Welcome to the NT Shelter Homelessness E-letter for July. Stay informed on relevant events and news. A PDF version of this e-letter can be downloaded from NT Shelter's website. For more info and to submit news items to NT Shelter’s Homelessness or Housing E-letters please contact NT Shelter on:

Homelessness E-letter – Homelessness Policy Officer, Morgan Sabbith hpo@ntshelter.org.au
Housing E-letter – Central Australian Policy Officer, David Havercroft ca@ntshelter.org.au

Our next hardcopy Newsletter is due out during first week of August. Please contact Toni at eo@ntshelter.org.au to submit an article - deadline is Wednesday 30th July.

NT SHELTER NEWS AND EVENTS

FORUM FOR HOMELESS PERSONS WEEK 4-10 August 2014. NT Shelter is currently planning a forum- the week following Homeless Persons Week- in both Alice Springs and Darwin
FORUM: ‘Homelessness: We Can't Afford to Ignore It’
SPEAKERS:
• Bryan Lipmann, CEO Wintringham Specialist Aged Care; ‘Pathways for older men and women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness’
• Representative to be confirmed - Journey to Social Inclusion; Evaluation of Social Outcomes
ALICE SPRINGS: 1.3.30pm Wednesday 13th August @ CAT Conference Room, Heath Road, Alice Springs
DARWIN: 9.30-12.30 Friday 15th August @ Neptune/Movie Room, Vibe Hotel, Darwin Waterfront

ACCOMMODATION ACTION GROUP (AAG) MEETINGS
Katherine AAG  Next meeting: 10:00 - 1:00pm, Tuesday 22 July, at DCF Training Room, 2/3 First Street, Katherine. For more information contact Morgan at hpo@ntshelter.org.au
Darwin Region AAG  Next meeting: 2:00pm – 4:00pm, Wednesday 13 August, at The Salvation Army Meeting Room, Darwin Corps & Community Centre, Cnr Lee Point Road & Yanyula Drive, Anula. For more information contact Morgan at hpo@ntshelter.org.au
Alice Springs AAG  Next meeting: 12:30 - 2:30pm, Wednesday 13 August, at Andy McNeill Room, Alice Springs Town Council. For more information contact David at ca@ntshelter.org.au
Barkly Region Accommodation Group  Next meeting: 10:00am - 12 Noon, Wednesday 20 August, at 1st Floor Conference Room - Government Business Centre, Peko Rd, Tennant Creek. For more information contact David at ca@ntshelter.org.au

SHELTERME  NT Shelter manages the online services directory ShelterMe, which provides information to those seeking accommodation and support services. Please ensure that your homelessness relevant services are listed within the directory and that they are up-to-date. For more information visit the website at www.shelterme.org.au
NT Shelter is currently evaluating the ShelterMe website. We encourage everyone to provide feedback to our survey by following this link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PZF3WFR
There are just 11 questions in the survey and it should only take a minute to complete! Your response is very much appreciated!
EVENTS

HOMELESS PERSONS WEEK (HPW) 2014  4-10 August 2014. The #HPW2014 theme is Homelessness: we can’t afford to ignore it. Homelessness causes devastating personal harm, significantly impacts on the community and costs our economy. Homelessness is an issue that is not going away on its own. As a society we can’t afford to ignore it.

- How to get involved in #HPW2014
- Planned an event and want support? Submit your event details to HA

KATHERINE HOMELESSNESS DAY  8:30am – 12pm, 8 August 2014 @ Ryan Park. Agencies are invited to participate in Katherine Homelessness Day which is aimed at fundraising and building community awareness of homelessness. Agencies can contribute this event by: hosting an information/fundraising stall; providing in-kind support/donations; assisting clients and staff to attend.

By supporting Katherine Homelessness Day you are improving conditions for some of the most disadvantaged people in the country and drawing focus to the Katherine region during National Homeless Persons’ Week. For more information contact: Mandie Enchong mandie.enchong@Humanservices.gov.au 08 8973 0934.

PLAYBACK THEATRE: HOMELESSNESS PERFORMANCE IN DARWIN FOR HPW  2pm, 8 August 2014. Presented by Darwin Community Arts and NT Shelter.

Explore the costs of homelessness: to people experiencing homelessness; to those who work alongside people experiencing homelessness; to our communities...

