



2018-2019 Annual Report

NORTHERN TERRITORY SHELTER INCORPORATED



Yet despite the
**HIGHEST RATES
OF HOMELESSNESS**
in the country,



the **NT RECEIVES THE LEAST
AMOUNT OF FUNDING SUPPORT**
from the federal government for
Specialist Homelessness Services

NT SHELTER

PO BOX 1577 NIGHTCLIFF NT 0810

ABN 12591531723

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Board of Management and staff at NT Shelter acknowledge and pay our respects to Aboriginal traditional owners and custodians of the land across the Northern Territory, and to their Elders past, present and emerging.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

On behalf of your Board of Management, I am delighted to report that the 2018-19 year saw significant inroads made in putting housing and homelessness firmly on the agenda in the Northern Territory.



After a disappointingly bitter and drawn out row over responsibility for funding remote housing, we are pleased to finally see a much needed bipartisan approach to housing. We have further reason for optimism over Commonwealth and Territory collaboration with the signing of the Barkly Regional Deal and, more recently, a commitment to a \$10 million visitor facility in Darwin. In a jurisdiction that is financially constrained, we welcome the NT Government's social housing stimulus programs and new house builds.

However, we can't shy away from the fact that far more needs to be done. The release of the Northern Territory Government's Homelessness Strategy contained little in terms of funding for new initiatives. The sector faces further challenges in the form of the introduction of an efficiency dividend – a particularly disappointing situation given the high level of unmet Specialist Homelessness Service demand here in the Territory.

We are working with the Government to ensure that rough sleepers get a fair go and are not caught up in an increasingly ill-informed debate about anti-social behaviour.

It has been my pleasure this year to work with a talented and committed group of board members who generously give their time and expertise to oversee the organisation. Your board and staff are committed to working with you, our members, to end homelessness and ensure that everyone has access to a home.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

The 2018-19 year has been a challenging but rewarding one for us at NT Shelter. We are energized by the incredible people we have the privilege to meet and work with, and who face enormous challenges in helping those who don't have access to stable housing.



The importance of housing to living healthy and productive lives got a lot more real for us this year. We've worked with Menzies School of Health Research and other organisations to better understand the linkages between housing and health. In terms of education, we're better understanding how overcrowded, poor quality housing impacts early-school attendance. Our stakeholder engagement has also highlighted in stark terms the housing and homelessness challenges for young people leaving care, those in the justice system, people with a disability, and the links between mental health and housing.

One of many highlights throughout the year was the successful reestablishment of our presence in Central Australia and our increased capacity to support our stakeholders there. We continue to explore other models of collaboration for working with stakeholders in other regions such as East Arnhem.

I would like to recognise the great work that my team does in flying the flag for the sector. They've spoken at conferences, participated on stakeholder reference groups and gone the extra mile to build your peak body's profile and reputation in the community. We have been very active in the media and busy with work behind the scenes in meeting with representatives from various agencies and making representations on a wide range of housing related matters.

OUR BOARD OF MANAGEMENT



President
Jean Ah Chee



Vice President
John McBryde



Treasurer
Robert Cooper



Secretary
Joan Meredith



Board Member
Ashley Perez



Board Member
Michael Soler



Board Member
Janet Lash Wright



Board Member
Ray Wallis



Board Member
Merrilee Cox



Board Member
Lawson Broad



Board Member
Harley Dannatt

OUR STAFF



Executive Officer
Peter McMillan



Office Manager
Donna Feltus



**Regional Coordinator
(Southern Region)**
Hannah Purdy



**Regional Coordinator
(Northern Region)**
Michael Byrne

OUR MEMBERS

NT Shelter is proud to work with and represent a range of organisations and individuals who make a significant contribution each day to the lives of people for whom housing is unaffordable or inaccessible. We are grateful for the financial and in-kind support of our members throughout the 2018-19 financial year.

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Anglicare NT
Australian Red Cross
Catholic Care NT
Central Australian Affordable Housing Company
Council for Aboriginal Alcohol Program Services
Darwin Community Legal Service
Dawn House
Disability Advocacy Services
Enrich Living Services
Ironbark Aboriginal Corporation
Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation
Kalano Community Association
Katherine Women's Crisis Centre
Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation
Mental Health Association of Central Australia
Mission Australia
Somerville Community Services
St Vincent de Paul Society (NT)
Tangentyere Council
TeamHEALTH
Tennant Creek Womens' Refuge
The Salvation Army
Venture Housing Company Limited

Women's Safety Services of Central Australia
Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation
YMCA of the Northern Territory
YWCA of Darwin

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

City of Darwin
Peter McMillan

LIFE MEMBERS

Toni Vine-Bromley

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

Barbara Shaw
Carole Weston
Janet Lash Wright
Jean Ah Chee
Jillian Cable
Kylie Jericho
Natrisha Barnett
Ray Wallis



NT Shelter information stand for Anti-Poverty Week 2018

The Strategic framework for NT Shelter is based on action across four key areas:



**ACTION AREA 1:
RESEARCH AND
POLICY
DEVELOPMENT**

*THINK TANK,
RESPONSIVE,
INNOVATIVE*

- Draw out and disseminate relevant existing research e.g. local, national, international;
- Evidence based policy development;
- Research innovative programs to develop best practice; and
- Establish and partner in working groups on key housing and homelessness issues.



