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SACOSS Disability & Essential Services Conference 2018

From the [SACOSS Website](#)

This conference will be held 14th May 2018 and addresses the fact “that everyone has a right to affordable and equitable access to essential services such as energy, water, telecommunications and transport. With over four million people in Australia with some form of disability, essential service businesses can ensure that people living with a disability are well considered. In this context, it is vital to deliver best practice, affordability, consumer protection, and effective regulation to enable access, participation and choice in the energy, water, telecommunication and transport sectors.”

This Conference is one in a series of SACOSS Vulnerability and Affordability Conferences for the essential services sectors and SACOSS are aiming “to bring together businesses, government, community sector workers including disability advocates, service providers and consumers living with a disability (including families and carers) in the energy, water, telecommunications and transport space. Delegates will share and hear about the needs and experiences of those living with a disability and explore how essential service businesses can address disadvantage for those in vulnerable situations.” Click [here](#) to book.

Tenancy Information for non-English speakers

From the [sa.gov.au website](#)

Navigating South Australia’s competitive private rental market is challenging enough without a language barrier. People from non-English speaking backgrounds find it even harder to obtain private rentals due to a lack of information provided in their own language.

Did you know you can access tenancy information in several different languages? [Click here](#) to have a look.

SACOSS Election Report Card

From the [SACOSS E-newsletter](#)

SACOSS has published an election report card on page 6 of *The Advertiser* 14th March, ahead of this Saturday’s state election. The purpose of the report card was not to support or even compare parties, but to seek and report on the parties’ responses to 33 SACOSS policies across seven areas.

The report card is the culmination of SACOSS advocacy in the lead up to the election and in a time of political cynicism, SACOSS were delighted that all parties demonstrated in one way or another, they have taken the time to listen to the concerns of the non-government health and community services sector.

You can read more on the report card in the latest edition of the [SACOSS Newsletter](#). You can also go to the [SACOSS website](#) to see the [full election report card](#) including the responses from the parties to each of the policy proposals.

Everybody’s Home – Housing Solutions for All Australians

From www.everybodyshome.com.au

Everyone needs a place to call home.

Somewhere they can feel safe, where they can build a life, a place where they can make memories. But right now, not everyone has this. Which is why the new campaign, **Everybody’s Home**, has a plan to fix the broken housing system, and make sure it works for everyone.

Because a house is so much more than an economic asset.... it’s a home.

Join us to support this campaign [here!](#)



Census reveals a rise in the rate of homelessness in Australia

[Media release from Australian Bureau of Statistics Website](#)

The rate of homelessness in Australia has increased 4.6% over the last five years, according to new data from the 2016 Census of Population and Housing. The latest estimates reveal more than 116,000 people were experiencing homelessness in Australia on Census night, representing 50 homeless persons for every 10,000 people.

Dr Paul Jelfs, General Manager of Population and Social Statistics, said while there was an overall increase in the estimate of homelessness in Australia, this number is made up of various distinct groups and each tells a different story. “On Census night, 8,200 people were estimated to be ‘sleeping rough’ in improvised dwellings, tents or sleeping out – an increase from 3.2 persons per 10,000 people in 2011 to 3.5 persons per 10,000 people in 2016.”

Younger and older Australians have also emerged as groups experiencing increasing homelessness in Australia. “One quarter of all people experiencing homelessness in 2016 was aged between 20 and 30 years,” Dr Jelfs said. People aged between 65 and 74 years experiencing homelessness increased to 27 persons per 10,000 people, up from 25 persons per 10,000 people in 2011. Recent migrants (those who arrived within the five years prior to the 2016 Census) accounted for 15 per cent of the homeless estimate. Almost three quarters of this group were living in ‘severely’ crowded dwellings and the majority came from countries in South-East Asia, North-East Asia and Southern and Central Asia, including India, China and Afghanistan. The overall number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people experiencing homelessness in 2016 was 23,437. More than two out of three were living in ‘severely’ crowded dwellings, with just less than 10 per cent ‘sleeping rough’.

Further 2016 Census homelessness data can be found on the [ABS website](#).

Upcoming AHURI Conferences

From the [AHURI website](#)

Ready for Growth: Affordable Housing Supply Solutions (29 May 2018, Canberra)

This national one-day conference will be underpinned by the findings from the AHURI Inquiry into increasing affordable housing supply which has examined how governments at all levels have sought to increase affordable housing supply. The conference will explore a range of successful state government affordable housing strategies; what community housing providers can do to build their capacity and their housing portfolios and the importance of collaboration and integration between community housing providers and government as well as the private sector. Read more [here](#)

National Homelessness Conference (6-7 August 2018, Melbourne)

AHURI, in partnership with Homelessness Australia will convene this conference as part of Homelessness Week 2018. It has been four years since the last National Homelessness Conference, and with the imminent release of 2016 Census data on homelessness and the development of a new National Housing and Homelessness Agreement, it is an appropriate time to revive this critical national event. The Conference will bring together policy makers and practitioners from across Australia to learn, engage and network together. We are delighted to invite you to join us at this major national event and be part of the conversation aimed at ending homelessness in Australia. Read more [here](#)

CHCSA Calendar of Events

Wednesday 21 st March 2018	CoP – Compliance & Systems BST
Thursday 22 nd March 2018	CHCSA Board of Management Meeting
Tuesday 27 th March 2018	SDA Market Insights Seminar
Tuesday 10 th April 2018	SDA Gets Serious: The Forum
Thursday 5 th April 2018	Mental Health Professional Development workshop
Thursday 5 th April 2018	CoP – Tenancy Management
Friday 6 th April 2018	CHP Forum
Wednesday 11 th April	Central Forum

CHCSA Recommended Links

[Consumer and Business Services \(CBS\)](#)

[South Australian Civil and Administrative Tribunal \(SACAT\)](#)

[Tenants Information & Advisory Service \(TIAS\)](#)

[Community Centres SA](#)

[Mediation SA](#)

[Legislation](#)

[ATO Benchmark Market Rent Rates](#)

[STARService](#)

[Volunteering SA&NT](#)

[Renewal SA](#)

[Data SA](#)

[People & Places](#) (Housing SA newsletter)

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The CHCSA welcomes & encourages member contributions to this fortnightly publication at the discretion of management.

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