Playback Theatre is a collaborative performance in which audience members provide the script by sharing moments and stories from their own lives. These are played back by the actors and a musician. Playback is personal, poignant and community building. Workers, general public and people experiencing homelessness are all welcome.

Where: Chambers Crescent Theatre, Cnr Malak & Chambers Cres, MALAK
RSVP: 08 8945 7347 or email mail@darwincommunityarts.org.au by 6 August.

AUSTRALIAN HOUSING INSTITUTE (AHI) SERVICE DELIVERY WORKSHOPS: In Alice Springs and Darwin
Working With Complex And Demanding Clients  Monday, 25 August – Alice Springs and Wednesday, 27 August – Darwin. Housing, community and health personnel work with clients who may experience serious mental health problems, substance abuse dependency, relationship conflict, family dysfunction and/or disordered personality. This one-day workshop aims to assist people in delivering quality client services to those whose situations are complex and whose behaviour is, at times, demanding and challenging. For more info visit the AHI website.

Working With Clients Who Have Drug And/Or Alcohol Dependency  Tuesday, 26 August – Alice Springs and Thursday, 28 August – Darwin. At times, housing and support staff work with clients who are experiencing substance abuse dependency. During this one-day workshop participants will explore the issues of working more effectively with clients who are experiencing substance abuse dependency. The aim is to share and then try out different approaches and ideas that may be of help. For more info visit the AHI website.

8TH NATIONAL HOMELESSNESS CONFERENCE  10-12 September 2014, Gold Coast. The National Homelessness Conferences brings participants from a large cross section of homelessness services, academics, government and allied health professions to discuss directions for addressing homelessness in Australia. As well as providing an avenue to share and learn from one another in the development and roll out of each State/Territory homelessness plan. The National Homelessness Conference is an opportunity to discuss and debate the issues, ideas and mechanisms and hands-on practical approaches for better service delivery.

STRENGTHENING AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN REMOTE & REGIONAL COMMUNITIES 23rd & 24th September 2014, Hilton, Darwin. The rate of homelessness for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people is currently four times that of non-Indigenous Australians. Indigenous households are also ten times more likely to be living in overcrowded conditions compared to non-Indigenous households. Are you struggling to deliver affordable Indigenous housing solutions? For more info and to register visit http://indighouses.com

WORLD INDIGENOUS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CONFERENCE in Cairns on 8 – 10 October. For more info visit the website http://www.indigenousconferences.com/#!world-indigenous-d---violence-conference/c18yz

2014 NATIONAL INDIGENOUS WOMEN CONFERENCE in Cairns on 13 – 15 October. For more info email admin@indigenoushealth.net

COMMUNITY SECTOR WORKFORCE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT CALENDAR Don’t miss training opportunities - go to the Community Sector Workforce Training and Development Calendar Online Community Sector Training and Professional Development Calendar. Find training delivered in the NT/Post your own training/professional development events on the website. http://www.ntcoss.org.au/workforce-training-and-development-calendar

NEWS & OPPORTUNITIES

NT MINISTER FOR HOUSING AT THE ESTIMATES COMMITTEE HEARINGS, JUNE 2014 Minister for Housing Matt Conlan presented to the NT Parliament’s recent estimates hearings on 12 June. The transcript from his appearance before the Committee and other MLAs can be accessed at: http://notes.nt.gov.au/lant/hansard/estcomm12.nsf/WebEstimatesCommittee/E5107EAC4F4DA2F969257CF500452319?opendocument (scroll approximately 2/3 down the transcript) Related tabled papers can be viewed at: 7.1 - Answers to Written Questions - WQ 131 7.2 - National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness 7.3 - Answers to Written Questions - WQ 122 7.4 - Urban Public Housing Applicants as at 31 March 2014 (These can be accessed at: http://www.nt.gov.au/lant/parliamentary-business/committees/estimates/inquiries.shtml)

SPECIALIST HOMELESSNESS SERVICES (SHS) COLLECTION DATA will be more accessible to the public from July. Through the AIHW website, users will be able to access a number of data cubes for the 2011-12 and the 2012-13 collection year to quickly select, filter and arrange aggregated data on selected variables of interest, using drag and drop functionality. Tabulated data from the SHS cubes can then be exported into Excel if users prefer this format for data analysis and reporting. SHS data cubes will present subsets of weighted, confidentialised, aggregated data about SHS clients for 2011-12 and 2012-13. Data in the cubes will achieve a balance between data accessibility and confidentiality, in line with AIHW's obligations, and will be accessible by anyone via the AIHW website.

