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Meeting with the Hon Michelle Lensink

Minister for Human Services

The Chair of the CHCSA Board of Management, Geoff Barber and the Deputy Chair, Matthew Woodward along with the Executive Officer, Carmel Rosier recently met with the Hon Michelle Lensink, the Minister for Human Services.

We took the time on behalf of the sector to congratulate the Minister on her appointment and recognised all of the great work she had done in opposition to stay connected with the community housing sector.

We also congratulated the Minister on the 100 day initiative to establish the parameters for a new housing authority amalgamating the functions of Housing SA and Renewal SA.

We understand that significant work has been done to progress the amalgamation of Housing SA and Renewal SA. It is great to see how quickly the Minister is progressing the work committed to in the lead-up to the election.

We very much look forward to working with Minister Lensink to implement the housing reform agenda in South Australia.

How to go about a non-profit merger

Short article from the [ProBono Australia website](#)

In this article, “Diana Ferner and Malcolm Garrow share some of the questions and steps Social Ventures Australia (SVA) worked through in supporting a recent large-scale merger in the disability sector.”

“With the NDIS creating both a challenge and opportunity to do more for people with disability, disability services providers are increasingly exploring merging.” “This article provides a how-to guide and lessons learned for not-for-profit organisations seeking to explore whether a merger is right for them and if so, how to go about such an arrangement”.

Access the original, full article [here](#), as published on the SVA Quarterly.

Housing Hub – a new way to advertise disability accommodation

Notes from Vince Patton of the [Summer Foundation](#)

The Housing Hub is bringing the concept of a mainstream housing search to disability accommodation. Just like realestate.com, it shifts power into the hands of providers and consumers.

People with disability will be able to see and search through a range of housing options, including group homes, new build SDA and community housing. For those who now have NDIS plans, it might mean thinking about living independently for the first time.

Through The Housing Hub, providers will be able to engage with a range of potential tenants that were not easily reached before, including tenants from interstate as The Housing Hub goes live across Australia. Advertising on The Housing Hub not only reaches additional tenants, it also gives visibility in new markets.

To advertise your properties on The Housing Hub, email today: enquiries@thehousinghub.org.au

The Housing Hub in South Australia

With the rollout of the NDIS, the SA Government is stepping out of accommodation placement services for people with disability. To help the transition, DHS is sponsoring listings on The Housing Hub for all South Australian disability housing providers.

This means that advertising vacancies on The Housing Hub for SDA group homes, new build SDA, community housing and other housing opportunities for people with disability will be FREE until the end of 2018.

Training sessions will be held shortly to help you learn how to use The Housing Hub and get the most out of your property listings. Look out for a session in your area soon, or contact The Housing Hub for further details:

enquiries@thehousinghub.org.au

www.thehousinghub.org.au

An Update on the NDIS in South Australia

From the [NDIS Website](#)

“There is an update for people who receive services from the SA Government and are yet to transition to the NDIS. While State Government clients will have their access to the NDIS confirmed by 30 June 2018, the transition will take longer than originally scheduled and will now be completed by December 2018.”

[Click here](#) to read more about the NDIS and what this means for South Australia.

The NDIA's National Call Centre opening hours are now 8am-8pm Monday to Friday. For more information or to find out other ways to get in touch, visit their [website](#).

Reforms to Human Services Inquiry Report

From the Australian Government Productivity Commission [website](#)

The Australian Government Productivity Commission has announced the release of a Human Services inquiry: [Introducing Competition and Informed User Choice into Human Services](#).

This [final report](#) “sets out the Productivity Commission’s recommendations on reform options that would improve the effectiveness of human services and help ensure all Australians can access timely, affordable and high quality services”. The chapter of particular interest to our sector is the chapter on [Social Housing](#).

Some key points of the Social Housing chapter include:

- Australia’s social housing system is broken.
- More than 400 000 households are eligible for, but cannot access, social housing.
- Current approaches to managing social housing provide people with little choice over where they live.
- Some parts of Australia have become particularly expensive to live in, which affects all people on low incomes, not just those eligible for social housing.
- The role of tenancy support services should not be overlooked.
- Australia’s social housing system needs to be reset. Changes are needed to: deliver financial support that empowers tenants to have more choice over where they live; improve government stewardship; create an even and contestable playing field for those managing social housing; and provide portable tenancy support across social and private housing for people who require additional support to access and maintain a tenancy.

ISG Audit Report

From the Ombudsman SA’s [website](#)

Area of interest: State Government Agencies Implementation of Information Sharing Guidelines for Promoting Safety & Wellbeing - [Click here](#) to access the ISG Audit Report and read how well SAPOL has done (see pages 217-219).

Job Vacancies

As advertised on the [CHCSA Job Board](#)

Westside Housing Association is currently advertising for:

- Housing Services Manager

Accessible Housing is currently advertising for:

- Tenancy Officer

For information on how to obtain a job and person specification for these positions, or to apply, please visit the job advertisement on the [CHCSA Job Board](#).

CHCSA Calendar of Events

| | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Friday 1 st June | CHP Forum |
| Wednesday 13 th June | Central Forum |
| Friday 15 th June | CHIA National Housing Plan |
| Tuesday 19 th June | Mental Health Professional Development |
| Wednesday 20 th June | NRSCH Compliance Workshop (co-ops) |
| Tuesday 26 th June | NDIS Local Area Coordinator Workshop |
| Thursday 28 th June | CHCSA Board of Management |
| Tuesday 3 rd July | Sector Disability Community Housing Working Party |

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 and Places \(Housing SA newsletter\)](#)
- [NDIS \(NDIS in SA\)](#)

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

Please forward contributions to

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