



Home Matters Newsletter: August 2025



Homelessness Week 4-10 August across Queensland

Here are a few key activities and events happening around the state that you can support during 2025 Homelessness Week

- **Mon 4 Aug 11am - 1pm, Redlands**
[Redlands Homelessness Week Barbecue](#), Bloomfield Park
- **Mon 4 - Fri 8 Aug, Mackay**
[Daily events: support information and free refreshments](#),
Community Accommodation and Support Agency (CASA), Bloomfield St
- **Tue 5 Aug 9am - 3:30pm, Brisbane**
[Brisbane Zero Homelessness Week Forum](#), Victoria Park Function Centre
- **Wed 6 Aug 8am - 2pm, Gold Coast**
[Connect2Home](#), [GC Homelessness Network](#), People First Stadium, Carrara
- **Wed 6 Aug 10am-2pm, Gladstone**
[Gladstone Homeless Connect](#), Gladstone Thistle Band hall, Dawson Rd
- **Wed 6 Aug 1:30pm, Spring Hill**
Spring Hill Precinct Coffee and Chat, 515 Wickham Tce, Spring Hill
- **Thu 7 Aug 9am - 1pm, Brisbane**
[Lady Musgrave Trust Annual Forum on Women and Homelessness](#),
QUT Gardens Point
- **Thu 7 Aug 10am - 2pm, Cairns**
[Cairns Homelessness Awareness Event](#), The Esplanade
- **Fri 8 Aug, All day, Statewide**
[CafeSmart by StreetSmart Australia](#), Homelessness fundraiser at hundreds of
cafes all around Queensland

Check the [Homelessness Australia website](#) for more events happening near you or online during Homelessness Week.

From our Leadership Team

Defending the Liveable Design Standard

I recently met with the Minister for Housing and Public Works, together with Australians for Universal Design, Queenslanders with Disability Network (QDN), the Summer Foundation, and National Shelter, among others. We discussed the critical importance of retaining the [Liveable Design Standard](#) to ensure all new homes offer improved universal access.

The [Productivity Commission Interim Report](#), handed down in the last few days, includes a preliminary recommendation suggesting that the Queensland Development Code be amended to opt out of accessibility standards and make them voluntary rather than mandatory. This would be a backwards step for Queensland. The cost of these design standards during construction is far less than the cost of retrofitting homes to achieve the same outcome.

Q Shelter considers these standards a form of prevention. They prevent people from struggling to find an accessible home that meets their needs. They prevent people from reaching out to service systems for assistance as their housing needs become more critical. We question the productivity gains from removing the standard, when the true cost of fewer accessible homes is borne by households who very often can't afford the modifications needed.

The standards are an example of upstream prevention rather than more costly downstream interventions. We urge productivity improvements to achieve more homes as quickly as possible, but those homes need to fit the profile of our community's needs.

Please consider making a submission to the [Productivity Commission Interim Report](#). Q Shelter will be working with other organisations, including QDN, to make submissions and work together on community education and evidence-based reasons on why retaining the standard is a boost to productivity, rather than a barrier.

Homelessness Ministerial Advisory Council

Q Shelter recently co-chaired a HMAAC sub-committee to examine solutions to challenges experienced in public spaces due to increased homelessness. All 12 SEQ councils were represented. We worked with Co-Chair Scott Smith from Council of Mayors SEQ (COMSEQ) to refine a list of actions from the meeting. This sub-committee will continue to meet every two months to progress actions that improve the integration of public space responses, and consider ways to add to the available supply of emergency accommodation.

HMAAC also heard from the sub-committee working on Supportive Housing. Q Shelter followed the discussion at HMAAC with a letter to Minister O'Connor

outlining our commitment to Supportive Housing as a model that offers permanent, secure housing with wrap-around support for the duration of people's needs.

Homelessness Week: a focus on prevention

We acknowledge the [many activities that will take place next week for National Homelessness Week](#) to bring attention to the challenge of homelessness, and its solutions. Q Shelter is proud to be participating in the Lady Musgrave Trust's Annual Forum examining responses to homelessness experienced by women. [You can still register here to be an online participant at the Lady Musgrave Trust event.](#) We are leading an additional discussion after this forum, exploring how prevention can be embedded in our approach to ensure children and young people are not at risk of homelessness, and are appropriately supported to engage, thrive, and succeed.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Fiona Cariglieri".

Chief Executive Officer



First micro-credential launched in regional Qld

We're excited to launch the first of our micro-credential courses developed in partnership with TAFE Queensland, through funding from the Queensland Government: **'Responding to Homelessness'**. And we're bringing it to Regional Queensland first - for FREE!

