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April Home Matters

From our Leadership Team

Dear colleagues

It's a privilege to be able to bring you a short update on some of the key activities Q Shelter has been connected to over the last few weeks.

On the policy front, our team is preparing for two important inquiries in the Queensland Parliament: the [Economic Development Queensland and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024](#), and the [Residential Tenancies and Rooming Accommodation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024](#). Both are critical to our sector's agenda, with the first bill proposing a greater role for EDQ in social and affordable housing, and the RTRA bill bringing into law the stage two rental law reforms announced in the Queensland Government's housing plan ('Homes for Queenslanders'). Q Shelter will submit to both inquiries and seek to appear at the hearings on behalf of the sector.

As the peak body for housing and homelessness, we also want to acknowledge the release of the [Queensland Child Death Review Board's Annual Report 2022-2023](#), which was tabled in the Queensland Parliament recently. The report recognises that housing instability is a contributor to the impacts on these children's lives, and their families. We look forward to continuing to work closely with the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) and other partners around greater prevention and early intervention responses that prevent housing insecurity and homelessness in the first place.

The local government elections were held in March, and final counts are now almost complete. Q Shelter held two forums with candidates and conducted a range of meetings across local government areas to promote key policies and initiatives that are proving successful at the local council level. We look forward to working with new and returning mayors and councillors across the 77 local government authorities, and to continue to collaborate and make progress together on the housing and homelessness agenda. You can [check the final local council election results on the Queensland Electoral Commission's website](#).

We were pleased to return to Mount Isa recently as part of the Workforce Connect program, as well as hosting meetings with the housing and homelessness network, Mount Isa City Council, and a range of housing and service providers.



Some of the Q Shelter, Community Housing Futures and Workforce Connect team meet with staff and community members at the Mount Isa Family Support Services and Neighbourhood Centre.

The Workforce Connect program has been involved in a number of career expos as well as student workshops at the University of Queensland, Bond University, and Griffith University. The project will [launch the HomeNow campaign](#) this week, which provides information, links and resources to encourage people to look at careers in the housing and homelessness sector. You'll see a number of great promotional video resources come through with the announcement, which we encourage you to share on social media and through your networks.

Finally, we will be reaching out to members and industry partners about our regional representatives' forum to be held in June, as well as our CEO and Senior Leaders

Lunch. Please mark 18-19 June in your diaries with more information to follow in the coming weeks.

Warm regards,



Jackson Hills
Manager Policy & Strategic Engagement

Advice for job seekers

The team from Workforce Connect have been attending university and employment expos to attract people to work in the housing and homelessness sector. You'll hear more about the project's new HomeNow campaign very soon, including a host of resources you can access and share.

Q Shelter's Floyd Stephens was asked to [share his job seeking tips for students](#) at the University of Queensland's Employability Week and Expo. Check out the video below.



Understanding poverty, inequality and social disadvantage in Australia

The [Social Policy Research Centre at UNSW](#) are offering [this specialised short course](#). It examines causes and consequences of poverty and inequality, with a unique Australian policy perspective.

The course runs online over six sessions starting **Monday 29 April**.

Fees are on a sliding scale starting from just \$500 for small not-for-profits.

[» FIND OUT MORE «](#)

Community Housing Futures

On 18 April, the next **Feeling the Pulse** session for Community Housing Providers will feature two highly knowledgeable guest presenters.

Sam Betros, General Manager of Housing Development Social and Affordable Housing Growth with the [Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works](#). Sam will provide information about the 'Team Queensland Bid' for [Housing Australia Future Fund Facility Support](#).

Jackson Hills, Manager of Policy and Strategic Engagement at Q Shelter, will provide an overview and insights on the recent Queensland local government elections, and the opportunities for Queensland's housing and homelessness sector.

We invite all community housing providers and others interested in the sector, to [register for this free event through our Eventbrite page](#).

[» REGISTER NOW «](#)



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The week's top open access, peer reviewed research papers and journal articles on subjects relevant to the housing and homelessness sector.



Research updates from The Deck

Did you know that you can subscribe to a weekly summary of some of the [latest research related to our sector?](#)

Every Friday morning, grab a cuppa and join us on The Deck to catch up on the latest academic research.

[SUBSCRIBE NOW](#)

The Priority Project

Support services now have another option to meet housing needs - an innovative project in SE Queensland is seeing success in supporting eligible women who have experienced domestic and family violence to secure and maintain a rental.

[Find out how you can connect](#) and [watch the videos](#) that describe how the project is making an impact.





