

Program Day 1 – Monday 8 August

VIRTUAL

*This session will be available
both in-person and online*

Time	Session
2.00	Registrations open
3.00 – 3.30	<p>WELCOME TO THE CONFERENCE VIRTUAL</p> <p>Welcome to Country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aunty Serena Williams, Ngunnawal Elder <p>Official welcome by Conference Co-conveners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Michael Fotheringham, Managing Director, AHURI • Jenny Smith, Chair, Homelessness Australia <p>Ministerial Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Hon Julie Collins MP, Federal Minister for Housing and Homelessness
3.30 – 5.00	<p>Plenary Session 1 VIRTUAL</p> <p>Are COVID responses the building blocks for a national plan to end homelessness?</p> <p><i>When COVID-19 arrived in Australia, governments responded rapidly, with new and existing partnerships between governments, not-for-profit sectors and private industry reducing homelessness and financially improving the situations of vulnerable Australians. Can these impressive approaches forged during the pandemic form the basis for the development of a national plan to end homelessness?</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chris Burns, Hutt Street • Frances Crimmins, YWCA Canberra • Jason Kara, Department Communities and Justice NSW • Ben Rimmer, Homes Victoria <p>Facilitator: Jenny Smith, Homelessness Australia</p> 
5.30 – 5.50	Buses to the Welcome Function
6.00 – 8.00	<p>Social Event: Community Housing Limited Welcome Function – National Museum Australia</p> <p>Includes access to Great Southern Land exhibition</p> 

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Program subject to change and updates

Program Day 2 – Tuesday 9 August

Time	Session
7.30 – 8.45	Registration
9:00 – 9.05	Welcome to Day 2
9.05 – 10.30	<p>Plenary Session 2</p> <p>Closing the Gap on housing outcomes for Indigenous Australians</p> <p><i>In 2021, housing targets were included for the first time in the National Agreement on Closing the Gap – aiming to increase the percentage of Indigenous Australians living in appropriate housing. Hearing directly from Indigenous leaders, this session will examine the pathways forward to reduce Indigenous homelessness, including overcrowding, and what lessons can be learned from the excellent response in supporting Indigenous communities during the pandemic.</i></p> <p>Presenter:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sandra Harbon, Noongar Mia Mia <p>Link Wentworth</p>
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.00 – 12.30	<p>Major Concurrent Sessions</p> <p>MC1. Homeless in regional Australia</p> <p><i>This session examines the particular challenges in responding to homelessness in regional Australia and offers that not all new and emerging regional homelessness issues are the same, with indeed a number of new and innovative ‘solutions’ being sought for this new priority.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kim Houghton, Regional Australia Institute Adam Liversage, Uniting Ballarat Trudi Ray, Haven Home Safe Lisa Sampson, Aboriginal Community Housing Industry Association NSW <p>Facilitator: John Engeler, Shelter NSW</p>
	<p>MC2. Local government – inner city and suburban responses</p> <p><i>Given Australia’s population distribution, the greatest number of people at risk of homelessness are living in greater capital cities on the eastern coast of Australia, in both central and suburban locations. Local governments are increasingly responding and implementing programs to deliver more affordable housing and responds to all forms of homelessness. This session examines leading responses in metro and outer urban locations.</i></p> <p>national shelter</p>

Time	Session
	<p>MC3. The lived experience of not having a home VIRTUAL</p> <p><i>The voices of people with lived experience are vital to improving service responses to homelessness. Support services and peak bodies are increasingly finding ways to embed lived experience in their service design and program development. This session will draw from recent innovations that are strengthened by these approaches.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leander Kreltszheim, Mission Australia • Cass Corrone, Council to Homeless Persons • Daisy Gleeson, Consultant • Lorna Robinson, Constellation Project • Jason Russell, Council to Homeless Persons <p>Facilitator: Jacqui Jones, Constellation Project</p>
12.30 – 1.30	<i>Lunch</i>
1.30 – 3.00	Concurrent Sessions
	<p>C1. Developing the homelessness sector workforce VIRTUAL</p> <p><i>Recruitment and retention in the homelessness sector remains a challenge. There are no clear educational pathways and qualifications for homelessness practice, and ongoing education and training is underdeveloped. This session discusses efforts to develop workforce pathways.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Micaela Cronin, Workforce Innovation and Development Institute • Joanna Quilty, NSW Council of Social Services • Silvia Alberti, Uniting Vic. Tas <p>Facilitator: Jenny Smith, Homelessness Australia</p> <p style="text-align: right;">SACRED HEART MISSION </p>
	<p>C2. Overcrowding</p> <p><i>Overcrowding is the dominant form of homelessness, constituting around 44% of the homeless count at the last census. This session will examine strategies to improve the measurement of overcrowding in Australian homes, and policies to help reduce the overcrowding burden, particularly in Indigenous and culturally and linguistically diverse households.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Dockery, Curtin University • Michael Klerck, Tangentyere Council • Megan Moskos, University of Adelaide • Feiyi Zhang, Homelessness NSW <p>Facilitator: Natalie Smith, NSW Department of Customer Service</p>

