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April Housing Matters

Housing on the national agenda

It has taken a pandemic and more natural disasters but finally housing is on the agenda in the lead up to the national election. With more ideas in the mix, we have a stronger basis for ensuring the discussion converts to implementation with real investment as the campaign draws to a close. Q Shelter is part of the National Shelter Council who is working collaboratively with CHIA National and the Everybody's Home Campaign to engage with every major party and all independents calling for their commitment to real housing solutions. [Join the National Shelter Forum on Friday.](#)

Greater grass-roots involvement

There is more grass-roots involvement in trying to improve housing availability and affordability around the State. We spent yesterday with the Sunshine Coast Housing and Homelessness Network in a strategic planning session which was attended by community members and local businesses with significant commitment to housing solutions. Election-focussed advocacy has its place but deeper engagement at the grass-roots is the real context for change.

The future of strategic regional networks

Q Shelter works with many regional networks on focussed action planning. There is a trend with regional networks focusing less on information sharing and more on agreed actions and monitoring progress. We love helping regional networks focus their efforts and maximise their impact. Our next Regional Representatives Forum will bring together regional plans of action with training plans in each region to support our hard-working sector.

Yours sincerely,

Fiona Caniglia

*Fiona Caniglia***Executive Director**

Federal election

With the federal election approaching, there has rarely been a more timely opportunity to amplify the housing needs of so many Australians.

National Shelter and the Community Housing Industry Association [have responded to the Australian Labour Party's housing announcements](#) over the weekend, welcoming the commitment to develop a National Housing and Homelessness Plan. Q Shelter ED, Fiona Caniglia, has also [welcomed the announcement](#).

Registrations are now open for the [National Shelter Federal Election Housing Forum](#) on Friday 6 May, with an opportunity to ask candidates about their housing policies.

Welcome to our team

We are thrilled to welcome three new staff members to our team!

Left to right: Julie Rolph joins us as Administration Team Leader. She is a highly skilled administrator who balances systems-level improvements whilst never losing sight of the individual people she supports.

Jackson Hills joins us as Manager of Strategic Projects. In his new role, Jackson is excited to extend his impact from a history of volunteering within the sector to crafting long-lasting, sustainable housing outcomes for all Queenslanders.

Emma Irvine-Collins is our newest staff member, joining the Service Integration team as Project Officer. Emma is passionate about supporting regional areas to amplify their voice to government on the housing need within their communities.



Service Integration

Click the banner below to watch a short video highlighting the state-wide work of the initiative.



As we move toward the winter months, work within the Service Integration Initiative certainly isn't cooling down! In addition to continuing to enhance processes, frameworks and participation in multi-disciplinary care coordination, there is a packed calendar of other capability-building and planning events across the State.

Hoarding & Squalor training is planned in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay during June. This will follow a regional strategic planning workshop being held at the end of May. De-escalation training is also being planned for July in Townsville, whilst 'Feeling the Pulse' and 'Place-Based Leadership' workshops are occurring in Mackay during May.

Regional strategic planning is also underway in the Sunshine Coast and Moreton Bay regions. Stakeholders across Redlands are currently designing a new networking framework covering the entire service system. Additionally, Redlands stakeholders will join with Logan stakeholders to deliver an 'education day' for non- housing and homelessness services in mid June.

Structurally, several other key pieces of work are underway: further enhancements to the Initiative's Client Management System, along with refinements to the evaluation framework to test outcomes and impact. We welcome Emma Irvine-Collins who will be the project lead across the co-design of a capability building framework. This framework will support regional service systems to identify, escalate and ultimately participate in workforce, organisational, and system-level learning and development opportunities.

Kind regards,

Stephen Hawkins



Stephen Hawkins

Service Integration Facilitator

Cairns, Townsville and Mackay

This month, the SII Care Coordination Facilitators from Cairns, Townsville, and Mackay met for the first Northern Region SII Forum. Held in Townsville, the Facilitators discussed what strategies can be implemented to inform Q Shelter and the CHDE Regional Director on housing and homelessness needs in the area.

This initiative will be repeated every three months, with the next forum held in Cairns. Keep an eye out for more information and initiatives from the Northern region happening soon! The forum welcomes input from communities in the area. Please email Townsville Facilitator Emily.Mussap@qshelter.asn.au

Reminder: **Hoarding and Squalor training** will be held in-person in Cairns, Townsville and Mackay in June.

