

Community Housing Council of SA Inc. (CHCSA)

"The Peak Body for Community Housing Organisations in South Australia"

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Weekly E-Bulletin 43/05 - Friday 2nd December 2005

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Notice to Members - CHCSA Board 2005/06

The CHCSA wish to advise Members that at its first Management Committee meeting following our AGM held on the 25th November 2005, the following representatives were welcomed and elected into Office Bearer positions.

- **Evette Johnson** (Copper Triangle Housing Co-operative) elected as Chairperson
- **Kerry Gray** (Red Shield Housing Association) elected as Deputy Chair
- **Gemma Folli** (North East Housing Co-operative) elected as Treasurer
- **Kasey Groothedde** (Paris Flat Housing Co-operative) - Co-op. Rep.
- **Heather Hockey** (Mid-Murray Homes Housing Association) - Assoc. Rep.
- **Noel Hocking** (Frederic Ozanam Housing Association) - Assoc. Rep.
- **Lee Martin** - Co-opted Member
- **Ciarán Synnott** - CHCSA Executive Officer and Secretary to Management Committee

The CHCSA Management Committee meets bi-monthly with the next meeting due to be held in February 2006.

Advance Notice - "CHO Software Expo" ~ February 2006

The CHCSA is pleased to advise that it will be holding an **"Accounting, Property and Tenancy Management Software for Community Housing Organisations in South Australia" Expo in February 2006.**

Following the release of our **Information Booklet "Accounting, Property and Tenancy Management Software for Community Housing Organisations in South Australia"**, the CHCSA has scheduled a **Software Expo.**

All the providers of the Software as listed in the **Information Booklet** will be invited to attend and give a full demonstration of the Software. They will be able to answer your questions in relation to the Software and requirements specific to your needs.

The planned date of the Expo is **Friday 24th February 2006** from **1.30pm to 5pm**. The Expo will be held at the **Payneham Public Library Complex, O.G. Rd, Felixstow SA.**

All CHOs and interested people are invited to attend the Expo, which will be useful for those wishing to explore the availability and adaptability of Software in the market.

More information will follow on this as the Expo progresses.

Congratulations and Happy Birthday

The CHCSA wishes to extend its congratulations to **The Women's Housing Association** (TWHA) who celebrates its 25th Birthday this week (1st December).

The Women's Housing Association is one of the largest housing associations in South Australia managing over 300 properties. It houses women and children survivors of domestic violence, and low-income women and children in housing need.

They will be celebrating their birthday this evening with a dinner party and the **Governor of South Australia, Her Excellency Marjorie Jackson-Nelson AC CVO MBE** will be their Special Guest.

Congratulations to The Women's Housing Association's dedicated Staff and Board, may you continue to grow and receive the support and recognition you so richly deserve.

Community Housing Application System (CHAS) - "Your Opportunity to comment on System Features" ~ SACHA

After many developmental months the **Community Housing Application System** [or **CHAS** as it is affectionately termed] has taken its first steps!

System features and "must haves" are now well advanced with standard Application Forms for both Associations and Co-operatives drafted in consultation with each Reference Group. An invitation will be extended to all CHOs in the new year to provide formal feedback on these documents at a "**conversation forum**" to be scheduled in mid February [the December/January period is traditionally hectic with Xmas functions & festivities not to mention the implementation of the new Funding Agreement!]. System development will commence shortly after.

If you would like to take a "**sneak peak**" at the **CHAS**, please go to the SACHA Website and follow the links, there you will find a simple explanation document of the proposed system, as well as a copy of both draft application forms. Your comments and feedback are welcomed by clicking on the "**provide feedback**" link online. Please click here <http://www.sacha.sa.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=400>.

If you do not have access to the web site and would like a copy of the documents mentioned, please contact Lynley Street at SACHA via phone (08) 8207 0131 or via e-mail to <mailto:lynley.street@dfc.sa.gov.au>.

The CHAS "Growth Chart"

Stage	Activities	Tasks	Target
Crawling (The 3 L's)	Learning, Listening & Lots of thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Research• Consultation• Issue Exploration	Jan 05-July 05
First Steps The 4 D's) WE ARE AT THIS STAGE CURRENTLY	Defining, Documenting, Design & Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalising Features• Documenting• Sector Endorsement• System Design & Development	July-Oct 05 Nov 05-Jan 06 Feb 06 March-May 06
Up & Walking (The 3 T's)	Training, Testing & Tweaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training• System Testing• Refinement	June 06
Running	Fully Operational & Integrated System	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Implementation	06/07 Financial Year

Minister for Housing State Awards for Excellence in Social Housing

Community Housing Organisations (CHOs) would have received a package from SACHA with regards to the Minister for Housing State Awards for Excellence in Social Housing. The package includes a detailed letter with nomination forms and a self-addressed envelope.

There are seven categories for the Awards, which are as follows:

1. Community involvement
2. Volunteer

3. Good Neighbour
4. Excellence in Tenancy
5. Young Achievement
6. Home Ownership
7. Community Enabler

This is a short time frame hence the **Nomination Forms** need to be returned no later than **Friday 16 December 2005**. Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact **Gemima Fusco** at SACHA on (08) **8207 0121** or via e-mail to <mailto:gemima.fusco@dfc.sa.gov.au>.

Reminder to Members ~ Applications for the Swinburne University Scholarships fall due 9th December 2005 ~ from SACHA

Each year the **South Australian Community Housing Authority (SACHA)** makes available a number of Scholarships for the post graduate courses in **Housing Management & Policy** run by the **Swinburne University of Technology** (Melbourne).

These Scholarships are open to anyone who is a member/tenant, volunteer or staff of a registered Community Housing Organisation. Applicants need a minimum of **five years** work experience in housing management and administration or in a related area such as the community sector. Alternatively, a degree in Humanities, Social Science, Business, Architecture or Planning.

The Certificate comprises of 4 subjects:

- Housing Practice
- Australasian Housing Systems
- Housing Organisation and Management **or**
- Transforming Leadership in Housing Enterprise

* *Plus one elective subject,*

- Managing Diversity
- Asset Management

For more detailed information regarding the application process or if you have any questions, please contact **Frances Richards**, Education and Training Co-ordinator at SACHA on (08) 8207 0151.

CHCSA Offices Christmas/New Year Closure

The CHCSA wish to advise Members that it will be closing for the Christmas/New Year period at 1pm on Friday 16th December 2005 and will re-open at 10am on Monday 9th January 2006.

No CHCSA Forums, Meetings, Education and Training Courses will be held in January 2006. Calendars and Timetables for 2006 will be available on the CHCSA Website for information before the Office Christmas closure this year.

<p>STAFF Executive Officer - Ciarán Synnott Manager, Admin/Finance/Communications - Maria Demasi Administration Officer - Ante Gajic Senior Policy Officers - Matt Fisher & David Kilner Spanish Speaking Worker - Domingo Garcia</p>	<p>CASUAL TRAINERS AND VOLUNTEERS Casual Trainers – Liz McCarthy, and Graeme Gow Volunteers – Renfrey Ansell and Evette Johnson</p>
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DIARY DATES

Wednesday 7th December	CHCSA Disability Focus Group
Saturday 10th December	CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum
Monday 12th December	CHCSA Hills & Southern Forum
Tuesday 13th December	CHCSA Northern Forum
Wednesday 14th December	CHCSA Central Forum
Friday 16th December	CHCSA Christmas Office Closure

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