**ACTION AREA 2:
ADVOCACY**

*INFLUENCE
STRATEGY, POLICY
AND PRACTICE*

- Identifying and facilitating advocacy platforms in conjunction with the sector;
- Advocate for the NT Housing and homelessness sectors to actively influence the formulation of policy at local, NT and national levels;
- Provide communications products in different mediums for the purpose of information and feedback and input to the sector for advocacy purposes; and
- Utilize local and national campaign work e.g. Homelessness week and Poverty week as a vehicle to promote the work of sector.



ACTION AREA 3: SECTOR CONSULTATION, COORDINATION AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- Information sharing and networking;
- Effective consultation;
- Facilitation of sector training and development opportunities e.g. employment and workforce development; and
- Effective evidence based campaigns driven by policy and advocacy



ACTION AREA 4: STRONG GOVERNANCE AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

- Comply with relevant legislation and funding requirements;
- Using due diligence e.g. accountability, systems management;
- Engaged and participatory board members;
- Good reporting by EO to ensure well informed Board;
- Innovative and diversified financial options

OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

NT Shelter's operational highlights are reported in this Annual Report in a framework consistent with our current funding framework with the Northern Territory Government (Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development).

These are:

- Our operational activities as a peak body for affordable housing and homelessness;
- Our responsibility for the delivery of the pilot Homelessness Response Group (HRG) Darwin Pilot
- Our administration of supported delegate places for the National Housing Conference

OUR ENGAGEMENT WITH THE SECTOR

Early in 2019, the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development approached NT Shelter to facilitate a sponsorship package for the sector. This sponsorship allowed 50 low to mid-level sector professionals to attend the National Housing Conference, held in Darwin at the end of August 2019. NT Shelter was pleased to assist the Department in this significant professional development opportunity. It is noteworthy that approximately 14% of the 1,100 delegates at the conference were from the Northern Territory, a large proportion of those in attendance as a consequence of this initiative.

NT Shelter continues to utilise a number of approaches and mechanisms to engage with the sector. These include:

- Our Accommodation Action Groups (AAGs), held up to six times per year in Darwin, Katherine, Tennant Creek and Alice Springs;

- The Homelessness Response Group Darwin Pilot;
- Member Policy Forums;
- Ad hoc sector briefings and coordination;
- Opportunities to inform and provide feedback on NT Shelter submissions;
- Attend and present at forums organised by stakeholders;
- Convening of a bi-annual CEO roundtable between the CEO of the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development, and member CEOs.



Regional Coordinator Hannah Purdy with members of the Barkly Region Accommodation Action Group and Barkly Regional Council Mayor Steve Edgington

The past financial year has seen our Central Australian footprint reinvigorated, with the appointment of Hannah Purdy as our Regional Coordinator, Central Australia. The reestablishment of an office in Alice Springs has enabled the organisation to consolidate and bolster relationships across the southern regions with member organisations and stakeholders, along with several new additions to our network.

In March 2019, NT Shelter staff visited stakeholders in Nhulunbuy to discuss consultation and engagement opportunities, including the possibility of establishing an Accommodation Action Group in the region. NT Shelter’s work is informed by a broad cross

section of urban, regional and remote housing advice and perspectives. We will continue to explore workable models for how to best support and advocate for the housing needs and aspirations of all Territorians.

We are pleased to have grown our membership base over the year, welcoming a number of new organisations and individual members. The support of a growing number of non-government organisations indicates that the organisation’s strategy and key operational priorities are aligned to the needs of those working across housing and homelessness.

Over the past year, NT Shelter has convened several professional development activities. The first of these was a public forum held during Homelessness Week 2018. The forum, “*Developing a Territory Housing Strategy*” was moderated by Hon Clare Martin. Over 50 people heard from Jamie Chalker, CEO of the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development, Adrian Pisarski, Executive Officer of National Shelter, Leeanne Caton, CEO of Yilli Rreung Housing Aboriginal Corporation, Bill Headley, then CEO of the Urban Development Institute of Australia (NT), and Matt Tybell, Director Corporate and Institutional Banking at National Australia Bank.

Professional development workshops for Darwin based stakeholders were held in June with the support of Sacred Heart Mission on their *Journeys to Social Inclusion J2SI* service delivery model, including social impact investment. Commitments to further sector capacity building initiatives, including a trauma-informed care and practice workshop for Barkly regional stakeholders, have been made.



Attendees at our 2018 Homelessness Week public forum "Developing a Territory Housing Strategy"

OUR ENGAGEMENT WITH COMMUNITY AND INDUSTRY



NT Shelter ramped up efforts in 2018-19 to increase and improve engagement with the community and industry. A key platform is the NT Shelter website which was significantly rebuilt and improved in the second half of 2018. The new website is much more visually engaging, has improved navigation, and is regularly updated with news, media releases, and reports on the nature and state of homelessness and housing affordability. A dedicated Members Area has been created and there are also a wide range of educational resources and useful links. Pleasingly, there has been a significant lift in site visits since commissioning in October 2018.

