



Community Housing Council of SA Inc. (CHCSA)

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

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Weekly E-Bulletin 32/06 - Friday 22nd September 2006

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"HandsonSA" ~ Supporting People Who Have a Disability

HandsonSA is a public not-for-profit company incorporated to provide supported employment opportunities for people who have a disability. They are independently certified against the Disability Service Standards of Australia, and provide quality training and support to all supported employees.

From 1st July 2006, the Australian Government has made some important changes to the Welfare system to assist people into paid work. These changes include encouraging and supporting people on Disability Support Pensions, who have an ability to work, to find a job.

In accordance with those changes **HandsonSA** is seeking to recruit additional Supported Employees to work at their Kent Town and Oakden facilities, and welcomes the opportunity to show potential applicants through the two facilities.

Applicants must be eligible for Centrelink approval (ie be able to demonstrate the need for supported employment and be prepared to work for a minimum of 8 hours per week.)

Other requirements include;

- Applicants must be able to get to their place of employment under their own transport arrangements.
- Applicants must be prepared to work on Fridays (as they currently have a business need for more people to be in attendance on Fridays).
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate behaviour and conduct which is manageable within **HandsonSA** resources.
- Applicants must be able to self-administer or have support from another service to manage their daily medication, toileting, eating and drinking requirements.
- Applicants must be ready and motivated to work.

Further information is available by contacting their Kent Town office by phone on (08) 8363 2633 or via enquiries@handsonsa.org.au To visit their Website, please click <http://www.handsonsa.org.au> .

"Live in Connection" - A Community Service Project of Workskil Incorporated

"Live in Connection" is a free community service offered by Workskil, a not-for-profit organisation.

"Live in Connection" identifies seniors who receive a pension and have mobility issues due to health or other reasons, and provides them with a computer, Internet connection and in-house training.

"Live in Connection" provides eligible seniors with;

- A free life long personal computer and associated equipment which will remain property of Workskil.
- Free Dial-up Internet Connection (Phone Line Rental and cost of call remain the responsibility of the User).
- Pre-loaded software allowing you to dial-up and browse the Internet and send e-mails.
- Initial, free basis computer training in your home, which may include; basic computer skills, Internet browsing and searching skills, sending and receiving e-mails.

Further information including applications are available by contacting "Live in Connection" at Workskil on (08) 8275 6100. Alternatively, the CHCSA has a limited number of applications, which can be sent out to interested members upon request.

Education and Training Opportunities for Community Housing Organisations ~ Office for Community Housing

The Office for Community Housing is pleased to advise the scheduling of a **new** workshop for CHOs entitled, **Meeting Facilitation.**

This workshop which aims to assist Office Bearers and Chairs covers the following:

- Meeting protocols
- Defining facilitators role & responsibilities
- Identify how to refocus difficult team members and ensure collaborative behaviour
- And much more!

This **centrally** run session will be held on **Monday 25th September 2006.**

The Office for Community Housing in conjunction with the Tenancies Branch is offering an information workshop on **Tenant Damage.**

This workshop will discuss:

- Definition of Tenant Damage
- What a tenancy inspection is
- What is considered Fair Wear & Tear
- Discover what costs are recoverable from a tenant & how to recover these costs
- Find out what applications can be made to the District Court

This **centrally** run session will be held on **Thursday 28th September 2006.**

Venues for both Workshops will be advised at time of booking. To book in, please contact Anna, Teena or Frances, the Education and Training Team at the Office for Community Housing on (08) 8207 0171 or you can book <http://communityhousing.sa.gov.au> .

South Australian Community Housing Awards 2006 ~ Office for Community Housing

The South Australian Community Housing Awards 2006 are presented by the Office for Community Housing. The Awards are designed to recognise the achievements of the community housing sector, and to encourage and promote excellence in managing a housing organisation.

Awards Kits were posted to every Association and Co-operative in South Australia in May, and nominations closed on 1st September.

Nominations have been received for the Awards, and prizes will be given at the **Awards Ceremony on 3rd November 2006**.

Keith Conlon will be the MC for the ceremony, with the Hon. Jay Weatherill the Minister for Housing attending as the guest speaker. Sponsors of the Awards will be making the presentations to the prize-winners.

Invitations have been sent to all Associations and Co-operatives, inviting two members per organisation to attend the ceremony, which will be held at the **Adelaide Pavilion, Veale Gardens, South Terrace from 11.30 til 2.30pm** with light refreshments served.

To RSVP please provide the names of the 2 people from your CHO attending to Jan Maskell at the Office for Community Housing on 8207 0233 no later than Friday 13th October 2006.

