

Australian Alliance to End Homelessness media release

18 May 2020

Australian Alliance to End Homelessness announces inaugural CEO

The Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) has announced David Pearson as its inaugural CEO.

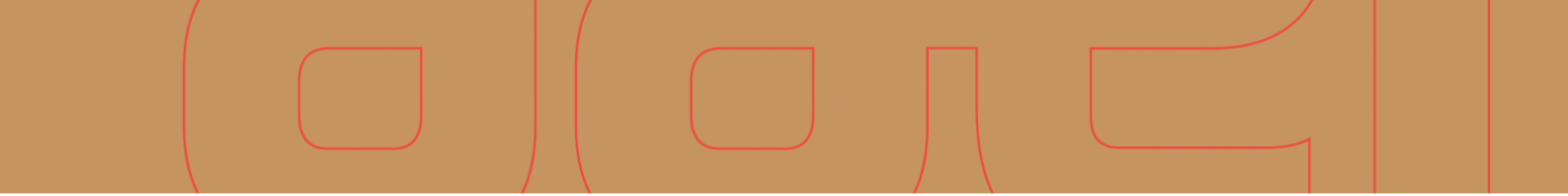
The appointment was made possible by the Myer Innovation Fellowship, with David announced as one of the 2020 Fellows. The Myer Innovation Fellowship, established by the Sidney Myer Fund and The Myer Foundation, supports three leaders and problem solvers each year to create breakthrough solutions to some of Australia's most pressing social and environmental challenges.

Chair of AAEH Karyn Walsh says that the appointment of a CEO is a testament to the impact AAEH has had over the years to end homelessness and is an opportunity to accelerate the organisation's momentum.

"As a national network of service providers, we value the opportunity that the Sidney Myer Fund and The Myer Foundation is giving us. We've done a massive amount of work in recent years, and appointing David as our first CEO allows us to accelerate our efforts," Ms Walsh said.

"AAEH is committed to working towards these dual purposes: improving systems to end homelessness, whilst ensuring each individual and family finds a safe, secure and permanent home.

"Never before has it been so clear that we need large scale systems for real change and an intentional focus on each individual or family who are sleeping rough, such as in cars or motels, to end homelessness in Australia."



The AAEH is the leading independent body championing the prevention and end of homelessness in Australia. Prior to his appointment, David Pearson was a Board Director of the AAEH and led the design, implementation and development of the Adelaide Zero Project.

“I’m excited to be taking on this new role at AAEH to respond to one of the most pressing social issues in Australia right now. People sleeping on the streets in our community is not normal, we shouldn't accept it and I’m delighted to be taking on this role in helping to support the growing movement committed to changing this,” Mr Pearson said.

Dr Anna Foley, Co-Convenor of the Myer Innovation Fellowship Committee, said: "the program enables Fellows to throw their heart and mind into a project with the potential to be game changing”.

“Homelessness is an ongoing, deeply rooted issue in our community and the risks of COVID-19 have amplified the need for Australians to take action and work together to end rough sleeping,” Committee Co-Convenor of the Myer Innovation Fellowship Committee, Anna Spraggett, said.

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About the Alliance to End Homelessness

The Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH) is an independent champion for preventing and ending homelessness in Australia. AAEH supports Australian communities to individually and collectively end homelessness. Specifically, we work with local communities at all levels to ensure everyone has access to safe and sustainable housing services and that any incidents of homelessness that do occur are rare, brief and non-recurring.

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