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## Affordable housing shortfall leaves 1.3m households in need and rising

*As published on The Conversation website on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2017*

A new report by the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) reveals, for the first time, the extent of housing need in Australia. An estimated 1.3 million households are in a state of housing need, whether unable to access market housing or in a position of rental stress. The figure is predicted to rise to 1.7 million by 2025.

### What does this mean for households in need?

Housing need is defined as: "...the aggregate of households unable to access market-provided housing or requiring some form of housing assistance in the private rental market to avoid a position of rental stress."

This includes potential households that are unable to form because their income is too low to afford to rent in the private rental market. These households would traditionally rely on public housing and community housing to meet their needs. However, more and more are being forced into the private rental market, paying housing costs they are unable to afford without making significant sacrifices.

To read the full article click [here](#)

To read the AHURI report click [here](#)

## NHC 2017 program released

*As published on the National Housing Conference website*

The National Housing Conference 2017 program is designed to be broad in scope and supports Australia's contemporary 'full spectrum' housing policy debate.

With more than 1000 delegates and 150 speakers participating in 35 sessions over three days, NHC Sydney is set to be the most significant conference in many years.

To read the full program click [here](#) To register click [here](#)

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## New energy discount offer for low income South Australian households

***As published in a Media Release from the Hon Zoe Bettison MP on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2017***

More than 180,000 low-income South Australian households will get the opportunity to sign up for a new energy discount offer aimed at significantly reducing the cost of electricity compared to the standing contract price.

The State Government will invite energy retailers to submit expressions of interest to become preferred suppliers to low income households that currently receive energy concessions.

A retailer, or panel of retailers, will be chosen through an open and competitive process. In exchange, the retailers will be asked to offer additional benefits for eligible customers including better prices, bill-smoothing and/or flexible payment options.

As part of the tender process, retailers will be asked to demonstrate how they will assist concession holders to make the transition to the new offer.

Key groups that are likely to benefit include public and community housing tenants, older South Australians and people with a disability or medical conditions that reduce their ability to earn income. Concession holders will have the option of remaining on their existing plans if they choose. To read the full article click [here](#)

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## 2017 Social Investment Grants Program

### **Building resilience and capability for people experiencing homelessness or domestic and family violence**

Applications for Community Sector Banking’s 2017 Social Investment Grants Program are now open and already receiving considerable interest! The theme for this year is *Building resilience and capability in people experiencing homelessness or domestic and family violence*.

\$200,000 spread across two categories will be available. Not-for-profit organisations whose mission is to address homelessness or domestic and family violence are encouraged to apply. Applications will close at 5pm AEST on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017. For more information view the grant information pack by clicking [here](#)

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## Have you checked your endorsement and tax status?

***As published on the ATO website***

When was the last time you reviewed your income tax status? Not-for-profit (NFP) organisations should review their income tax status on a regular basis. The ATO’s online resources will help you conduct a review of your organisation.

**Reviewing your DGR endorsement** – it is recommended that NFPs with deductible gift recipient (DGR) status review their organisation to make sure it’s still operating for the purposes for which it was granted.

To read the full article click [here](#)

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## Easier to navigate: completing the 2017 AIS

*As published on the ACNC website*

Thousands of Australian charities are now able to begin their latest round of reporting, with the recent launch of the 2017 Annual Information Statement. Completing your 2017 Annual Information Statement also means the most up-to-date information about your charity appears on the ACNC Charity Register.

There are major changes to the support materials available to help charities complete their 2017 Annual Information Statement. The Guide has been re-designed for ease of navigation, and the depth of information has been increased. For more information on the guide click [here](#)

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## Housing ‘crisis’ looms for older Australians retiring with mortgages

*As published on the ABC website*

It’s well known young people are struggling to buy their first home, but experts are warning of a “significant crisis” facing older Australians already in the market. The pressures of carrying mortgages into retirement as well as finding suitable housing are leading to increased financial strain and even homelessness, according to the Council on the Ageing.

COTA describes older Australians as the “forgotten faces” of the housing debate and is hosting a summit in Canberra alongside industry experts and policymakers to find a way to address the issue. More people are entering retirement with a mortgage, and rates of home ownership amongst retirees is starting to decline.

The summit will consider six key issues that could hurt older Australians in the next two decades, including:

- Rising rental prices and a hostile private rental property market;
- Scarcity in social and community housing;
- Increasing number of older Australians retiring with a mortgage;
- Rental housing not fit for or secure enough to meet the physical needs of older people; and
- Inadequate supply of suitable housing for older people to downsize

To read the full article click [here](#)

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## Research Report: Finding a suitable home for older people at risk of homelessness in South Australia

*As published on the CHCSA website*

This research report conducted by Jeff Fielder, Housing for the Aged Action Group and Dr Debbie Faulkner, Centre for Housing, Urban and Regional Planning (CHURP), University of Adelaide, seeks to determine the prevalence of an emerging trend of homelessness for older people in SA, gain an understanding of the current housing options available and how older people can get the help they need to find a home that fulfils their needs in retirement.

This report builds upon, and adds to, the work undertaken by Shelter SA (2016) to provide a snapshot of the current circumstances of low income older people in SA at risk of homelessness. To read the full report click [here](#)

## CHCSA Calendar of Events

**Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

**Community Housing Providers Forum**

(Housing Associations & Companies)

**Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

**Central Forum**

(Tier 3 Housing Co-operatives)

**Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

**Manage Conflict through Negotiation Workshop**

(Housing Associations & Companies)

**Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

**C.U.B.E Workshop**

**(Cultural Understanding, Better Engagement)**

(Housing Associations & Companies)

## CHCSA Recommended Links

[Consumer & Business Services](#)

[South Australian Civil and Administrative  
Tribunal](#)

[Tenants Information and Advisory Service](#)

[Community Centres SA](#)

[SA Legislation](#)

[ATO Benchmark Market Rent Rates](#)

[STARservice](#)

[Volunteering SA](#)

[Renewal SA](#)

[Data SA](#)

[Co-operative Resources Guide](#)

[Australasian Housing Institute](#)

## CHCSA Information

ABN 38 885 520 654

**283-285 Payneham Road  
ROYSTON PARK SA 5070**

**Phone: 08 8362 1022**

[www.chcsa.org.au](http://www.chcsa.org.au)  
[info@chcsa.org.au](mailto:info@chcsa.org.au)

**CHCSA Staff:**

**Carmel Rosier**  
Executive Officer

**Tania Driver**  
Administration Assistant

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

Please forward contributions to

[info@chcsa.org.au](mailto:info@chcsa.org.au)