



Queensland Youth Housing Coalition Inc.

HOMELESSNESS— NO ROOF, NO JOB, NO VOTE

Ms Maria Leebeek, the Executive Officer of the Queensland Youth Housing Coalition, has commended the Federal Government for promising to improve the situation for homeless young people.

Homelessness has been a long standing issue. According the latest data from the AIWH 1 in 2 people are turned away from a service funded under the SAAP program which is the key program to assist homeless people in Australia.

QYHC has been strongly advocating for a comprehensive Commonwealth Homelessness Strategy and we supports the Prime Minister when he states that a complete analysis and policy response across all levels of government is required.

The reason why young people become homeless and the reason why they remain homeless are different to the adult population. Whilst education and employment are important, support for existing crisis accommodation services and more public housing will provide the cornerstone for young people to be able to undertake other life opportunities. Prime Minister Kevin Rudd's focus on other aspects of homelessness such as general health, mental health, and relationship support are vital considerations for the new plan to work. For young people areas such as early intervention in schools, support for families, issues for young people exiting care and specific youth housing models should be in the mix as well.

Homelessness has long been neglected and we look forward to seeing a renewed focus, resourcing and support to assist homeless young Queenslanders to be able to have the equity of opportunity to fulfill positive life goals.

CONTACT DETAILS

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