

ENDING HOMELESSNESS – Australian Alliance to End Homelessness Agenda

The scale of homelessness in Australia is both preventable and solvable. Homelessness is a systemic problem involving numerous sectors, institutions and agencies and requires joined up policies and better integrated systems. *The growing scholarly and practitioner movement towards systems integration thus refers to strategies and frameworks to improve collaboration and coordination between people, organizations and sectors that touch upon homelessness, including some that may not conceive of themselves as directly related to the issue.* (Nichols and Doberstein, 2016) **It is our belief that we could end homelessness in Australia by building a system whereby any individuals, women and children, and families who experience homelessness for any reason it should be rare brief and non-reoccurring.**

1. Homelessness – early intervention

Prevention of homelessness is key; however this is done nationally through addressing poverty, unemployment and housing systems.

Early intervention is addressed by promoting a more integrated system response. Through improved federal and state policy and programs and by implementing local systems that are informed by up-to-date data

- 1.1 Working with communities to gather and use data for planning and collaborative investment across human services, health and housing to access and sustain tenancies for those who require ongoing support.
- 1.2 Promote a coordinated entry system in local communities to enable access appropriate affordable and safe housing with the right mix of services onsite, through mobile outreach and mainstream services.
- 1.3 Ensure joined up systems with access to housing with women and children experiencing domestic violence, people experiencing mental illness, disability and addictions, chronic illness, post release prisons and correctional centers.
- 1.4 Rapid re-housing and Housing First need to become ‘business as usual’ responses to ensure the experience of homelessness is rare, brief and non-recurring.

<p>2. National rough sleeper housing and support project Advance to Zero campaign is a national action of communities working to end homelessness, starting by ending rough sleeping in 3 years in every community who participates</p>	<p>2.1 Engage, work with and train local communities to know by name who is homeless in their communities. 2.2 Work with communities to produce quality data to track progress in housing people. 2.3 Line Up supply of housing and match to services. 2.5 Move people in and support them to stay housed. 2.6 Ensure homelessness is rare, brief and non-reoccurring experience for individuals and families.</p>
<p>3. Housing supply Support and participate in campaigns to increase the supply of affordable housing across Australia in the public, community and private sectors</p>	<p>3.1 Everybody’s Home Campaign and Make Renting Fair Campaigns.</p>
<p>4. Permanent supportive housing (for those who will require this to end their homelessness) Promote and share practice to create on scale permanent supportive housing that will connect up housing, health and community services for those who need it. Note that only 7% of all people experiencing homelessness in Australia are rough sleepers. The supply of PSH would require no more than 7000 additional units (and matched support)</p>	<p>4.1 Community of Practice for Common Ground permanent supportive housing (High density and on-site support service). 4.2 Promote models of outreach/mobile support to units, houses, in the community (scatter-site PSH). 4.3 Existing crisis accommodation services with access to some permanent housing can train up workers to visit homes and provide support.</p>
<p>5. Essential links between health and housing Promote policy development in Healthcare for investment to</p>	<p>5.1 Integration of healthcare through creating connections that demonstrate improved outcomes for people and economic benefit to the community.</p>

<p>overcome health inequality and address the high rates of morbidity amongst rough sleeping population and poor health outcomes for women, children and families</p>	<p>5.2 Annual National RoundTable to bring together learnings and benefits from street healthcare outreach and integration of healthcare with housing.</p>
<p>6. Partner to achieve the vision for ending homelessness in Australia</p>	<p>6.1 Local leaders and communities articulate the message that homelessness needs to be ended not endlessly serviced. 6.2 Governments – Federal, State, Local – key to national and state strategy as well as ‘turning off the taps’ of other systems that cost shift to homelessness services and solutions. 6.3 Corporates – core skills of corporates can be utilized to assist (eg. Builders; accountants; law). 6.4 Philanthropic – investing in evidence based models that end people’s experience of homelessness. 6.5 Citizens – befriending and social inclusion. 6.6 International leaders – global support for Australian action (IGH). 6.7 Academics and Researchers – increase the evidence base and keep sector informed of new findings and improved approaches. 6.8 Business Council Australia</p>

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