NT Shelter has continued to strengthen and grow its social media engagement and reach, with a 38% growth in our Facebook audience,



Regional Coordinator Hannah Purdy presenting to the Reintegration Puzzle Conference on housing women in Central Australia post-release

and an 80% growth in our Twitter audience over the year.

Local and national media have continued to engage with our media releases and regularly approach the organisation for public comment on a wide range of housing, homelessness, affordability, renting and related issues. Some of the highlights included three national radio and television broadcast stories on affordable housing, supported housing and mental health, and homelessness (anti-social behaviour). We were pleased to see extensive coverage consistently over the year in print and radio media on key advocacy issues including public housing rent rises, housing options in Darwin for people with mental health diagnoses, remote housing funding, the NT Government's budget repair measures, Barkly Regional Deal, efficiency dividends and our Pre-Budget Submission.

Other engagements have included involvement in an AHURI and Mind Australia project on mental health and housing, an Older Persons Homelessness Prevention Project, and presentations at a range of conferences, including the Affordable Housing and Homelessness Forum in Darwin in April, and the Reintegration Puzzle Conference, also in Darwin in June.



Executive Officer Peter McMillan presenting at the National Housing and Homelessness Forum in Darwin in April, with fellow panellists Leanne Caton and John McBryde.

OUR ENGAGEMENT WITH GOVERNMENT

Over the past 12 months, NT Shelter made the following submissions to Commonwealth and Territory government inquiries and discussion papers, all of which are available on our website:

- Modernisation of the NT Anti-Discrimination Act;
- Closing the Gap Refresh;
- Treasury Laws Amendment (National Housing and Homelessness Agreement) Bill;
- NT Government Revenue Discussion Paper;
- National Housing Finance and Investment Corporation consultation;
- Residential Tenancies Act Review;
- NTCAT Costs Orders and Default Decisions
- NT Shelter’s 2019-20 Pre-Budget Submission
- A response to a Request for Information in relation to the NTG’s Transitional Accommodation Program

- An appearance before the Senate Economics Committee Inquiry into regional inequality in Australia
- A submission to the Productivity Commission’s investigation into the social and economic benefits of improving mental health

Case Study: CEO Roundtable meetings

In October 2018, the first biannual CEO Roundtable was held, bringing together member CEOs to meet with the CEO of Housing, Jamie Chalker. Approximately 26 members attended, including several of our regional members via video-conference. These provide an opportunity for high-level engagement on government and departmental policy and future direction. In addition, it is a chance for NT Shelter member CEOs to collaborate with the Department on measures that will lead to better housing outcomes.

Our engagement with government extends across a range of issues, including participating in the discussions around the Better Pathways Centre for the Darwin CBD, the Housing for Young People Initiatives, youth homelessness issues, persons leaving prison, and housing options and needs for renal patients.

NT Shelter continues to value its seat at the table on important policy and reform initiatives across the human services sector more broadly and is proud to participate on the NT Government NGO partnership group (NNPG). We also participate as steering group or advisory group members on various initiatives such as the Aboriginal Contracting Framework, the Human Services Industry Plan, Outcomes Framework, Safer Public Places, Remote Rent Review, Housing Accommodation Support Initiative (HASI) and others.

We value our working relationship with all three tiers of Government (Commonwealth, Territory and Local) and work constructively with elected and non-elected Government officials on a non-partisan basis. However, by no means do we always agree - we equally value our capacity to provide our perspectives and advice to Government on its priorities, policies and programs. During the year we had to call out the unacceptable situation where the prospect of further Commonwealth funding for remote community housing hung in the balance. On another front, the potential application of a 3% efficiency dividend to frontline homelessness services presents unacceptable risks and impacts to meeting the needs of some of the Territory's most vulnerable persons.

The importance of the support, participation at meetings and advice of our members and other partners such as NTCOSS cannot be underestimated on issues of this scale.

We also note our appreciation for the opportunity to meet with a wide cross section of Members of Parliament, Ministers, ministerial staffers, Department CEs and their staff over the past year across a range of portfolios including Treasury, Attorney General and Justice, Housing, Territory Families, Chief Minister, Education, Business, Trade and Innovation and Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics.

HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE GROUP (HRG)

HRG continues to bring together homelessness service providers, housing and other community service organisations to identify the systemic issues impacting on clients with multiple and complex needs. It promotes effective case management to support clients out of homelessness or prevent them from entering into homelessness.

Funding for the Homelessness Response Group (HRG) pilot program has been extended through to 2022. From 2019 the program will be extended to include Alice Springs. We greatly appreciate the support for this important sector initiative from the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development.

Over the past year, the HRG supported 40 individuals and their families with complex needs including persistent/recurrent homelessness through a facilitated case management model.

The following organisations have been members of the HRG over the course of the

NT home truths

ONE of the lesser-known aspects of the NT Government's Budget Repair announcement from earlier this month is that non-profit organisations will be required to take a funding cut each year on the assumption that they will find more efficient ways to operate.

In other words, doing the same or more with less.

