



# NATIONAL BULLETIN

An eBulletin from CHFA - your national community housing peak organisation

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**Check CHFA's web site for a continuous news feed of housing articles:**  
[www.chfa.com.au](http://www.chfa.com.au)

## **Homelessness Australia NAHA Discussion Paper**

Homelessness Australia, the national peak body working to prevent and respond to homelessness in Australia, have recently released their submission to the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA).

The paper outlines key concerns raised by Homelessness Australia and poses questions in regard to a range of issues not explicitly addressed in the NAHA. The paper examines the implications of the NAHA on Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) operation and funding, State and Territory government contributions to funding for affordable housing, and the continuity of important aspects of the previous system such as research and evaluation measures.

For full details of Homelessness Australia's recommendations the Discussion Paper can be downloaded here:

<http://homelessnessaustralia.org.au/UserFiles/File/NAHA%20Discussion%20Paper.doc>

## **AHURI Updates of Interest**

The latest release from the Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute is a Final Report titled *Housing policies, social mix and community outcomes*.

The report documents research from International literature on the effects of the concentration of social housing in certain areas, and the policy used to address these effects. Policy considerations for the Australian context are also proposed.

While the report focuses primarily on public housing, it does briefly acknowledge the need to expand both public and community housing, and identifies the possible benefits of

community housing involvement in alleviating some of the more negative effects of concentrated public housing.

The full report can be downloaded via the AHURI website:

<http://www.ahuri.edu.au/publications/recent.asp>

### **AIHW Report Release**

The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare also have a recent release titled *Demand for SAAP accommodation by homeless people 2006–07: summary*.

This report, from the SAAP National Data Collection project, provides background on both the Data Collection project and the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP), and provides a detailed overview of the demand for SAAP accommodation for the 2006-2007 period.

The report provides a range of data in regard to accommodation needs supplied by SAAP services in terms of met and un-met needs, client demographics, and State and Territory variation. The report also includes useful explanations of SAAP referral systems, and reasons for valid, invalid, met and un-met claims for accommodation within SAAP services.

The full report may be accessed via the AIHW website:

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10655>

A summary of the report is also available on the AIHW website:

<http://www.aihw.gov.au/publications/index.cfm/title/10656>

### **Socially Inclusive Urban Renewal In Low Value Suburbs**

In this report Bill Randolph from the City Futures Research Centre analyses the proposed Sydney Metro Strategy, which aims to make Sydney a more balanced and sustainable city through extensive urban restructuring.

The report identifies key problems with attempts at urban renewal in low value suburbs that follow conventional private sector developmental approaches. Randolph suggests a much more considered and integrated approach to the planning of urban renewal and housing developments and points to the need for greater innovation in approaches to urban renewal in low value suburbs to better confront some of the challenging issues they present.

While this report focuses on urban renewal in Sydney's middle suburbs, it presents useful considerations and insights for those engaged in the development of housing not only in Sydney suburbs but also nationally, and for a range of purposes, including affordable and community housing. Randolph also identifies a possible role for community housing organizations and those working through the National Rental Affordability Scheme (NRAS) in a coordinated approach to the Sydney Metro Strategy.

The full report can be downloaded here:

<http://www.fbe.unsw.edu.au/cityfutures/publications/issuespapers/issuespaper6.pdf>

## **The Neami Community Housing Program**

Swinburne University have released a paper documenting the experience of the Neami Community Housing Program. The paper titled *From Psychiatric Hospital to Supported Housing: The Neami Community Housing Program, Melbourne, Australia, 1995-2008* explores the program's experiences in providing supported housing within the community for psychiatric patients leaving institutional settings during this period.

The paper provides an overview of operations within the Program and how they have changed over time, as well as identifying characteristics of the Neami Community Housing Program model that have been critical to its success.

This paper documents a great example of the strength of community housing models. It can be downloaded via the following link:

<http://sisr.net/publications/0808carter.pdf>

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The Community Housing Federation of Australia is funded by the Australian Government through the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

## **Contributions**

If you have news or resources that you think would be interesting or helpful to others in your State/Territory or colleagues interstate, contact CHFA and we can plug your news into NB. Email your news to: [chfa@chfa.com.au](mailto:chfa@chfa.com.au).