SHELTER Events

Engage | Learn | Celebrate

Top Training & Events

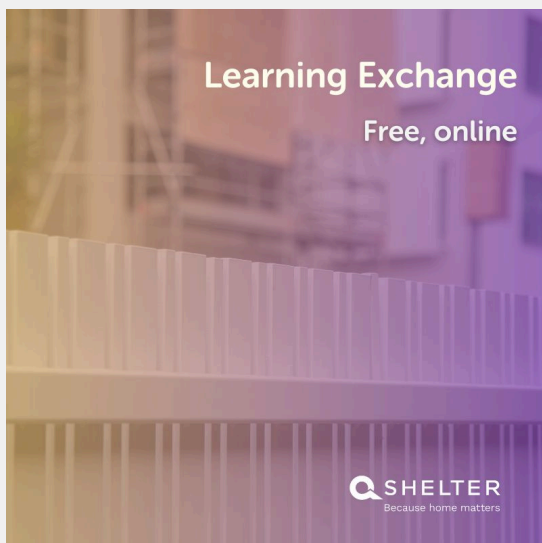
See the [full calendar of up-coming events, training and workshops on the Q Shetler website.](#)

Shaping Queensland's Trauma Strategy

Free, online. 24 April

Consultation with the Queensland Mental Health Commission to create a comprehensive approach together.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



Homelessness Services and private rentals collaboration

Free, online. 7 May

What happened when we embedded a Homelessness Case Manager into a real estate office?

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Scaling Success: Development Finance and Feasibility Workshop

Brisbane 9 May

UDIA Queensland and Community Housing Futures host this deep-dive to navigate the complexities of project finance and feasibility for community housing organisations.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



Responding to Vicarious Trauma - Brisbane

Brisbane 21 May

Recognise the signs of vicarious trauma and protect our workforce from its serious impacts.

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Responding to Vicarious Trauma - Mackay

Mackay 24 May

Bringing this in demand introductory training to the Mackay region. Book early so you don't miss out.

[REGISTER NOW](#)



Job opportunities in the sector

[Manager, Tableland Community Housing, Atherton.](#)

[Tenancy Manager Supportive Housing for Families, Common Ground Qld](#)

[Bella's Sanctuary Case Worker, DVConnect](#)

[Tenancy Manager Moreton Bay, Coast2Bay Housing Group](#)

(along with several other positions)

[Integration Manager, Housing and Homelessness, YFS Ltd](#)

(along with several other positions)



Regional Care Coordination

You can now find all the latest information, contact details and data on the regional care coordination activities and networks on The Deck.

[Service Integration | The Deck](#)

Chances House, Mackay



Congratulations to the team at Australian Street Aid Project, who opened their new premises for [Chances House in Mackay](#) last week.

Moreton Bay

The Service Integration Initiative, in partnership with Encircle Community Services and Q Shelter, held the Moreton Bay Regional Homelessness Forum: Action Plan Launch on 22 March 2024.

55 staff and volunteers attended from 34 different programs, representing 19 government, non-government, community and volunteer organisations from across the region.

Ms Ali King MP, Member for Pumicestone and Assistant Minister for Housing, delivered the keynote speech for the event.

The focus of the Forum was to launch the plan by establishing project leads and/or working groups, as well as developing reporting frameworks to utilise and monitor the action plan's progress. A final copy of the Action Plan will be delivered to key stakeholders across the region.



L-R: Moreton Bay Housing Service Centre Area Manager, Vicky Meyer; Moreton Bay Regional Care Coordinator, Shane Frost; Encircle Community Services CEO, Chris Staines; Assistant Minister for Housing, Ms Ali King, MP.

In their first meeting of the year, the Moreton Bay Housing & Homelessness Network considered the services and sectors they would like to learn more about, as well as the areas of knowledge or gaps in service knowledge that could be improved through a community of practice.

Future meetings will continue to hold service information sessions to build sector capacity within the Moreton Bay region.

For information on the Network or the Moreton Bay Regional Homelessness Forum: Action Plan Launch event, please contact the [Moreton Bay Regional Care Coordinator, Shane Frost](#).

Closing quote

“Community Housing Organisations provide much needed homes for low-income renters in Queensland and have a vital role to play in moving Queensland out of the housing crisis. Growing a strong and sustainable community housing sector will benefit all Queenslanders.”

*Annemaree Callander, Executive Officer,
[Community Housing Industry Association, Queensland](#)*



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Our mailing address is:

Queensland Shelter

PO Box 214

Spring Hill, QLD 4004

Australia

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