In announcing these measures, the Treasurer outlined that to get the budget back to a level of sustainability, non-government organisations needed to chip in and do their share of the "heavy lifting".

We were told that some tough and unpopular decisions needed to be made.

It should be noted that John Langford's report on budget repair followed extensive investigation into NT Government coffers but there has been no such review of the non-government sector's capacity to meet its service obligations to the NT Government with reduced funds.

While the human services sector is supportive of measures being taken to improve the budget bottom line, the reality is that non-profit organisations exist to provide much-needed services to vulnerable Territorians. These businesses do not exist to make profits and operating margins are negligible. Funding cuts means less capacity to provide services. Ultimately it means that programs and services are wound back to the detriment of those who need assistance.

Homelessness and housing services have been dealt a particularly harsh blow, with the sector being stung with a funding cut that is three times that of other front line services.



PETER
McMULLAN

This is on the mistaken logic that non-profit organisations operating in this space don't provide front line services.

Whether or not the different treatment for housing and homelessness services is by accident or design, the implications for organisations across the sector will be significant. Ultimately, the effects of re-

"About half of all requests for assistance by vulnerable people go unassisted because services are seriously stretched"

duced funding will be most acutely felt by the people that we are all trying to help.

The homelessness and housing sector is badly underfunded. About half of all requests for assistance by vulnerable people go unassisted because services are seriously stretched. Three quarters of these people who need help but can't get it are women, many of whom are experiencing some form of domestic and family violence.

The NT receives only 1.3 per cent of national funding allocated to homelessness services because of our small popu-

lation. It isn't based on our level of need. There is no logic here but little apparent appetite on the part of our political leaders to challenge and rectify this with Canberra.

Australian politicians need only look across the ditch to see what real leadership on homelessness looks like. In what may be surprising to

many, New Zealand is in the unenviable position of having the highest rates of homelessness in the developed world.

Around 40,000 Kiwis sleep rough in cars and garages. Australia sits behind them in third place. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said last year that there was no reason why there should be homelessness in a country like New Zealand.

She says that New Zealand is a country "that has the prosperity and the empathy to make sure that everyone is housed".

She also questioned the pre-occupation with economic

growth when the economy had proven to be a "blatant failure" when it came to housing the poor.

Australia is certainly a prosperous country and we sit higher up the OECD prosperity ladder than our Kiwi friends. Could it be, though, that they are giving us a masterclass in what empathy looks like?

The case for more funding, not less funding, is clear. The Commonwealth government needs to step up to the plate and play its part in addressing the Territory's chronic housing and homelessness challenges. Let's face it, they have the dollars that we don't.

In the current economic climate we can't expect the NT Government to do the heavy lifting. There's no doubt that action needs to be taken to get the budget back into a healthier, sustainable shape. We all want a strong, prosperous and thriving Territory with economic growth and more jobs.

But by the same token we want to see Territorians treated fairly. Getting support to the homeless is an important part of this.

It is nothing less than mean spirited to expect persons who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness, to do the heavy lifting for NT budget repair challenges that were created through no fault of their own.

Time will tell whether or not the additional funding cut for homelessness services will be reversed or not by the Territory Government. It will speak volumes about leadership and empathy, not just prosperity.

Peter McMullan is the Executive Officer at NT Shelter.

pilot and have been instrumental in its success.

- Anglicare NT
- Carers NT
- Catholic Care NT
- CAAPS
- Darwin Community Legal Service
- Dawn House
- Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation
- Mission Australia
- NT AIDS and Hepatitis Council
- Partners in Recovery
- St Vincent de Paul Society NT
- TeamHealth
- The Salvation Army
- YWCA Australia, Darwin Region

NT Shelter staff provided an update to the Children and Families Standing Committee on the HRG pilot's progress and outcomes. We noted positive outcomes for clients and case workers alike that were identified in an independent evaluation of the program:

- Considered by HRG members to be of considerable value;
- Clients are more hopeful of a positive outcome;
- Effective in linking clients to available supports;
- Expanded networks and collaboration for case workers;
- Better case coordination;
- Accountability for HRG participants to follow up on actions and commitments;
- Positive support mechanisms and improved morale for case staff;
- Improved integrated case management for clients;
- Long term housing needs resolved, albeit for only 7% of clients.

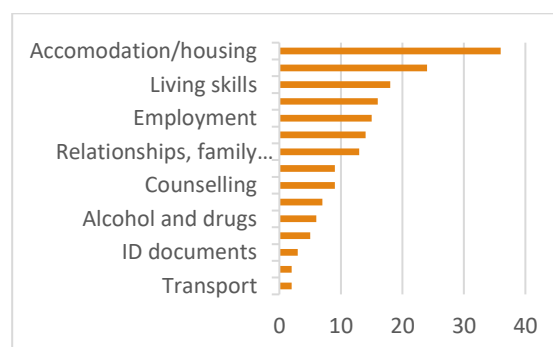
HRG in a Nutshell

One of the front line case workers participating in the HRG pilot summed up their experience as follows:

"When you go to HRG and you discuss what's going on for that client people are so generous with their contribution of ideas that you come away and think 'Great. I really feel that I can maybe put that to the client and see what they think about that idea.' So, that's brilliant, you know."