[Register for Cairns training.](#)

[Register for Townsville training.](#)

[Register for Mackay training.](#)

Townsville

Care Coordination meetings are up and running, with some new faces including [NEAMI Head to Health](#) and [Richmond Fellowship NQ](#). Welcome!

Facilitated by Q Shelter, the Townsville Housing and Homelessness Network will undertake a Strategic Planning workshop in May and are looking forward to developing key actions for the next 12 to 18 months.

Service providers in the region have requested training in De-escalation techniques. Q Shelter is excited to announce that this training is in the final stages of planning and will come to Townsville in July. Registrations open soon!

Our Care Coordination Facilitator (Townsville), Emily Mussap, has been co-locating with services including [Sharehouse Youth Programs](#), [The Women's Centre](#), [Homeless Health Outreach Team](#) and Dept. of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy. This has been a wonderful opportunity to establish and strengthen relationships, learn from each other, and really get to know what is happening at the grassroots level. She is always looking for new workspaces to connect with, so please reach out if you have a desk she can borrow! You can contact her at Emily.mussap@gshelter.asn.au or 07 3831 5900 ext. 112.

Mackay

The Tenancy Skills Institute is delivering Skillsets for Successful for Tenancies - a free tenancy skills course - on 24 and 25 May 2022 in Mackay. The training is designed to help tenants secure and keep a rental property by developing key knowledge and critical skills needed to rent successfully. Topics covered include communication, rights & responsibilities, maintaining and cleaning a property, finance and budgeting. Graduates receive a certificate of completion to submit with future rental applications. [Learn more and register for Skillsets tenancy training here.](#)

Q Shelter is also holding two workshops in May: [Feeling the Pulse](#) (an opportunity for services to explore regional processes and frameworks, including the role of regional Care Coordination Facilitator) and [Place-Based Leadership](#). Registrations are open!

If you have clients who love animals and want to learn new life skills in a supportive environment while making friends, [Happy Paws Happy Hearts Mackay](#) have sessions opening and new places available in their group animal training sessions. Their programs are designed for participants with a range of support needs.

Sunshine Coast & Gympie

The first Gympie Care Coordination Group (GCCG) recently met to support a number of older vulnerable persons who have been displaced by the recent Gympie floods and who have very few supports in place.

While the current membership of GCCG is still small, the group looks forward to providing coordinated care and wrap-around supports to persons at risk of, or experiencing homelessness. The group currently includes [IFYS](#), [Gympie Community Connect](#), [Relationships Australia](#), [Kyabra](#), and [Footprints](#). For more information, contact Tracey McNee, Care Coordination Facilitator (Sunshine Coast and Gympie) at tmcnee@ifys.com.au

The Sunshine Coast Housing & Homelessness Network (SCHHN) was involved in a strategic planning workshop on Tuesday 3 May. Over 50 people from the sector attended - including government representatives, housing and homelessness services. The aim of the session was to kickstart a new action plan for the network to rally behind as housing stress and homelessness continues in the region.

Tracey also recently attended an online workshop jointly held by the Queensland Disability Network and the Assessment & Referral Team to develop enduring knowledge and awareness of NDIS access processes to support clients to access the Scheme into the future. She is looking forward to supporting the GCCG and the SCHHN with this training.



An action shot from the Sunshine Coast strategic planning workshop on 3 May. Want more stories? Check out the latest news on our social media channels.



Brisbane

South West Care Coordination continues to meet fortnightly, with great attendance from a range of organisations and departments. We welcome new participation from Inala Alcohol and Drug Service and Multicultural Australia, and look forward to their contribution towards good housing outcomes for many.

Homeless Connect will be held at the RNA showgrounds on 19 May. Our Brisbane-based Care Coordination Facilitators will be attending, along with over 300 volunteers.

Our Facilitators also appreciated the chance to join in the festivities at Spring Hill Neighbourhood Day on 3 May, where highlights included free physiotherapy, health checks, haircuts, a BBQ lunch, community choir performances, and the chance to connect with dozens of service providers and members of our community. Photos are below!



Redlands

Redlands Care Coordination meetings are in full swing. We have amazing services from different sectors all over the region who engage, refer and assist our vulnerable community. On average we have 15 to 25 service providers who attend these fortnightly meetings to offer expertise for the broader sector. The Redlands Care Coordination meetings will continue running every second Tuesday 11am- 12.30pm at the Bayside Housing Centre- Capalaba. The next meeting is Tuesday 10 May. For

further information, please email Bree Tukavkin, Care Coordination Facilitator (Redlands) Bree.tukavkin@gshelter.asn.au

The **Bayside Housing & Homelessness Network** working group is well underway. Please watch this space as we will be inviting you to share your input around the design of these meetings soon. You can expect a survey out late next week!

