Housing Tasmania's \$36 million investment in capital works program**

Minister for Human Services, Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014. [Click here.](#)

### **Housing Tasmania staff to be cut by 20%**

Cassy O'Connor MP, Greens Health spokesperson, Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2014. [Click here.](#)

## **Research and Articles**

### ***AHURI Evidence Review #68 – What is the right level of social housing?***

This is the last Evidence Review for 2014, it looks at different ways to assess whether Australia has the right level of social housing. [Click here.](#)

### ***ABC Radio National – Living rough: a week on the streets***

One Melbourne woman is sleeping on the streets for a month to draw attention to the issues of homelessness, which affects more than 100,000 Australians. [She shares her week in pictures.](#)

### ***ABC News - Is negative gearing responsible for soaring house prices?***

With house prices soaring around the country, more and more Australians are being locked out of the housing market forever. Negative gearing is often singled out as the culprit, but what is it and how does it work? [Click here](#) to read this article.

### ***Australian Policy Online – Inquiry into foreign investment in residential real estate***

[Click here](#) to read the article and report.

### ***AHURI Report – Generational change in home purchase opportunity in Australia***

[This report](#) shows that Australian households have adapted to poorer housing affordability by borrowing more, deferring home purchase, switching into cheaper accommodation (such as apartments and townhouses) and moving to more affordable locations. Despite this, low-income and single-income working-age households are increasingly being pushed out of the home purchase market.

### ***The Property Observer – Pool of affordable housing in capital cities continues to evaporate.***

Australia's property market has experienced a significant shift in lower-end priced properties and those under the \$400,000 mark is diminishing. [Click](#) to read more.

### ***Mercury Saturday Soapbox – Be a man and stop all the violence***

It is rare in politics for there to be complete agreement on an issue, but eliminating violence to women and their children and achieving gender equality are necessary exceptions. [Click here](#) to read more.

## **Events & Training**

### **Cert. IV in Social Housing Training Units**

The Centre for Training in Social Housing (CTSH) is offering seven units of accredited training for study. The units are available to Shelter Tas members from the affordable housing and homelessness sector at a subsidised rate of 80%, supported by Skills Tasmania (the employer contribution is just 20% of the total cost). Units can be taken individually, or as part of the Certificate IV in Social Housing and a full list of the available units and study details are available on our [website](#). Most units are offered via e-learning, which makes them accessible to anyone, State-wide. Experienced trainers will provide ongoing support for e-learning units. There are only 12 places available in each unit, so enrol now to make sure you don't miss out on this excellent opportunity. The next units of study are ***'Work within a relevant legal and ethical framework'***, scheduled for 19<sup>th</sup> February 2015 in Hobart and ***'Manage tenancy rent, charges and rental arrears'*** via e-Learning starting 9<sup>th</sup> February 2015 for 4 weeks. Please complete the enrolment form (go to our [website](#)) and return it to [trainingenquiries@communityhousing.org.au](mailto:trainingenquiries@communityhousing.org.au). If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Saide, CTSH Training Manager on (02) 9281 1744 ext 215 or the Shelter Tas office on (03) 6224 5488.

## **Other News**

### **Position Vacant – TasCOSS Communications Officer**

TasCOSS is inviting applications for an impending vacancy in its Communications Officer role. This is a part-time position, maximum of 3 days per week, days negotiable, and applications close at 5.00pm on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December.

The position is responsible for implementing all communications strategies and campaigns for TasCOSS, including publications, website and social media.

If you have suitable working experience and would be interested in this position, visit the [TasCOSS website](#) and obtain the recruitment info which contains details on how to apply. General enquiries can also be made by phoning TasCOSS Deputy CEO Meg Webb on 03 6231 0755 or email [meg@tascoss.org.au](mailto:meg@tascoss.org.au).

### ACOSS Community Sector Survey

The largest survey of Australia's community services sector has been released, and it reveals that 80% of frontline agencies are unable to meet current levels of demand with the resources they have. The biggest gaps in meeting demand are in the areas of greatest community need. The survey of almost 1,000 community service workers from around the country shows that 43% of services are simply unable to meet the needs of people coming to them for help. A further 37% can 'almost' meet demand. Only 20% reported being able to meet demand fully. Read the report [here](#), and you can read the National Shelter media release in response to the ACOSS survey in the 'Media Releases' section above.

### Mission Australia Youth Survey

Mission Australia has released the results of their 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Survey, the nation's largest online annual 'temperature check' of teenagers aged between 15 and 19. This year almost 1,000 young Tasmanians responded to the survey, which highlighted some very important responses from young Tasmanians that can be used to advocate for improved services and supports to meet their needs. [Click here](#) to read the survey.

### Name change for TACH

The Tasmanian Association of Neighbourhood Houses Inc. (TACH) have officially changed their name to **Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania Inc. (NHT)**. Their new website address is [www.nht.org.au](http://www.nht.org.au) and you can like their new Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/neighbourhoodhouses>.

### Grant Alert – CBB Community Development Grants

CBB are seeking applications from Australian not-for-profit organisations undertaking a project that assists in their growth, or provides a benefit to the community. Applicants must show that the grant will be used for a purpose that supports CBB Community Development Grants objectives:

- To assist NFP organisations in the Australian community who serve disadvantaged, disengaged or marginalised individuals.
- To assist NFP organisations that provide advocacy or services to those in need.
- To assist NFP organisations to achieve their social objectives.
- To support services and programs that build capability and capacity of the NFP sector.

A monetary grant of up to a maximum of \$3,000 + GST will be available to successful applicants. The number of successful applicants will be determined by the CBB Community Development Grants Committee.

For eligibility criteria, guidelines and application form see: <http://www.cbb.com.au/community-development/grants-and-scholarships/>

Thanks to all contributors for their submissions and feedback. As information for our eNews comes from many different sources, views expressed are not necessarily those of Shelter Tas. If you would like to make a submission to the Shelter Tas eNews please [forward it](#) to us for consideration.



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