HRG participant feedback [name withheld]

HRG Clients by Category of Support



Classification & count of HRG clients, 2017-18 data

OUTLOOK

It is critically important that the Commonwealth Government takes a leading role in the provision of social and affordable housing in Australia. We strongly support calls for the development of a National Housing Strategy that will provide an appropriate supply response to Australia's increasingly dire situation in respect of homelessness and the huge housing shortfall. Uncertainty remains as to the supply of affordable housing as National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) entitlements progressively are phased out. As the Productivity Commission noted last year, Australia's public housing system is "broken".

We need national action to address systemic failings that have led to an estimated shortfall of 720,000 social and affordable dwellings across the nation, including the NT.

Closer to home, NT Shelter has advocated strongly throughout the year for a fairer funding deal from the Commonwealth for the Northern Territory for homelessness services. Allocations to the NT are overwhelmingly inadequate and are based on our share of Australia's population without regard to need. We have gone to considerable lengths throughout the year to demonstrate the significant demand on specialist homelessness services in the NT (three times the per capita rate of other states and twice the level of unmet demand) yet the Territory receives in the order of \$19 million out of a total \$1.4 Billion Commonwealth allocation. This represents a mere 1.3% of total funding.

We are encouraged by the post-election appointments of a Housing Minister, as well as an Assistant Homelessness and Community Housing Minister. This provides an important opportunity to obtain support and commitment to ensuring that the NT secures a greater quantum of funding to meet its overwhelming housing challenges.

The Northern Territory Government's five-year Homelessness Strategy has now been released and work is nearing completion on the NT Housing Strategy. These strategies are required under the terms of the bilateral agreement between the Commonwealth Government and NT Government under the National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA). We're unconvinced that these strategies provide anything like the degree of response necessary to make meaningful inroads in housing and homelessness. Nevertheless, we remain keen to work with Government to get the best outcomes we possibly can over the following

five years with the resources available under those programs.

AHURI Conference Support

Early in 2019, the Department of Local Government, Housing and Community Development approached NT Shelter to facilitate sector engagement with the National Housing Conference, held in Darwin in late August 2019. Funding was provided for up to 52 mid-level sector professionals to attend the conference. Ultimately 50 positions were taken up, with a wide range of member and non-member organisations nominating and sending staff.

The \$1.1 Billion investment over 10 years by the NT Government (plus a further \$550 million in housing related infrastructure and land servicing) and \$110 million Commonwealth commitment for 5 years, is a significant step towards addressing remote house overcrowding and improving the quality and performance of housing. This investment, while making significant inroads, will not see remote overcrowding fully abolished.

Although there remains a mountain to climb in addressing the housing infrastructure and service challenges across the spectrum, there are some reasons for optimism based on recent developments and progress made.

Firstly, the Barkly Regional Deal is a model of whole-of-government collaboration that provides social and economic infrastructure in the regions based on local needs. Although it took a tragedy in Tennant Creek to drive the announcement of a deal, the region will see \$14.65 million investment in new accommodation and housing initiatives on top of the existing NTG housing initiatives (Room to Breathe, housing stimulus packages).

In addition, we are encouraged by further investment in providing Territorians sleeping rough with the services they need in a convenient, central location, and a place to stay when visiting urban regional centres:

- In October 2018, the NT Government commitment to building three Better Pathways Centres and three short-term visitor accommodation facilities in Darwin CBD, Darwin northern suburbs and Palmerston;
- The Federal Government gave a pre-election commitment of \$10 million for a new visitor accommodation facility in Darwin;

In the coming year, NT Shelter will be working closely with a range of other organisations to identify solutions to the housing and needs of a range of people. This will include strategic planning and workshops co-convened with peak body National Disability Services (NDS) on the housing needs of Territorians living with disability and access to SDA accommodation.



Housing for Vibrant Communities

5 June 2019
LGANT Community Services Reference Group

Presenting to a wide range of stakeholders, including local government, is an important part of promoting the work and priorities of the sector

We continue to work with Menzies School of Health Research on the housing needs of end-stage kidney disease patients, carers and families attending Darwin and other major centres for dialysis treatment. We have been in discussions with Housing for the Aged

regarding the housing needs of seniors and are closely monitoring developments and opportunities in the youth homelessness space, including youth foyers.

While housing delivery across the Northern Territory is challenging and expensive, there are inexpensive, value for money things that can be done that will make an enormous difference to people's lives. A reasonable allocation to preventative maintenance programs that ensures that households in remote communities have access to safe and properly functioning houses is an important start. These are the fundamentals that help prevent kids from getting preventable illness and disease. We look forward to making the case for further modest investment with Government in the coming months.



NT Shelter Executive Officer Peter McMillan, President Jean Ah Chee, and Treasurer Robert Cooper at the 2018 AGM

In terms of NT Shelter's outlook, the prospects are positive. A five year funding agreement provides a much improved platform for resourcing and operational stability. Staff turnover has stabilised and operational priorities are progressing to plan. For a team of four full time equivalent staff, the organisation has achieved a lot over the previous 12 months. NT Shelter is an organisation that is growing, if not in size then in terms of visibility and workload. Our

stakeholder and member base is growing, staff networks continue to expand, and the range of housing-related issues that we are involved in continues to increase. Media coverage has been excellent. Encouraged by these prospects, we look forward to new opportunities to build our knowledge and organisational capability, and ultimately our impact, while remaining focussed on our mission.