THE FOUNDATION FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL RENEWAL (FRRR) SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM Is your service located in a rural area with a population of less than 10,000? Or are you a community organisation located in such an area that needs a homelessness service? If so, could you find a good use for up to $5000? The Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR) small grants program accepts applications twice a year, in March and September. Download guidelines here.

THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE REFERENCE GROUP ON WELFARE REFORM to the Minister for Social Services (commonly referred to as ‘The McClure report’) was released yesterday. It is aimed to encourage public debate and discussion. The Reference Group will develop a final report based on feedback from public submissions, consultations and discussions which will occur over the next six weeks. For more information visit the Dept. of Social Services website: http://www.dss.gov.au/about-the-department/review-of-australia-s-welfare-system
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES (DSS) A NEW WAY OF WORKING FOR GRANTS
Applications now open. Applications close on 2pm AEST 23 July 2014. For more information visit the Dept. of Social Services website: http://www.dss.gov.au/grants

AHURI RESEARCH REPORTS
Final Report: No. 222: Preventing first time homelessness amongst older Australians
Positioning Paper: No. 220: Enhancing affordable rental housing investment via an intermediary and guarantee
Positioning Paper: No. 160: Assessing management costs and tenant outcomes in social housing: developing a framework
Research and Policy Bulletin: No. 171: What impact does a child’s housing have on their development and wellbeing?
Research and Policy Bulletin: Issue 172: How significant is parental influence in explaining homelessness in Australia?
Research and Policy Bulletin: No. 174: Enhancing affordable rental housing investment via an intermediary and guarantee

IN THE MEDIA
Welfare review says carers need support to get back into the workforce, ABC AM. 3 July
Mental illness does not mean a lifetime on welfare, says Jeff Kennett, SMH. 2 July
Home ownership must be made affordable to ease Australia’s housing crisis, The Australian. 2 July
Spending controls a waste, say welfare groups, SMH. 1 July
An opportunity to invest in Australia's needy, Eureka Street. 1 July
Tory Shepherd: We're becoming a nation of tight arses when it comes to giving to charity, The Advertiser. 1 July
Welfare review fails to understand Australia’s labour market, The Conversation. 1 July
Funding crisis hits the most vulnerable, The Daily Examiner. 1 July
Housing for homeless saving lives and money, The Australian. 1 July
McClure report fails on key issue of low-income housing, Crikey. 30 June
Reform puts work before welfare, The Australian. 30 June
Blueprint for overhaul of welfare system recommends simplifying payments, extending income management, ABC News. 30 June
Why the excluded are still waiting, Eureka Street. 30 June
Can you work? That's all the Australian government wants to know, The Guardian. 30 June
Social Services Minister enthusiastic about interim welfare report, ABC AM. 30 June
The welfare overhaul Australia has to have, The Australian. 30 June
McClure’s Mark 2 welfare blueprint has to contend with toxic political environment, The Conversation. 30 June
Six weeks not enough time to consult on radical review of $110-billion-a-year welfare system, say groups, SMH. 30 June
Support agencies say Coalition is rushing its overhaul of welfare system, The Guardian. 29 June
ON THE NT SHELTER WEBSITE  www.ntshelter.org.au

Control/Click on these icons: - to take you there:

- What's new on the website?
  Go to housing news, new posts and articles, as well as events and dates for regional housing meetings.

- If you are looking for housing or other support services? Go to a directory of services for homeless Territorians.

- Want housing and homelessness data?
  Go to our updated NT Housing Fact Sheets

NT Shelter is a member of National Shelter – Australia’s peak housing advocacy organisation dedicated to advocating for a fairer, more just housing system, particularly for low-income Australian households. Go directly to the National Shelter website http://www.shelter.org.au/index.htm

Other items recently posted:

NT Shelter Submissions:
- March: NT Shelter Discussion Paper on growing community housing in the NT
- March: NT Shelter submission to the Senate Economics References Committee Inquiry into Affordable Housing in Australia
- March: NT Shelter submission to the NT Planning Commission on its 'Towards a Darwin Regional Land Use Plan 2014.
- March: NT Shelter Submission to House of Representatives Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia


NT Shelter is supported by the NT Government through the Department of Housing