



Parity

A Call for Contributions – June 2024

“Responding to Homelessness in the Northern Territory”

Draft submission deadline: COB Friday, 12 April 2024

Final submission deadline: COB Friday, 17 May 2024

Word length: Contributions can be up to 1,600 words. Submissions to be sent to:
parity@chp.org.au

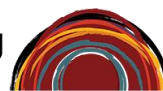
This edition of *Parity* is sponsored by the Northern Territory Government and Sector Partners.



TERRITORY FAMILIES,
HOUSING AND COMMUNITIES



**Aboriginal Housing
Northern Territory**



Introduction

All involved in responding to homelessness in Northern Territory are invited to contribute to the upcoming June 2024, “Responding Homelessness in Northern Territory” edition of *Parity*.



Parity is the national publication of the Council to Homeless Persons (CHP) and is the national homelessness publication in Australia. (Please visit: www.chp.org.au/Parity)

Alongside grounding consideration of homelessness in Northern Territory in the voices and experiences of those who have lived it, one of the aims of this publication is give everyone working to respond to homelessness in the Northern Territory the opportunity to have their say about the policy and service response to homelessness.

All people working in relevant areas of government, those working in specialist homelessness services, engaged in different forms of advocacy, mainstream government services, social housing providers, involved in grassroots activism and community campaigns or in universities and as well, relevant research bodies, are invited to participate in this discussion and contribute to this edition.

This also includes all Aboriginal organisations, representative bodies, services and groups with a stake in the understanding of, and the response to, Aboriginal homelessness in the Northern Territory.

Artwork

All contributors are welcome to submit any artwork, photographs or images that they would like to accompany their articles (should space allow). All those involved in artwork programs for people who are, or who have, experienced homelessness are invited to contact the *Parity* editor at parity@chp.org.au to discuss the inclusion of artwork produced by clients in this edition of *Parity*.

A framework for discussion

Chapter 1: The lived experience of homelessness in the Northern Territory

The primary purpose of this chapter is to ensure that discussion of homelessness in the Northern Territory is firmly grounded in the knowledge and experience of those who have lived it, and indeed, still live it. This chapter provides an opportunity for people who are, or who have been homeless, to reflect on their experiences of homelessness, and discuss the kinds of supports they may have received or accessed to help resolve their homelessness. Of particular interest are insights into the supports that were found to be most useful, as well as insights into the support and service gaps they experienced.



A diverse range of experiences is ideally sought – including from single women, children and young people, refugees and older people.

Given that homelessness in the Northern Territory is overwhelmingly experienced by Aboriginal people, the many dimensions of the Aboriginal experience of homelessness must be foregrounded.

Where appropriate, CHP would like to provide support to organisations and individuals to ensure the perspectives of those with lived experience of homelessness are included. For further information, please contact Noel Murray, *Parity* Editor (parity@chp.org.au or 0466 619 582).

Chapter 2: The Policy Context of the Response Homelessness in Northern Territory

The aim of this chapter is to contextualise current homelessness policy and programs. A crucial part of understanding this context is to be clear about the history of, and the background to, the development of current homelessness policy in the Northern Territory. For example, what was the impact of the 2008 Australian Government's The Road Home reforms to homelessness service delivery and in particular, the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) and the National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness. (NPAH) The more recent National Housing and Homelessness Agreement (NHHA) also needs to be considered. Similarly, what were the homelessness policies of previous Northern Territory Governments? How did these policies impact on service provision and in particular on the provision of housing?

In essence, what are the elements of continuity or discontinuity in the evolution and development of homelessness policy in Northern Territory?

All government policies build on the bones of previous policies, their purported successes and their perceived failures, as well as being developed in response to the different values, principles and priorities of those in different governments.

To fully understand where we are today, and the challenges of tomorrow, it is crucial to set out how different policy responses evolved and changed over time, and likewise what influenced these changes.

Chapter 3: Interrogating Homelessness in the Northern Territory

The aim of this chapter is to provide a map and an overall “picture” of the current state of homelessness in the Northern Territory. This chapter would examine empirical issues like enumeration, the character and make-up of the homeless population, the location of those experiencing homelessness and base-line issues of homelessness demographics and any other



information required to understand the size, nature, character and composition of the homeless population in the Northern Territory.

This chapter will also seek to examine and discuss the distinctive characteristics of homelessness in the Northern Territory.

- How and in what ways does homelessness in the Northern Territory differ from that experienced in other states and territories?
- What are the differences in the nature and character of homelessness in the Northern Territory's capital city and in the homelessness experience in its regional cities like Alice Springs and its surrounds, other major towns, and particularly in remote communities?

Chapter 4: Pathways out of Homelessness

The aim of this chapter is to discuss and examine how the Northern Territory's Homelessness Strategy 2018-2023, "Pathways out of Homelessness" has worked to prevent and respond to homelessness in the Northern Territory.