We are also excited to announce that a mapping of service and other networks within the Bayside/ Redlands and Redland Islands is underway. This will create a streamlined communication platform for services to both access guides of which services are available within our region and the appropriate contacts for accessing them.

Redlands is also in discussion with Micah Projects to roll out some of their pop up vaccination hubs. This will allow our vulnerable community to see a nurse or doctor if they are unwell and allow them to get their COVID or Flu vaccinations in a comfortable setting. Details and flyers will be sent out shortly.

Logan

The Logan region has held two meetings during April through the Logan Care Coordination Group (LCCG). Meetings are run every second Tuesday 11.00am – 1.00pm with the next meeting scheduled for 3rd April 2022 at Access Community Services.

Our face to face meetings are continuing to flourish with the addition of new organisations into Logan Care Coordination. This has resulted in effective outcomes for clients referred to our CCG and outstanding service collaboration.

For more information about LCCG, please contact Regional Care Coordinator Rebecca Hinton at rebecca.hinton@gshelter.asn.au

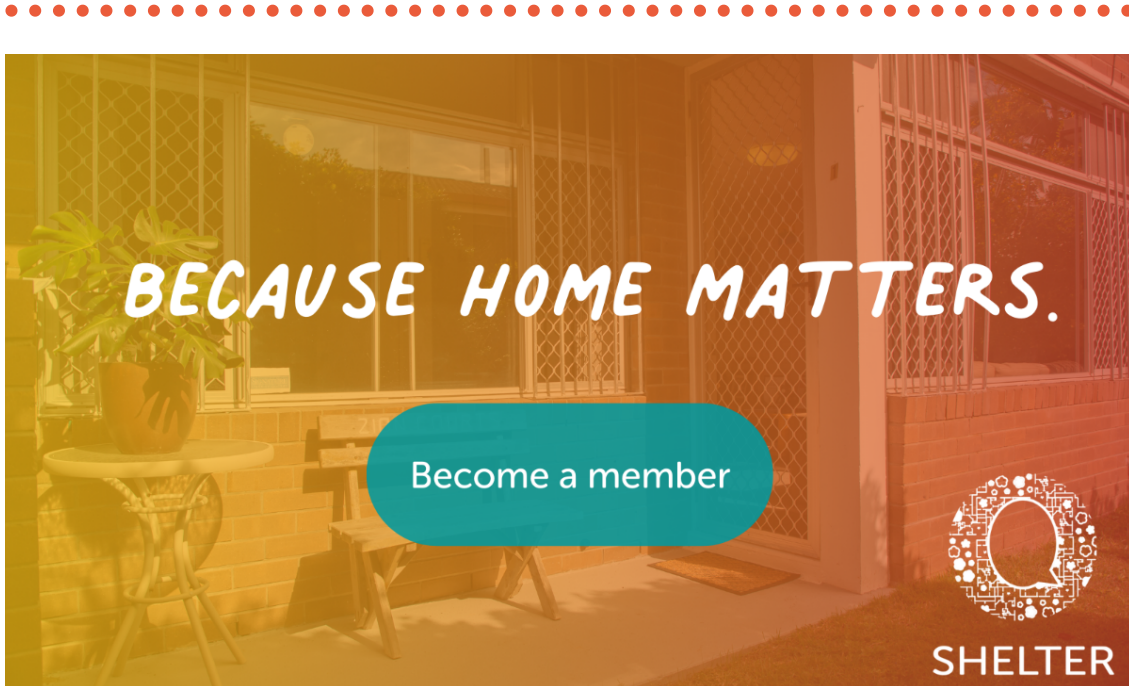
Redlands and Logan

We are excited to announce that we will be holding a **Housing and Homelessness education session** for services who are not necessarily in the housing sector but who are working with the community to battle the housing crisis we are currently all living through. The mid-year date will be announced shortly and registrations links will be distributed.

Gold Coast

Along with the rewarding business as usual of seeing many fantastic housing outcomes for vulnerable persons, the Gold Coast Homelessness Network (GCHN) is actively preparing for Homeless Connect: Connect to Home 2022.

This is an annual event that brings a broad range of services, supports, and organisations together in the Metricon Stadium. For the last two years this event has been postponed due to COVID concerns and the GCHN is excited to bring back this landmark event on Wednesday 3 August 2022. For more information on the event and how you can get involved, visit the [GCHN website](#).