With that in mind, in the following year NT Shelter will be working with the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI) on a project that investigates linkages between mental health and housing.

On a larger scale, we invested considerable effort in working with AHURI and NT Government on the 2019 National Housing Conference in Darwin. This included steering group participation on the Program Advisory Committee. The conference was a key opportunity in 2019 to highlight the unique and significant housing challenges facing the Northern Territory. It also provided excellent professional development and networking opportunities for our local housing and homelessness sector leaders and practitioners.

Our emphasis on regional engagement will continue. A key focus of our Regional Coordinator roles is sector consultation, coordination and capacity building. Building closer ties with our members and other key stakeholders in the regions is a top priority. Our advocacy is far better when our members are working with us to curate it.

We will continue to invest significant time in keeping abreast of developments in the social and affordable housing landscape through our national network of researchers, academics, subject matter experts, fellow practitioners, peers and colleagues. For example, NT Shelter successfully secured national peer support for

its advocacy on securing additional homelessness funding for the NT through its close working relationship with the National Shelter network. In a small jurisdiction, having a national policy position in support of the Northern Territory is vitally important.

Finally, we are investing time into ensuring we get the fundamentals right when it comes to providing the quality of service that our members expect. We successfully secured funding from the Department of Business, Trade and Innovation as part of their Business Growth program. We can always improve our internal and external processes and we look forward to that translating into some service enhancements for our members and other key stakeholders in the 2019-20 year.



Members of the NT Shelter Board in Katherine in May. Also pictured is Mr Great Makunde, Kalano Community Association.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the activities of NT Shelter Inc. please visit our websites or contact us as follows:

Websites:

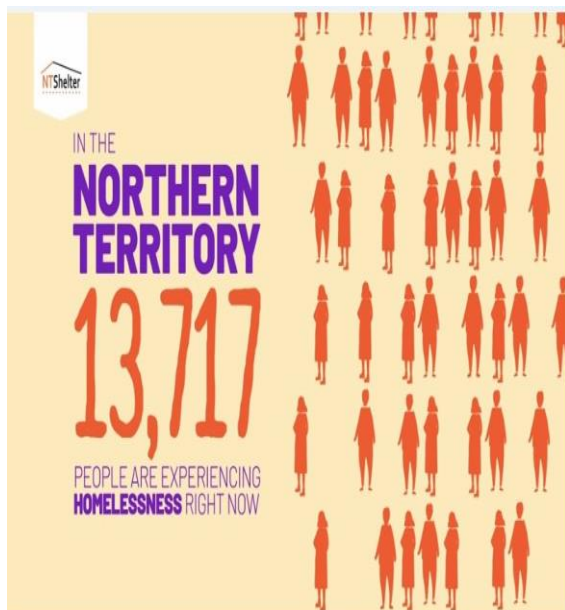
<https://ntshelter.org.au>

www.shelterme.org.au

Contact Us:

Peter McMillan
Executive Officer
NT Shelter Inc.
PO BOX 1577 Nightcliff NT 0814
Phone: (08) 8985 4389
eo@ntshelter.org.au

Member enquiries should be directed to Ms Donna Feltus, Office Manager.



NORTHERN TERRITORY SHELTER INCORPORATED

ABN 12 591 531 723

Special Purpose Financial Report

For the year ended 30 June 2019

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NORTHERN TERRITORY SHELTER INCORPORATED
ABN 12 591 531 723

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NORTHERN TERRITORY SHELTER INCORPORATED.
ABN 12 591 531 723
Board of Management's Report
For the year ended 30 June 2019

Your Board of Management submit the financial report of Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

Board of Management

The names of the Board of Management at the date of this report are:

President	Jean Ah Chee	
Treasurer	Robert Cooper	
Vice President	John McBryde	
Secretary	Joan Meredith	
Members	Ashley Perez	Michael Soler
	Janet Wright	Merrilee Cox
	Lawson Broad	Ray Wallis
	Harley Dannatt	

Executive Officer Peter McMillan

Principal Activities

1. As the NT peak non-government housing body, NT Shelter will identify and promote best practice in the provision of appropriate and affordable housing.
2. Contribute to national and NT housing policy
3. Promote awareness regarding housing needs and issues for low income and disadvantaged Territorians.
4. Undertake support projects and research relevant to housing needs.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these objectives occurred during the year.

NORTHERN TERRITORY SHELTER INCORPORATED.
ABN 12 591 531 723
Board of Management's Report
For the year ended 30 June 2019 (continued)

Operating Result

The profit for the year amounted to

	Year ended 30 June 2019	Year ended 30 June 2018
	\$18,295	\$55,811

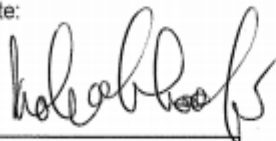
Operating Report:

In our opinion:

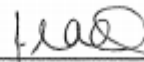
- a) The accompanying income and expenditure statement is drawn up so as to present fairly the results of the Association for the financial year ended 30 June 2019;
- b) The accompanying statement of financial position is drawn up so as to present fairly the state of affairs of the Association as at the end of that financial year.
- c) The Board of Management have reasonable grounds to believe that Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board of Management on:

Date:



Board of Management Member



Board of Management Member

Independent Auditors Report

To the members of Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated.

