



Media release

18 July 2016

Homelessness support funding announced

Today the Andrews Labor Government announced an \$850,000 funding package to immediately support the growing number of people sleeping rough and seeking immediate shelter in Victoria.

The package of support will:

- Provide an additional \$500,000 to the Housing Establishment Fund to ensure more support to purchase emergency accommodation for people sleeping rough across Victoria during extreme cold weather
- Invest \$282,700 to provide an additional 38 crisis accommodation beds at Bailly House in North Melbourne
- Provide the Salvation Army with \$70,000 to deliver additional case workers to reach and work with more people sleeping rough in the central business district.

Council to Homeless Persons (CHP) CEO Jenny Smith said that, “While we work to address the fundamental problem that there is not enough affordable housing for people who need it, this commitment to crisis accommodation provides important and practical interim support.”

“Over 2014-15 more than half (53%) of all people needing help from homelessness services did so because of accommodation and financial issues. There are not enough affordable housing options available to low-income earners, and we must not lose sight of that fact.

“This much-needed funding will go a long way in supporting both the hundreds of Melburnians forced to sleep on our freezing cold streets and the Victorian homelessness services groaning under the weight of unprecedented demand,” Ms Smith added.

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