Everyone deserves a home, but for many it is becoming increasingly difficult to find safe, affordable housing. If you are passionate about creating solutions to homelessness, **considering joining your voice with ours by becoming a Q Shelter member.**

Our members help us provide a representative voice to government, shape our [budget and policy submissions](#), receive discounts to training and events, are eligible for the Deirdre Coghlan professional development bursary, and can purchase a discounted Employee Assistance Program. [Learn more about Q Shelter membership.](#)

Not sure if you or your organisation are already a member? [Send us an email](#) to check.

Training & Events



We have a huge program of training opportunities and other events coming up soon. [Visit our events page to see them all.](#)



MAY 11

Feeling the Pulse - MACKAY

Featured in 2 collections

by Q Shelter

84 followers [Following](#)

Free

[Register](#)

[Feeling the Pulse - Mackay - 11 May 2022](#)



May 19

Residential Tenancies in Queensland

Part of the Events collection

by Q Shelter

84 followers [Following](#)

\$0 – \$49.50

[Tickets](#)

[Residential Tenancies in Queensland - 19 May 2022](#)



VOTE to end Homelessness

Karen Percy
Moderator

Jo Dyer
Boothby

Liz Habermann
Grey

Zali Steggall
Warringah

Hanabeth Luke
Page

Nicolette Boele
Bradfield

National independent candidates on action to end older women's homelessness

Friday, May 13th 2022
Online | 11:30am - 1pm AEST
Free | Book Here <https://bit.ly/No2homeless>

Brought to you by  

Housing for the Aged Action Group and Older Womens Network NSW are pleased to invite you to a national online candidate forum focused on policy responses to address older women's homelessness.

The forum will be held 11.30am – 1pm AEST on Friday 13 May and will be moderated by Karen Percy. [Register here.](#)

Independent candidates Zali Steggall (Warringah), Jo Dyer (Boothby), Hanabeth Luke (Page), Liz Habermann (Grey) and Nicolette Boele (Bradfield) will be joining us for this discussion.



Job opportunities

[Neighbourhood Centres Coordinator](#). Encircle. Moreton Bay.

[Support Worker](#). Youturn. Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay, Wide Bay.

[Team Leader](#). Salvation Army. Brisbane.

[Case Worker Upfront Intervention Team \(Homelessness\)](#). Salvation Army. Brisbane.

[Intake and Assessment Practitioner](#). Anglicare Southern Queensland. Brisbane.

[Shelter Worker at Good Hope Men's Service](#). Community Housing Ltd. Hervey Bay.

Research & Policy

Anglicare Australia have released their annual Rental Affordability Snapshot. The data shows there are just seven rentals across Australia – all share houses – that are affordable for a person on JobSeeker. [Read the report here](#) and [an article from Pro Bono News](#) exploring the research.

Community Housing Industry Association have released their 2022 federal election platform. [Explore the election platform here](#).

The **Western Sydney Leadership Dialogue** have released a new report based on national policy analysis by Deloitte that examines the role of Community Housing in the context of the 2022 election. [Regional Perspective on a National Crisis: The Commonwealth's Role in Delivering Affordable Housing](#).

Sector news

[Queensland vacancy rates reach record lows](#). REIQ Media release.

['There's no escaping this crisis': Queensland family of five struggle to find a stable rental](#). The Guardian.

[Housing 'insanity' has the construction industry thinking outside the box.](#) ABC News.

[Housing Complexities for Formerly Incarcerated Women in South Australia.](#) Parity Magazine.

[Juvenile and mentally ill prisoners being held in jail longer because they are homeless.](#) ABC News.

[Federal Labor commits to new remote housing deal, immediate Indigenous homelands funding if elected.](#) ABC News.

Grants

QLD Government: [Grants of up to \\$50,000 are available for affected non-profit organisations](#) following South East Queensland Rainfall and Flooding to hire or purchase equipment and materials, clean up, remove debris, repair or replace damaged infrastructure or goods and other costs associated with the recovery process.

CommBank Flood Relief Grants: [Grants of up to \\$10,000 are available to not-for-profit and community organisations](#) directly impacted by the floods or directly supporting relief, recovery and resilience efforts.



“I’ve felt very heard and supported over the past few days. Going back home, knowing we have you on our side, is such an encouragement”.

Regional Representative, Regional Representatives Meeting June 2021



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