



## From our Leadership Team

### Getting through Cyclone Alfred

Q Shelter wishes to pass on the thanks of a grateful SEQ community to all our frontline services and staff who stepped up during Cyclone Alfred over the past days, to ensure that some of Queensland's most vulnerable residents were not forgotten.

We know that some services remained open, while others made the decision to close for the welfare of their staff. In either case, it was a demonstration of emergency plans enacted, and human safety and dignity prioritised. Thank you all.

In the coming days and weeks as the impact of heavy rainfall continues and the clean-up commences, we are sure that the housing and homelessness sector will continue to get on with the job it does so well, leading the discussion, advocacy and hands-on response for people facing housing need and homelessness.

Q Shelter will continue to keep you connected to the conversations and decisions that impact our sector.

Warm regards,



**Stuart Jobling**

Acting Chief Executive Officer

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## Special training update

Q Shelter has had increased demand and a tremendous response to our training and capacity building activities over the past weeks.

It's clear to us that the sector is eager to build skills that will help in achieving their mission. Our Acting Sector Capacity Lead, [Michelle Debert](#), [has given a special update this month](#) on the training already out and having an impact, as well as the latest in-demand training offerings that are ready for you to enroll.

[FIND OUT MORE](#)

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## Federal funding for homelessness peak bodies

On 6 March, the Federal Minister for Housing and Homelessness, Clare O'Neil, [announced extra funding for housing and homelessness support](#), including \$6.2 million over three years to support leading homelessness peak bodies.

**National Shelter** have been in close contact with the Minister around this decision, and [have welcomed the announcement](#), as well as the \$1 billion additional funding for more crisis and transitional accommodation for women and children fleeing family and domestic violence and for young people.

National Shelter have been advocating for thoughtful housing policy reform for 50 years, and this funding will ensure they can continue to work towards their vision of an affordable, fair and healthy housing system.



They have also released their 2025 Election Platform with a call to action to the Australian Government to fix the housing crisis.

You can see the platform's [five key policies](#) and [read the full election platform on their website](#).

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## Livable Housing Design in Queensland

**Last month National Shelter and Q Shelter wrote to the Minister for Housing and Public Works on the subject of the ABCB Standard for Livable Housing Design.**

The Shelter network understands that the housing industry has been advocating for these 2023 Modern Home Reforms to be revoked, and we urged the Minister to retain the Standard, which has the objective “to ensure that housing is designed to

meet the needs of the community, including older people and those with a mobility-related disability.”

We encourage you to [read our letter to the Minister, Sam O'Connor](#), and we will keep you updated on future developments.

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## Culture and wellbeing workplace strategy

The Workforce Connect Project team at Q Shelter are offering sector organisations three different in-person workshops to support workforce wellbeing.

1. **Enhance staff wellbeing, retention, and resilience using the WellNow Wellbeing Framework.** 90 minutes, Free.
2. **Culture & Wellbeing Strategy Workshop.** 2 hours, discounted rates for Q Shelter member organisations.
3. **Exploring the 8 Dimensions of Wellness.** 2 hours, in-person or online, discounted rates for Q Shelter member organisations.

To find out more, or to reserve a date for your organisation, [contact the Workforce Connect project team](#).

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## Lady Bowen Trust grant round

The 2025 Grant Round for the Lady Bowen Trust closes on **26 March**.

The grants aim at providing practical, personal and often profound assistance to Queenslanders who are experiencing, or are at risk of, homelessness throughout the state.

[Guidelines, forms and full details are available on their website](#).



## Award nominations close this week

Nominations for the [2025 Australasian Housing Institute Brighter Future Awards](#) close this Friday 14 March.

The ahi awards recognise the contribution made by dedicated housing professionals and organisations in Australia and New Zealand.



## CEO & Senior Leaders Forum amidst a week of activity on the Gold Coast

### Tickets now available for June event

There is now a solid week of events planned for 16-20 June on the Gold Coast to coincide with the [National Homelessness Conference](#). The graphic below gives you a quick reference to some of the key activities and events that the sector has planned for that week.

The latest activity planned for that week is on **Monday 16 June - National Workshop: Local Government and Homelessness 'From Challenge to Action'**.

Facilitated by local government homelessness expert, Leanne Mitchell, this interactive workshop will build practical skills, knowledge, and connections to help local government lead effective homelessness responses. We will be sharing full details including venue and registration links later this week, but we encourage you to set aside this date aside in your calendars now.

We encourage you to set this week aside, and stay tuned for more details of how to book in to all these key events.



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## Events and training



# Q SHELTER Events

Engage | Learn | Celebrate

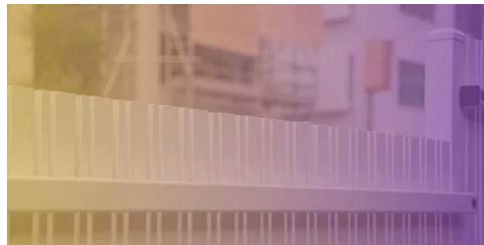


## Case Note Writing Workshop

### TOOWOOMBA

Practical tools and techniques to improve the quality of case note writing with an assessment-based framework.

**[26 MAR 10am - BOOK NOW »](#)**



## Navigating the private rental market

Learning Exchange: Be equipped to navigate the rental market to obtain and remain in private rentals.