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the special purpose financial report of the Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, income and expenditure statement, statement of cash flows, notes to the financial statements, and the certification by members of the committee on the annual statements giving a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Association.

In our opinion, the accompanying special purpose financial report of Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated has been prepared in accordance with the *Northern Territory of Australia Associations Act*, including:

- (a) Giving a true and fair view of Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated financial position as at 30 June 2019 and of its performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) Complying with Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of the Committee for the Financial Report

The committee members of the Association are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the *Northern Territory of Australia Associations Act*, and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee members' responsibilities also include such internal control as the committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Wealth management • Tax & accounting • Lending

BRISBANE DARWIN HERVEY BAY NARELLAN MURGON PARAP

Wealth Management – Praescius Financial Holdings Pty Ltd ABN 14 610 960 980 AFSL 486455 • Tax & Accounting – Praescius Tax & Accounting Pty Ltd ABN 98 138 547 903 Registered Tax Practitioner 25687237
Lending – Praescius Lending Pty Ltd ABN 36 622 764 836 Authorised Representative (503915) of Vow Financial Pty Ltd ACL 390261

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Independent Auditors Report (continued)

In preparing the financial report, the committee members are responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the committee members either intend to liquidate the Association or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

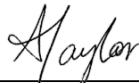
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Basis of Accounting and Restriction on Distribution

The Note 1 to the financial statements describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist the Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated to meet the reporting requirements of *Northern Territory of Australia Associations Act*. As a result, the special purpose financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Signed on: 31st October 2019



Amanda Taylor, RTA, MIPA
Praescius Tax & Accounting Pty Ltd
PO Box 102, Parap, NT 0804

Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated
 ABN 12 591 531 723
INCOME & EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
 as at 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Income		
Grants		
Department of Housing	593,504	546,871
Unspent Balance Carried Forward	(28,199)	(128,725)
Unspent Balance Brought Forward	128,725	240,685
Total Grants	694,030	658,831
Trading Activities		
Sales of Toolkits	-	82
Membership	13,923	11,559
Total Trading Activities	13,923	11,641
Other Income		
Gain on Sale of Asset	-	5,825
Interest Received	4,535	2,432
Project Management Income	-	32,120
Sundry Income	5	320
Total Other Income	4,540	40,697
Total Income	712,492	711,169
Expenses		
Wages & Salaries	421,634	356,094
Travel	34,233	40,065
Board Expenses	10,658	12,681
Vehicle Expenses	7,787	7,533
General Office Expenses	39,158	39,194
Office Overheads	47,519	42,571
Program Expenses	110,316	83,361
Financial Services	22,892	73,859
Total Expenses	694,198	655,358
Net Profit	18,295	55,811

Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated
ABN 12 591 531 723
Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash at Bank		
Cheque Account	458,810	624,281
Petty Cash	49	161
Bendigo General 8515	1,856	1,846
Bendigo Term Deposit #2502	106,474	104,081
Bendigo Term Deposit #2503	102,131	100,000
Total Cash at Bank	669,320	830,369
Trade Debtors		
Trade Debtors	12,415	30
Other Assets		
Pay Stay City of Darwin	144	13
Real Estate Agent Deposit	6,600	6,600
Cab Charge Deposit	200	200
Prepaid Insurance	10,654	9,203
Total Other Assets	30,013	16,046
Total Current Assets	699,334	846,415
Non-Current Assets		
Motor Vehicle at Cost	27,198	27,198
Accumulated Depreciation	(4,583)	(1,184)
Furniture & Fittings at Cost	2,015	2,015
F&F Accumulated Depreciation	(1,456)	(952)
Total Non-Current Assets	23,173	27,077
Total Assets	722,506	873,492

Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated
ABN 12 591 531 723
Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Grants & Advances		
Unexpended Grants	28,199	128,725
Grants in advance	349,533	422,458
Creditors		
Trade creditors	12,350	11,473
Pre paid Memberships	14,018	664
Credit Cards		
Master Card	240	4,510
Payroll Liabilities		
Provision for Annual Leave	21,861	11,528
Superannuation reconciliation account	5,351	1,138
GST Liability		
ATO liability	22,599	42,935
Total Current Liabilities	454,151	623,431
Non-Current Liabilities	-	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities	-	-
Total Liabilities	454,151	623,431
Net Assets	268,355	250,061
Equity		
Accumulated Funds	250,060	194,249
Surplus	18,295	55,811
Total Equity	268,355	250,060

Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated
ABN 12 591 531 723
Statement of Cash Flows
as at 30 June 2019