HomelessnessSA AGM and FREE Public Forum

HomelessnessSA cordially invites you to their **Annual General Meeting** to be held at the Pilgrim Centre, 14 Flinders Street, Adelaide and also the **FREE Public Forum**, titled "**Working Partnerships: The Benefits and Pitfalls**", to be held on the 29th September 2006 1pm-3pm, to be followed by coffee and networking.

Presentations include;

- Josh Symons (Partner at Minter Ellison) - Free Legal Clinic
- Bill Mallanack (Welfare Rights Centre)
- Mary McInnes and Sue Rothall (Whalers Housing Association) - Self Build Project
- Sally Langton (Housing Spectrum) - Avalon (Housing & Mental Health)

Gold coin donation gratefully received. Registration not required but please direct enquiries to Homelessness SA on (08) 8221 6788 or e-mail to <mailto:margo.johnson@sheltersa.asn.au>.

CHCSA 2006 Country & Remote CHO's Forum, AGM and Member's Celebration Dinner ~ repeated item

The CHCSA **2006 AGM** will be held on **Friday 27th October 2006 at the Adelaide Entertainment Centre**.

The day will start in the "Rubikon Room" with the **Country and Remote CHO's Forum** from 10am - 3.00pm (registrations from 9.30am). This will be followed by the AGM from 4.15pm - 5.30pm.

The day will conclude with our **Celebration Dinner** for Members and invited Guests from 6pm until late. This fun filled night will include a **3-course meal, refreshments, door prizes, give-aways, MC/DJ and Karaoke**. The **Hon Ian Hunter MLC (representing Minister Weatherill)** will be a Guest Speaker at the Dinner.

Next week, the AGM papers, which include proposed Constitutional changes, agendas etc., will be sent out to Members. **RSVP's** are due by COB **Friday 20th October 2006**. Attendance at the Member's Dinner is limited per CHO, so **please book early**.

It is important that Members note the following;

- Community Housing Organisations **MUST** be current financial members of the Community Housing Council of SA Inc (CHCSA) to be eligible to nominate and vote at the AGM and to attend the Member's Dinner
- Representative/s **MUST** attend the AGM in order to be eligible to attend the Member's Dinner
- Attendance at the Member's Dinner is limited per CHO that meet the above 2 points.

If you have any questions or would like to confirm the current financial status of your Organisation, please contact Maria at the CHCSA on (08) 8362 1022.

Community Housing Appeals Panel (CHAP) ~ Information Session for CHOs ~ repeated item

The CHCSA will be holding a Community Housing Appeals Panel Information Session for CHOs.

The Information Session will be held on **Friday 20th October 2006** at the **Adelaide Riviera Function Centre** (31-34 North Terrace, Adelaide). Registrations will be from 1.30pm with a **2.00pm** sharp start. The Session is expected to conclude at 4pm.

Attending the Information Session will be:

- Kath McEvoy, Chairperson of the Community Housing Appeal Panel
- Theresa Walker, Manager, Public & Community Housing Appeal Unit
- Sue Gosden, Hearings Administrator – Community Housing, Public & Community Housing Appeal Unit

The Panel have been invited to address CHOs on the following topics:

- The constitution of the Appeals Panel
- Scope of appeals especially in regard to tenancy issues
- What to expect when an appeal is lodged
- Representation before the Panel
- Effective record keeping by CHOs
- What happens after a hearing
- Other relevant matters.

The Information Session will also provide the Panel with the opportunity to meet CHOs and learn more about their work. The CHCSA will invite one experienced CHO to give a short address outlining a community housing perspective on external appeals.

There will be opportunities for questions and general discussion. Whether or not you have faced an appeal, it is **vital** that your CHO understands the external appeals process. To this end, the CHCSA encourages the attendance of at least 1 representative from each CHO.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL. Please contact Anthony at the CHCSA on (08) 8362 1022 or via <mailto:info@chcsa.org.au> to book your place. **The CHCSA does wish to stress that this Information Session is held for the benefit of Community Housing Organisations in South Australia, therefore attendance to this Session is limited to CHOs.**

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

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 27th September	CHCSA Co-op Rep. Forum
Monday 2nd October	PUBLIC HOLIDAY
Wednesday 4th October	CHCSA Disability Focus Group
Friday 6th October	CHCSA Associations' Forum
Monday 9th October	CHCSA Hills & Southern Forum
Tuesday 10th October	CHCSA Northern Forum

Wednesday 11th October	CHCSA Central Forum
Saturday 14th October	CHCSA Spanish Speaking Forum
Friday 20th October	CHAP Information Session for CHOs
FRIDAY 27TH OCTOBER	CHCSA COUNTRY FORUM, AGM AND MEMBER'S CELEBRATION DINNER

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