

Queensland Youth Peaks welcome the *Opening Doors Queensland Strategy for Reducing Homelessness 2011-14*

Almost half of Queensland's homeless population is aged between 0 and 24 years of age. The Queensland Youth Housing Coalition (QYHC) and the Youth Affairs Network of Queensland (YANQ) welcome the Queensland government commitment, through this Strategy, to eradicating youth homelessness.

We are pleased to see that the Strategy includes a focus on young people through the development of an Action Plan. QYHC has been calling on the State government to have a focus on young people to ensure that a targeted approach can be developed.

"A whole of government action plan will ensure that young people are supported to continue their education and training and thereby providing better social and economic opportunities" say Maria Leebeek QYHC Executive Officer.

"YANQ members from across the State have consistently prioritized housing as the most pressing issue requiring action" say Siyavash Doostkhah YANQ Director.

We are looking forward to working with the State government on the implementation of the plan working toward early intervention and improved responses to young people who are experiencing homelessness.

"It is hoped that by supporting young people that this will address their resilience and thus reducing the risk of homelessness as adults" notes Maria Leebeek.

QYHC is the youth homelessness peak in Queensland.

YANQ is state youth peak in Queensland

Media contact:

Maria Leebeek | 0418 773217 | policy@qyhc.org.au

Siyavash Doostkhah | 0407 655 785 | director@yanq.org.au