Time	Session
1.30-3.00	<p>C3. Technology enhanced homelessness support</p> <p><i>While technology can often leave vulnerable populations behind, it also presents opportunities to better reach clients, and enable real-time access to information and support. This session will explore how advances in technology has helped improve how services are provided, and how people experiencing homelessness are able to access services.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lidija King, Department Communities and Justice NSW • Jo Panizzutti, Department Communities and Justice NSW • Brendan Shanahan, McAuley • Ben Shaw, Infoxchange 
	<p>C4. Piecemeal or real progress? Housing and domestic and family violence</p> <p><i>Domestic and family violence (DFV) is the main reason women and children leave their home. While DFV has attracted significant attention and investment in recent years, there are continuing challenges in providing timely and appropriate support. This session examines what progress has been made, and what still needs to be done.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandra Creamer, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance • Leah Dwyer, YWCA Canberra • Renee Hamilton, National Women's Safety Alliance <p>Facilitator: Sue Webeck, Domestic Violence Crisis Service Canberra</p> 
	<p>C5. Housing First – and now for the hard part....</p> <p><i>While there has been broad agreement for some time of the merits of the Housing First, implementation has been limited. However, there are signs that this is changing, such as the implementation of Together Home in NSW, which adopts Housing First principles, bringing together community housing providers and specialist homelessness services.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laura Collister, Wellways • Cathy Humphrey, Sacred Heart Mission • Michala McMahon, RUAH Community Services • Rebecca Pinkstone, Bridge Housing • Karen Walsh, Micah Projects <p>Facilitator: Jane Barnes, Wintringham</p>  

Time	Session
1.30-3.00	<p>C6. Youth homelessness in the pandemic age <i>Young people are the face of the housing affordability crisis and have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic – losing work and associated income, placing them at increased risk of homelessness. This session identifies new approaches to support youth at risk or experiencing homelessness and the impacts and responses during COVID-19.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joshua Kalemba, Mission Australia • Peter McMillan, NT Shelter • Elvis Martin, Melbourne City Mission • Shorna Moore, Melbourne City Mission 
3.00 – 3.30	<i>Afternoon Tea</i>
3.30 - 5.00	<p>Plenary Session 3: International Keynote Scotland’s Ending Homelessness Together Action Plan</p> <p><i>This international keynote joint presentation is testament to the importance of partnerships at the heart of the homelessness strategy which has been delivered through a collaboration between the government and the homelessness, housing and related sectors in Scotland. Three years into the groundbreaking strategy, Maggie and Marion will unpack the development of the plan, the challenges and achievements, and reflect on progress to-date as well as next steps.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margaret-Ann (Maggie) Brünjes, Chief Executive, Homelessness Network Scotland • Marion Gibbs, Team Leader, Homelessness Unit, Scottish Government <p>Facilitator: Dr Michael Fotheringham, AHURI</p> 
5.00 - 5.10	CLOSE DAY 2