- [Tue 19 August - Rockhampton](#)

- [Wed 20 August - Mackay](#)
- [Thu 21 August - Townsville](#)
- [Fri 22 August - Cairns](#)

These face-to-face workshop-style sessions are ideal for staff who assist people adversely impacted by housing issues as part of their role (e.g. neighbourhood houses, family support, youth, or domestic violence services) as well as volunteers and students. Participants will undertake group activities and tasks in the workshop and will be issued with a Certificate of Completion.

Stay tuned for details of more up-coming micro-credential offerings, including 'Building Sustainable Tenancies'.

Brisbane Zero Forum

Third Brisbane Zero Homelessness Week Forum

Tuesday 5 August 9am - 3:30pm

This Forum seeks to embed frontline perspectives in system-level change, highlighting frontline workers' central role in making Brisbane Zero and solving homelessness possible.

[Find out more and register on Humanitix.](#)

REGISTER NOW

2025 BRISBANEZERO FORUM

HOMELESSNESS WEEK

TUESDAY, 5 AUGUST 2025

@ VICTORIA PARK

Amplifying the Advance to Zero
solutions to end homelessness

more info: brisbanezero@micahprojects.org.au



Sponsored delegate nominations for NHC25

Submit nominations for people with lived experience by 8 August

Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Mission Australia, there are a limited number of sponsored delegate places for the [National Housing Conference 2025](#), which will take place at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre on 14-16 October.

A sponsored delegate place at the conference provides:

- Free registration and full access to the conference sessions and meal breaks
- Travel and accommodation costs for those attending from interstate or from more than one hour's journey from home to the conference venue.

Nominations **close Friday 8 August** - [download the form and return to Q Shelter](#) for Queensland-based nominations.

New opportunity: Housing on faith-based land

Q Shelter will soon release a video asset to highlight the opportunity that recent legislative changes have created for community housing on land previously zoned for community-based activities. We gathered together a number of people from church organisations, planners and community housing providers who have already started work on projects in this area, and we asked them to share their insights with you. Look out for the full video and resources from Q Shelter in the coming weeks.



Wellbeing tip of the month

**WELL
NOW**

Wellbeing tip: Take your team on a retreat

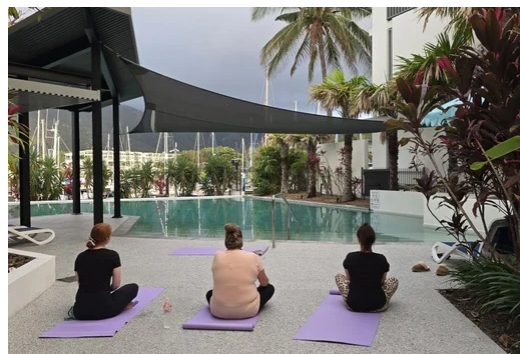
Stepping away from the daily grind isn't just good for the soul, it's one of the most effective ways to invest in your team's wellbeing and workplace culture.

Whether it's a day of reflection or a two-day retreat, giving your team space to reset, reconnect and refocus can have a lasting impact. Here are just a few benefits of team retreats:

- Strengthens trust and team connection
- Improves communication and collaboration
- Boosts morale, motivation and engagement
- Reduces stress and builds personal resilience
- Sparks fresh thinking and creativity
- Supports strategic alignment and culture building
- Leaves people feeling valued, refreshed and inspired

Your team is your greatest asset. Look after them well.

Q Shelter can help you design a meaningful wellness retreat or training tailored to your organisation. Get in touch to [learn more or book a session](#).



wellnow.org.au

Events and training

Q SHELTER Events

Engage | Learn | Celebrate

Wellness Workshop Series

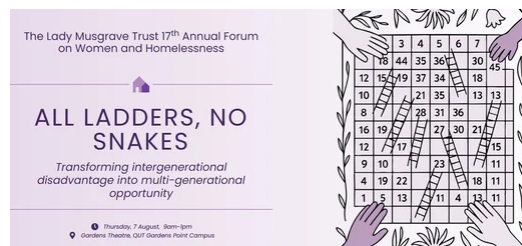
Mackay, Rockhampton, Brisbane,
Bundaberg, Hervey Bay

Q SHELTER
Because home matters

Wellness Workshop Series

A powerful, holistic, in-person wellness experience. Gain tools, insights, and practical strategies for a more balanced, resilient, and fulfilling life.