This chapter will provide the opportunity for those responsible for the development and implementation of the Homelessness Strategy to articulate its key goals, and how they will be met, and implemented.

In particular, how these policies have worked to meet the needs of the priority groups identified:

- *Aboriginal people experiencing homelessness or those at risk of homelessness*
- *children and young people*
- *people experiencing domestic, family and sexual violence*
- *people who are sleeping rough or experiencing chronic homelessness*
- *people exiting custodial, care or rehabilitation settings (including correctional, out-of-home care and health systems)*
- *people who are living in insecure housing or whose tenancy is at risk.*

This chapter will also provide the opportunity for all those involved with the response to homelessness, as well as the provision of affordable housing, the opportunity to discuss and comment on the NT Government's Homelessness Strategy 2018-2023 and its Housing Strategy 2020-2025.

Likewise, this chapter will seek to chart and discuss the progress of the five Priority Actions identified in the Homelessness Strategy.



Chapter 5: Responding to Aboriginal Homelessness

Given that it is universally recognised that homelessness in the Northern Territory is overwhelmingly experienced by Aboriginal peoples, how have both policy and service responses, especially housing policies and services, responded to and met the needs of Aboriginal people in the Northern Territory experiencing homelessness?

- What has been the role and work of NT Aboriginal organisations, representative and advocacy bodies both in identifying the needs of Aboriginal people experiencing homelessness, as well as developing policies and providing services to meet these needs of those experiencing homelessness?
- How have these either complemented or differed from the policy and service frameworks provided by government?
- What are some examples of local and community responses to Aboriginal homelessness both in cities, towns and remote areas?
- What are some examples of “best practice” in the formal service response to Aboriginal homelessness?
- Are there examples of holistic and integrated program and service delivery models developed and implemented to respond to Aboriginal homelessness in the Northern Territory?
- What are some examples of successful collaboration and partnerships across both homelessness services and across different sectors?
- Likewise, what are some examples of innovative models of service provision that have attempted to respond to the specific characteristics of Aboriginal homelessness in the Northern Territory?

In recognition of the particular challenges posed by the Northern Territory’s dispersed Aboriginal population, examples of urban, suburban, regional, rural and remote housing, services and programs are sought.

Chapter 6: Key themes and issues in the response to homelessness in the Northern Territory

The aim of this chapter is to provide the opportunity and the scope for the discussion of key issues that underpin and influence both the causes of homelessness in the Northern Territory and in particular, the policy and program responses to it. The manifold issues and questions of housing will loom large in this discussion.

The issues are not listed in any order or hierarchy of relevance or importance. Likewise, the list of issues and themes is not intended to be exclusive or comprehensive. Potential contributors wishing to discuss other themes and issues they believe relevant to the response to homelessness in the Northern Territory should do so.



- Aboriginal homelessness (see chapter 5)
- Homelessness in rural and regional Northern Territory
- Domestic and family violence
- Crisis accommodation
- Women's homelessness
- Young people leaving care
- Youth homelessness
- Rough sleeping
- Social housing
- Affordable housing and not for profit real estate as responses/organisations
- Boarding and rooming houses
- Renting
- The impact of the NDIS
- The role of Trauma Informed Care
- Responding to chronic or long-term homelessness
- Post-release issues for those exiting prison
- Integrated service delivery
- Migration and movement
- Meeting the needs of people who identify as LGBTQI
- Homelessness and health
- Mental health and homelessness
- Homelessness and visa status

Other specific issues and themes that could be pursued include responding to elderly homelessness, responding to the homelessness experienced by asylum seekers and refugees, mental health and drug and alcohol issues and the response to homelessness. This above list is by no means exhaustive.

Opinion Pages: Developing a Framework for the Future

The aim of this section is to provide the space for policy makers, services providers, researchers, opinion makers, sector leaders and advocates to address the central question:

Where to now for the response to homelessness in the Northern Territory?



Key information

Expressions of Interest: To assist the development and preparation of the edition it would be of great assistance to the work of the edition Steering Committee to be sent an expression of interest in contributing to this edition.

This expression of interest needs only to be a prospective article title and an indication of the main issues that would be covered.

The deadline for expressions of interest is Friday 8 March 2024.

NB (1): If you require assistance with putting together an EOI please contact the Parity Editor at parity@chp.org.au

NB (2): The expression of interest is to assist the Steering Committee. Not submitting an EOI DOES NOT MEAN you cannot contribute to the edition.

Draft submission deadline: All those wanting input and feedback on their draft contributions should try to submit them as early as possible, and preferably no later than Friday April 12th 2024. These should be sent to: parity@chp.org.au

NB:(3) The *Parity* editor will be working in the Northern Territory before the final submission deadline. If you would like assistance from the *Parity* editor then, please contact: parity@chp.org.au

Final submission deadline: All contributions need to be submitted by COB Friday 17 May 2024.