**[1 APR 10am - BOOK NOW »](#)**



## De-escalation Training

### TOWNSVILLE: Session 1

Learn to manage confrontational and aggressive behaviour.

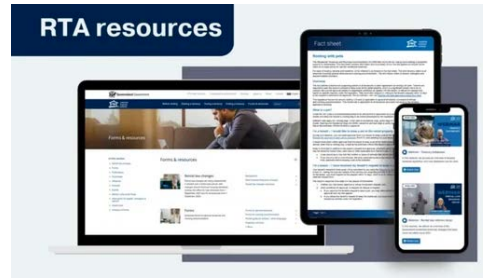
**[23 APR 9am - BOOK NOW »](#)**



## Youth homelessness breakfast forum

This cross-sector event by Property Industry Foundation and moderated by Q Shelter, will explore a collaborative approach to resolve youth homelessness.

**[27 MAR 7:30am Brisbane - RSVP.](#)**



## Rental law changes

In the coming weeks, the RTA will deliver information sessions in **Mackay**, **Proserpine** and the **Gold Coast** to unpack Queensland rental law changes and what they mean for you.

**[Dates and details on RTA website.](#)**



## Housing Older Women online workshops

The Housing Older Women's Support Service have two more online workshops coming up for women aged 45+ seeking information about accessing affordable housing, and applying for social housing.

**Friday 28 March: Housing Stress**

**Friday 4 April: Renting and Self-Advocacy**

You can [register for free](#), and you'll receive a link to the online session once registered.



## Career opportunities on HomeNow

**North East Community Support Group and Anglicare Central Queensland** are just two of the many organisations listed on the [HomeNow opportunities page](#). The Opportunities page showcases the depth and diversity of organisations and career pathways across our sector. You can promote your organisation to job seekers and students for free, [visit the HomeNow website for more details](#).

You can also browse through current job vacancies on [The Deck](#).

**North East  
Community  
Support Group  
Inc**



**ZILLMERE**  
community centre  
North East Community Support Group Incorporated

**Paid Work, Voluntary  
Work**

**South-East  
Queensland**

NECSG auspices Zillmere Community Centre, Zillmere Young Peoples Support Services and Zillmere Family Accommodation Program. Providing quality community support programs, services and activities targeted to alleviate poverty, homelessness, distress, disability, isolation and unemployment.

**Visit Website**

**AnglicareCQ**



**Anglicare**  
Central Queensland

**Paid Work, Voluntary  
Work**

**Central  
Queensland**

Our truly local team of professionals have worked with people in Central Queensland for over 40 years to support them in living their best life. AnglicareCQ is a not-for-profit, purpose-driven organisation - and we give effect to that purpose through our staff. We endeavour to make the most ordinary things extraordinary - simply by doing them with the right people.

**Visit Website**

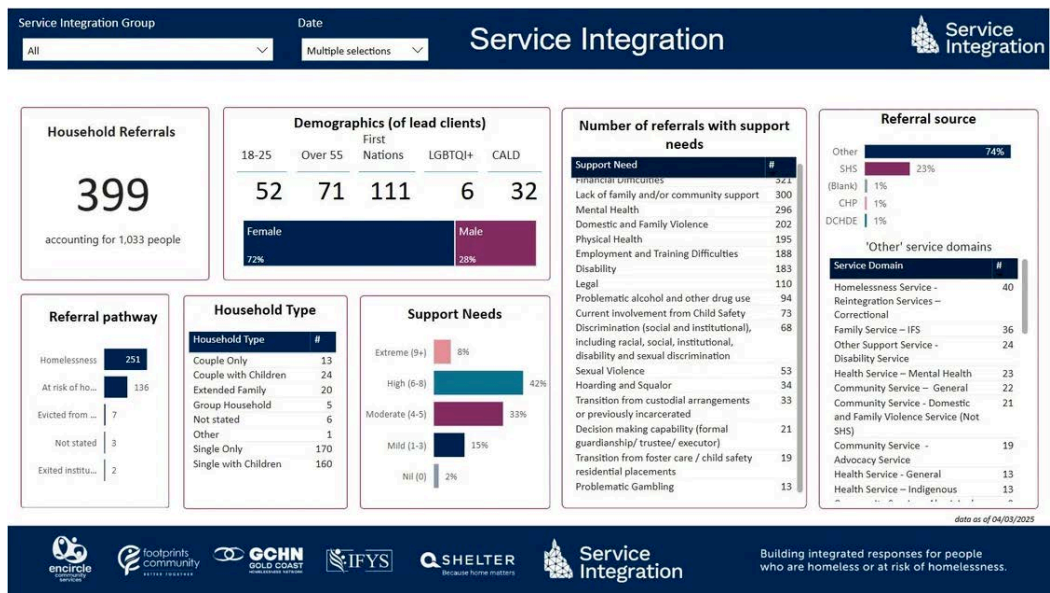
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## Service Integration

### 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

“It's business as usual, but in a different kind of environment.”

[Karyn Walsh, CEO Micah Projects, speaking to ABC Radio National](#) about the response during Cyclone Alfred to ensure people experiencing homelessness had access to shelter.



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.

Q Shelter, PO Box 214, Spring Hill, Queensland 4004, Australia, (07) 3831 5900

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