[Starting 19 AUG - MORE DETAIL »](#)



All ladders, no snakes

Q Shelter CEO Fiona Caniglia will feature at the 2025 Lady Musgrave Trust Annual Forum on Women and Homelessness, held at QUT Brisbane.

[7 AUG 9am - BOOK NOW »](#)



Working with people affected by hoarding and squalor

Moreton Bay is sold out, but there are still places in **Ipswich** for this in-demand full day training.

[11 AUG 9:30am - BOOK NOW »](#)



Navigating NDIS in housing and homelessness

Join this month's free Learning Exchange to improve your knowledge and skills in navigating the NDIS.

[12 AUG 10am - BOOK NOW »](#)

Can't find the training you're looking for?

Register your interest in a future training session

From Trauma Informed Care and Mental Health First Aid to Supervision Training and Tenancy Sustainment - you can [add your name to our training waitlist](#) to be the first to hear when the next session is scheduled.

Career opportunities

Here are just a few of the job vacancies available in the sector right now.

At **Q Shelter**, we are hiring a [Regional Coordinator to work in Townsville](#).

The Salvation Army are hiring [Case Managers in their Homelessness teams](#) in Spring Hill and Toowoomba.

[Mission Australia has vacancies](#) at their Youth Foyer in Townsville, as well as in Brisbane.

[YFS are recruiting for a Housing Specialist](#) based in the Logan area.

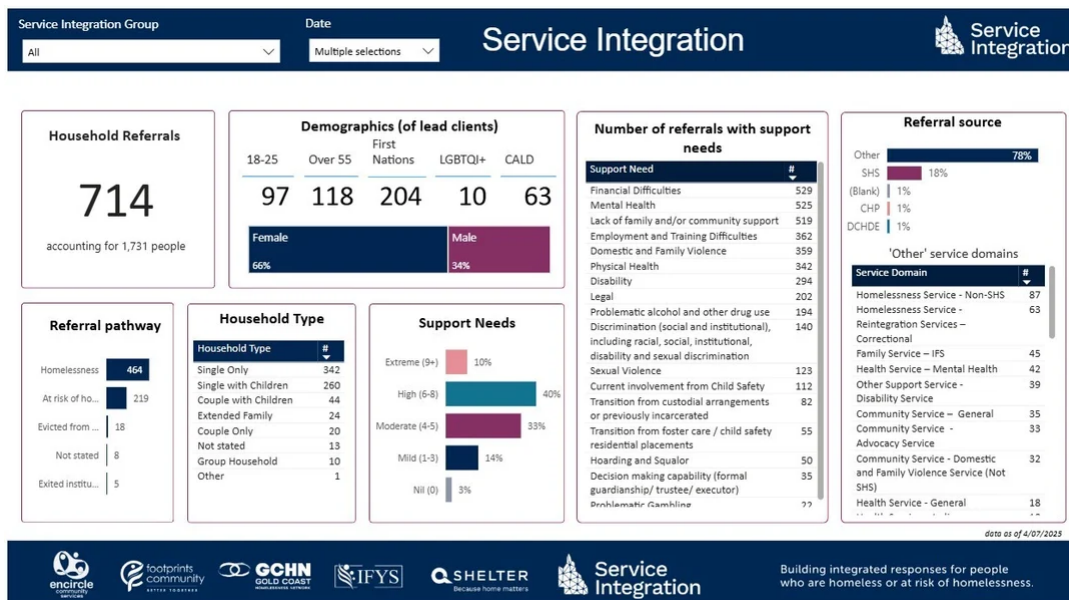
If you have vacancies you'd like to share with the sector, [list them on The Deck](#).

Service Integration

Region contact and referral information

Service Integration is currently delivered in 14 priority locations across Queensland. Its goal is to strengthen local service systems to deliver sustainable housing and comprehensive support pathways for people who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness.

You can find details of the Service Integration groups operating around Queensland, including contact details and how to access referrals [from The Deck](#).



Closing Quote

"Our housing strategy must consider and respond to housing opportunities—again, before, during and after Brisbane 2032—in all communities across Queensland that are hosting these events to make sure this event can benefit all Queenslanders.

"I also want to acknowledge the work of our peak body, Q Shelter, who have been front and centre advocating for the housing and homelessness legacy that an Olympic event can leave for our state."

The Hon Sam O'Connor, Minister for Housing and Public Works, during this week's State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee Estimates Hearing.



Thanks for signing up to Q Shelter's newsletter and regular updates. Check our social media channels above to follow us for more regular updates, or to share our stories with your colleagues and networks.

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