



## **Community Housing Council of SA Inc. (CHCSA)**

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

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### **Weekly E-Bulletin 02/06 - Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February 2006**

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### **South Australian State Election - 18<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

As the peak body for CHOs in South Australia, **the Community Housing Council of South Australia (CHCSA)** is advocating on their behalf during the campaign for the **State Election on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2006**.

The CHCSA has prepared a small brochure arguing for continued support for Community Housing in South Australia. This brochure will be circulated to all CHOs and is being sent to candidates for the main political parties. It will also be circulated to other interested people.

We are also sending a short questionnaire to the candidates asking for information about their knowledge of Community Housing and CHOs in their electorate. With the permission of the CHO, we will put interested candidates in touch with CHOs in their electorate. This is a good way of spreading knowledge of Community Housing in the community.

#### **The questionnaire also asks:**

- What do you think are the critical housing issues facing South Australians who cannot afford or who do not wish to become home owners? What are the solutions?
- What role do you see for Community Housing in providing solutions to the housing problems of South Australians?

We will summarise the responses to these questions and place them on our Website to assist people in determining the approach of different candidates to housing issues.

Our aim in this campaign is to improve knowledge of housing needs in South Australia among current and aspiring politicians and the role of CHOs in meeting housing needs.

**The CHCSA does not advocate support for any particular party – that is up to the individual voter to decide.**

As noted below in this bulletin, SHELTER SA is holding a public meeting, which will be addressed by representatives of the various parties. We encourage CHOs to attend this meeting.

### **Pre-Election HOUSING Forum - Shelter SA**

**Shelter SA** will host a pre-Election Housing Forum on **Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2006** at the Governor Hindmarsh Hotel, 59 Port Road from **1.00pm - 3.00pm** (please be prompt!).

The Program will feature **five (5)** politicians putting forth their parties' housing platforms, and answering questions from the audience.

**Speakers include:**

- [Minister Jay Weatherill](#) who will represent Labor,
- [Ms Isobel Redmond](#) for the Liberals,
- [Ms Kate Reynolds](#) for the Democrats,
- [Mark Parnell](#) for the Greens, and,
- [Nick Xenophon](#), independent MLC.

Gary Wilson, Executive Director of Shelter SA, will chair the forum. Each party's presentation will be strictly limited to 10 minutes.

The forum is structured so that **one-hour is devoted to the panel answering *biting* questions from the audience.**

**RSVP's are ESSENTIAL. Please contact Shelter SA on (08) 8221 6488.**

***Which party do you want to shape the future of housing in SA?***

## **Community Housing in the News!**

Many members in the Sector would be aware that **Community Housing** has been in the news this week in South Australia following a Media Release from the Opposition Leader Mr Rob Kerin on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2006 entitled "*Liberals Plan Shake-up for SA Mental Health Care*".

Following requests from our Members, the CHCSA will make the following links available to you via this E-Bulletin.

**Link to Mr Rob Kerin's (Opposition Leader) Media release 13/02/06 is**

[http://www.saliberals.org.au/news/news\\_item.asp?NewsID=4600](http://www.saliberals.org.au/news/news_item.asp?NewsID=4600).

**Link to Minister Weatherill's (Minister for Housing) Media Release 14/02/06 is**

<http://www.premier.sa.gov.au/minister.asp?mId=15&pId=6&iHealth=0&sId=6176>.

**Link to the Community Housing Council of SA's (Peak Body for Community Housing Organisations in South Australia) Media Release 14/02/06 is**<http://www.chcsa.org.au/>.

## **Community Housing Federation of Australia (CHFA) - Latest Research and Tax Rulings**

The **Community Housing Federation of Australia (CHFA)** is the **national peak organisation** representing the views of Community Housing providers in Australia.

Their purpose is to ensure Community Housing develops as a viable housing option providing quality housing services to tenants.

They do this through research, public policy development, and advocacy of housing issues to governments and other key stakeholders. Most importantly, CHFA maintains links with and between housing providers across Australia, providing a voice for their interests at the national level.

The CHFA Website contains some of the latest updates on [Housing Research](#) and some of the latest rulings from the [Australian Taxation Office](#) specific to [Charities](#) and the [Not-For-Profit Sector](#).

It certainly is a critical Community Housing reference point, which includes a *Member's Only* portal on the Website. Please take the time to tour their Website and Bookmark them in your favourites. Go to <http://www.chfa.com.au/index.asp>.

## **"CHO Software Expo" ~ Friday 24<sup>th</sup> 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 on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2006 from 1.30pm - 5pm at Payneham Library Complex, Cnr of Turner Street and O.G. Road, Felixstow

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 providers of software as listed in the Information Booklet have been invited to attend and give a demonstration of the software. They will be able to answer your questions and put on a display. To date 5 Providers (3 of which are Interstate) have confirmed their attendance

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.

Please RSVP your intention to attend by phoning the CHCSA on (08) 8362 1022 or via e-mail to <mailto:info@chcsa.org.au>. The flier can be download from <http://www.chcsa.org.au/>.

## **Important Note for your Diary**

The CHCSA wish to remind its Members that although a lot of Diaries do not have this change of Public Holiday marked, that in fact the Governor of South Australia did rubber stamp the change of date for the Adelaide Cup (traditionally held in May each year).

The **Adelaide Cup Carnival** will this year be celebrated co-jointly with **Volunteer's Day** on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2006**. This change of date will enable the event organisers and revellers to take full advantage of what seasonally should be wonderful weather.

For our **Hills and Southern Forum** 'revellers' this means that the March Forum will be held on **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2006**.

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

<b>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>	<b>Pre-Election Housing Forum</b>
<b>Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	<b>CHCSA Co-op Rep. Council</b>
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>CHCSA Management Committee Meeting</b>
<b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>CHCSA Community Housing Software Expo</b>
<b>Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	<b>CHCSA Disability Focus Group</b>
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March</b>	<b>CHCSA Associations' Forum</b>
<b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>CHCSA Hills and Southern Forum</b>
<b>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>CHCSA Central Forum</b>
<b>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>CHCSA Policy Committee Meeting</b>
<b>Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum</b>
<b>MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	<b>ADELAIDE CUP CARNIVAL AND VOLUNTEER'S DAY</b>
<b>Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>CHCSA Northern Forum</b>

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