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Cash flow from Operating Activities		
Receipts from Grants and other income	809,224	711,168
Payments to suppliers and employees	(694,198)	(655,357)
Trade Debtors	(12,385)	(30)
Prepaid expenses	(1,582)	244
MV Accumulated Depreciation	3,400	(20,859)
F&F Accumulated Depreciation	504	504
Deposits	-	-
Trade Creditors	877	1,909
Prepaid memberships	13,354	664
Master Card	(4,270)	4,510
Superannuation payable	4,213	(1,108)
Employee Provisions / adjustments	10,333	8,916
GST Paid	-	-
ATO Payable - June BAS	(20,336)	(29,338)
Income in advance	(141,458)	(69,726)
Grants in advance and carried forward	(128,725)	(111,972)
Net Cash Flow from Operating Activities	(161,049)	(160,475)
Cash Flow From Investing Activities		
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	0	0
Net Increase/Decrease for the period	(161,049)	(160,475)
Cash at the Beginning of their period	830,369	990,844
Cash at the End of the period	669,320	830,369

NORTHERN TERRITORY SHELTER INCORPORATED.
ABN 12 591 531 723
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
For the year ended 30 June 2019

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the *Northern Territory of Australia Associations Act*. The Board of Management has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Act and the following Australian Accounting Standards:

- AASB101, Presentation of Financial Statements
- AASB107, Statement of Cash Flows
- AASB108, Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
- AASB1048, Interpretation of Standards
- AASB1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

The special purpose financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

a. Revenue recognition

Interest income is recognised when accrued.

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

b. Taxation

The Association is of the opinion that it is not subject to income tax.

c. Cash

Cash includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short term highly liquid investments.

d. Property, Plant and Equipment

The current policy is to fully depreciate all purchases of a capital nature except those costing in excess of \$5000, or have a permanent or long term character.

e. Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST. Receivables and payables are recognised inclusive of GST. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables.

NORTHERN TERRITORY SHELTER INCORPORATED.

ABN 12 591 531 723

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (Continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2019

f. Going concern

The special purpose financial report of the Association has been prepared on the basis that the Association is a going concern and will continue to operate. The Association relies on funding from the Northern Territory Government. The financial report is prepared on a going concern basis on the understanding that such support will continue.

g. Employee entitlements

Provision is made for the liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date.

h. Events after the Balance Sheet Date

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2019 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the associations operations, the result of those operations, or the Associations state of affairs in future financial years.

g. Expense category allocations

The following expenses are included in the listed expense categories in the Income and Expenditure Statement.

Wages and Salaries – Staff salaries, leave loading, long service, superannuation, Fringe Benefits tax, staff development, staff support services, health and safety, workers compensation insurance, and recruitment.

Travel – Travel expenses, travel allowance, accommodation and mileage allowance.

Board Travel – Board governance expense, Board travel and Board accommodation.

Vehicle expenses – Fuel, registration, repairs and maintenance, parking, insurance, and depreciation.

General Office – Stationery, IT support, publicity and marketing, advertising, depreciation, postage, printing and photocopying, staff amenities, and rounding.

Office Overhead – Rent, telephone, fax, internet, Public Liability insurance, Volunteers insurance, Business insurance, electricity, cleaning, office repairs and maintenance.

Program Expenses – Equipment hire, meeting expenses and catering, office amenities, resources, Computer expenses (including website upgrades), brokerage, donations, subscriptions and memberships, consultancy, Client Support services.

Financial Services – Business plan and report, book keeping, audit, fees and permits, consultation services, legal fees, Project Management fee, bank fees.

Northern Territory Shelter Incorporated
ABN 12 591 531 723
Asset Schedule for the year ended 30 June, 2019

	Total	Addition	CWDV	Disposal		Rate	Deprec	CWDV	Gain /loss
				Date	Consid				
Motor Vehicle									
Hyundai Tucson	27,197.53	23/02/2018	26,014			12.5	3,400	22,614	
	27,197.53		26,014			Net	3,400	22,614	
Furniture & Fittings									
Storage Cupboard	543.64	28/06/2016	272			25	136	136	
Office Desk	679.09	29/06/2016	339			25	170	169	
Westinghouse Fridge 340L	791.82	12/10/2016	452			25	198	254	
	2,014.55		1,063			Net	504	559	
						Total	3,904	23,173	
Plant & Equipment (fully expensed)									
Office Couch	271.82	07/07/2016	0.00						
Iphone 6 with case	853.59	08/07/2016	0.00						
Iphone 6	953.64	20/07/2016	0.00						
Multi function colour printer	817.27	26/07/2016	0.00						
HP Laptop #1	882.73	29/07/2016	0.00						
HP Laptop #2	882.72	29/07/2016	0.00						
Excalibur 4 Drawer Filing Cabinet	520.05	19/09/2016	0.00						
HP 600 Pro desktop	2,343.64	01/11/2016	0.00						
Lenovo Ideapad 310 with case	807.27	31/01/2017	0.00						
Officeworks Monitor	226.00	13/08/2018	0.00						
Surface Pro	3,119.00	26/06/2018	0.00						
Samsung Galaxy	535.00	27/06/2018	0.00						
Fortigate 60E	3,559.09	07/01/2019	0.00						
	15,771.82		0.00						

NT SHELTER INC

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