Program Day 3 – Wednesday 10 August

Time	Session
6.30 – 8.30	<i>Networking breakfast (additional cost) – In conversation with Senator David Pocock and Max Chandler-Mather MP, National Arboretum (includes bus transfers)</i>
7.30 – 8.45	Registration
9:00 – 9.05	Welcome to Day 3 VIRTUAL Ministerial Address: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Hon Yvette Berry, Minister for Housing and Suburban Development (ACT Government)
9.05 – 10.30	Plenary Session 4 VIRTUAL Is the climate crisis an impending homelessness crisis? <i>Climate change is generating new challenges for an already pressured homelessness sector. Increasing incidence of natural disasters is displacing whole communities – forcing thousands of people into homelessness. This plenary session will examine the homelessness implications of climate change – what are the ways in which communities and governments can prepare and respond as we face the realities of a changing climate.</i> Presenters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Paula Coghill, Lead Aboriginal Specialist Consultant Tony Davies, Social Futures Daniel Taber-Kennedy, Q Shelter
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Morning Tea</i>
11.00 – 12.30	Concurrent Sessions
	C7. COVID Case Studies VIRTUAL <i>A deep dive into two State responses to COVID-19 in relation to people experiencing homelessness.</i> Presentations from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mark Heeney, Mind Australia Launch Housing Department of Communities and Justice NSW Neami National St Vincent’s Homeless Health Services

Time	Session
	<p>C8. Hidden homelessness – unaccompanied children <i>Unaccompanied child homelessness is often a hidden and complex experience, particularly affecting children not receiving child protection services. This session will examine possible solutions where the protection and care of children is considered everyone’s responsibility and responses are coordinated by multiple agencies.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Justin Barker, Youth Coalition of the ACT • Pam Barker, YFoundations • Cheryl Lierton, Uniting Communities, SA <p>Facilitator: Dr Catherine Robinson, University of Tasmania</p>
	<p>C9. Homelessness and mental health <i>The evidence-base on the link between housing insecurity and mental ill health as well as the risks of homelessness for those experiencing mental ill health continues to grow. Against the backdrop of these studies, and the mental health challenges exacerbated by the pandemic, what impacts have been felt by the SHS sector, and what solutions are being enacted across Australia.</i></p>
	<p>C10. Supportive housing after prison <i>Inadequate planning and support for safe transitions into secure and affordable housing for people leaving institutional settings can have dire consequences including higher rates of inpatient care, increased need for substance use treatment, ongoing offending and other criminal justice costs, and greater pressure on specialist homelessness services. This session examines the latest research and leading examples of services supporting people leaving prison and rehabilitation settings.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Chris Martin, UNSW • Matthew Sander, Department of Communities and Justice NSW • Sara Stilianos, Homes Not Prisons • Ian Welsh, Community Housing Limited <p>Facilitator: Steve Simpson, Council to Homeless Persons Queensland</p>
	<p>C11. Women experiencing homelessness</p> <p><i>The prevalence of homelessness amongst women has increased in recent years as has awareness of the nature of women’s experience of homelessness. This session examines some of the innovative ideas and potential solutions being forged through partnerships between services and agencies in different parts of the country.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kellie Maxwell, Mission Australia • Margaret Maljkovic, Link Wentworth • Dale Towns, Mission Australia <p>Facilitator: Emma Greenhalgh, National Shelter</p>

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Time	Session
	<p>C12. Indigenous homelessness – state and territory approaches VIRTUAL</p> <p><i>New homelessness programs designed to support Indigenous people are being implemented in many Australian jurisdictions. This session reviews policy and program innovations designed to address homelessness and what lessons can be shared to better support Indigenous Australians.</i></p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Jefferson, KPMG • Dr Jocelyn Jones, Curtin University • Daniel Morrison, Wungening Aboriginal Corporation • Jenny Samms, Aboriginal Housing and Homelessness Forum Steering Committee to Improve Homelessness Service Outcomes for Aboriginal Victorians • Associate Professor Deidre Tedmenson, University of South Australia <p>Facilitator: Monique Wiseman, Homelessness Australia</p>
12.30- 1.30	<i>Lunch</i>
1.30 – 3.00	<p>Plenary Session 6 VIRTUAL</p> <p>Unhoused – a game changing media campaign?</p> <p><i>In March 2021, the major media organisation, Are Media, along with a coalition of women's sector groups, launched 'Unhoused', an election campaign calling for increased funding of \$7.6 billion to address a national crisis that sees 49,000 Australian women homeless. How did the campaign come about, and post-election, did it succeed and what can the sector learn for future public advocacy campaigns?</i></p> <p>Keynote speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrew Cook, Are Media <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debbie Georgopoulos, Women's Housing Company • Karen Levin, The Equanimity Project • Katherine McKernan, Homelessness Australia
3.00 – 3.10	Conference Close