

# Ending Homelessness in Western Australia



**Across our State, there are at least 9,000 people homeless at any time.**

They are staying in various short term and temporary accommodation, sleeping in their cars, couch surfing or trying to survive on the streets. And the numbers are increasing.

Every night in the Perth alone, there are at least 500 people sleeping rough on our streets.

For rough sleepers, the personal cost is devastating:

- Life expectancy is just 45 years\*
- 47% experience mental health issues\*\*

It is conservatively estimated that the cost to government of rough sleepers accessing health services is \$13,500 per person per year. At the same time, we know that providing housing for rough sleepers immediately reduces hospital visits.\*\*\*

We need to ensure people experiencing homelessness find a home.

## A Proven Approach

Around the world, such as in Calgary (Canada) and Dublin (Ireland), zero homelessness is being achieved.

By adopting a “Housing First” approach – i.e. housing with comprehensive support - a proven solution has emerged.

We know that no single organisation can end homelessness alone. An “all-in” approach is needed.

The WA Alliance to End Homelessness galvanises a broad effort from not-for-profit organisations, government, business, private sector philanthropy and the wider community in a shared goal that by 2028, no one spends more than five consecutive nights sleeping on our streets.

The landmark “WA Strategy to End Homelessness”, launched in early 2018, provides a plan to end homelessness by focusing on: Housing, Prevention, Coordinated Services, Data and Research, and Community Capacity.

**It is now WA’s time to join world leaders and move from managing homelessness to ending homelessness.**

\*Perth Registry Week 2016, \*\*Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, \*\*\*50 Lives 50 Homes Second Evaluation Report

Together we can end homelessness. Find out how you can contribute by contacting [hello@endhomelessnesswa.com](mailto:hello@endhomelessnesswa.com)

**#EndHomelessnessWA**

# More Houses + Coordinated Support



The solution to end homelessness in WA is two-pronged. We urgently need:



**More suitable housing options.** This is the number one priority in the effort to end homelessness in WA. Homelessness cannot be fixed without more homes.



**Coordinated support services** with organisations and agencies working seamlessly together to enable a more efficient and effective response.

## Priority Projects

Between now and 2021, our primary focus is to reduce the number of rough sleepers in the Perth metro area and increase housing stock. The following three priority projects deliver significant impact.

### **MY HOME** - immediate increase in housing stock

- Public Private Partnership (PPP) with State government providing land for 150+ permanent small homes; peppercorn land leases have been confirmed by the State government
- Each house will cost \$80,000 for a total spend of \$12M
- The first site in Fremantle is for 18 houses and is now being developed

### **COMMON GROUND** - housing chronic rough sleepers with a reliance on support services, and increasing low-income affordable housing stock

- 100 dwelling mixed housing facility in the Perth CBD
- \$30M build plus \$2M per year in effective service delivery, for a total of \$40M over 5 years
- Reduce rough sleeping in Perth by 10% (60 places) and offers 40 low-income affordable living dwellings

### **PERTH ZERO PROJECT** - housing and support for rough sleepers (previously 50 Lives 50 Homes)

- Expansion of highly successful Housing First approach with collaborative services and after-hours support
- \$30M over 4 years
- Provides the coordinated service support to end rough sleeping in Perth by 2024