Submissions format: All contributions should be submitted as Word documents, emailed to parity@chp.org.au.

Word length: Contributions can be up to 1,600 words (including references). This equates to a double page spread in *Parity*. Single page articles can be up to 800 words in length. Contributions of a greater length should be discussed with the *Parity* Editor.

Artwork: Contributors are invited to submit the artwork they would like to accompany their article. Inclusion is dependent on the space being available. If artwork is not provided and is required, it will be selected by the *Parity* Editor.



Embedded media: Contributors are able to make suggestions for the placement of relevant hyperlinks, video and other multimedia within their content which can be embedded in the *Parity* online edition. Any suggestions will be reviewed by and decided upon by the *Parity* editor.

Content: By providing your contribution, you confirm and agree that (except where you have referenced or cited any other's work) the contribution is your original work and has not been copied from any other source.

Use: If your contribution is accepted, it will be published by or on CHP's behalf in an edition of the *Parity* magazine. *Parity* is available in hard copy and online.

Assistance and questions: Feedback, input and assistance can be provided with drafts if required. The *Parity* editor is available at all stages of the preparation of your contribution to look at drafts and provide input and feedback. The earlier drafts are received for feedback, the better.

Contact: The *Parity* Editor, Noel Murray, can be contacted on:

e/ parity@chp.org.au
p/ 0466 619 582

References

All works that are cited or referred to in an article should be referenced. *Parity* does not encourage contributors to list a bibliography of references used in the development of an article but are *not* cited in the article. There is simply insufficient space for the inclusion of extensive bibliographies.

In-text citations

CHP uses numbered-citation for all in-text citations.

- Number references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. The first reference you cite will be numbered (1) in the text, and the second reference you cite will be numbered (2), and so on.
- A number is assigned to each reference as it is used. Even if the author is named in your text, a number must still be used.



- References are listed in numerical order at the end of the document.
- If you use a reference consecutively assign the consecutive number and use Ibid.
- If the same reference elsewhere in your article, assign the consecutive number and use op. cit. For example, Seung S 2012, op cit, p. 34.
- The number can be placed outside the text punctuation to avoid disruption to the flow of the text.
- If a single sentence uses two or more citations, simply identify the references one after the other.

For example:

International research has found that resilience in a homeless youth sample correlates with lower levels of psychological distress, suicide ideation, violent behaviour and substance abuse. (4) (5)

Parity referencing style

All references used in *Parity* articles should be listed using the following guidelines:

Books

Author's surname, initial(s), year of publication, Title of book, Publisher, Place of Publication, Page number(s).

For example:

1. Seung S 2012, *Connectome: How the Brain's Wiring Makes Us Who We Are*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston, p.90.

Journal Articles

Author's surname, initial(s), year of publication, 'Title of article', *Title of Journal*, volume number, issue number, Page number(s).

For example:

Trevithick P 2003 'Effective Relationship Based Practice', *Journal of Social Work Practice*, vol.17, no.2, pp.163-176.

Newspaper articles

With identified author:



Authors Surname Initial Year of publication, 'Title of article', *Name of publication*, Date and year of publication, Page number(s) or <URL> if applicable.

For example:

Kissane K 2008, 'Brumby calls for tough sentences', *The Age*, 29 October 2017, p. 8.

With no author:

Use 'Unknown'

For example:

Unknown 2008, 'Brumby calls for tough sentences', *The Age*, 29 October 2017, p. 8.

Webpage/document within a website or blog post

Author's surname (if known) Initial, 'Page/Blog/Document Title', *The person or organisation responsible for the website*, Year of Publication (if known) <URL>

For example:

Greenblatt S, 'A special letter from Stephen Greenblatt', Australian Council of Social Services, 2017 <<http://acoss.org/media/greenblatt>>

Audio podcast

Speaker/Hosts surname Initial, 'Title of episode', *Title of Podcast*, Year and date of Publication, <URL> (if available).

For example:

Todd B 2018, 'What homelessness looks like for women', Stuff Mom Never Told You, 14 March 2018 <<https://www.stuffmomnevertoldyou.com/podcasts/what-homelessness-looks-like-for-women.html>>

Online video/film or documentary

Title Date of recording, Format, Publisher.

For example:

Indigenous homelessness 1992, video recording, Green Cape Wildlife Films.

Personal communication

Personal communication may include (but are not limited to) email, fax, interview, conversations, lectures, speeches, telephone conversations and letters. Usually personal communications do not appear, as the information is not retrievable. However, due to the numbered citations used in *Parity*, we ask that they be included as follows:

Author's surname First name, Method of communication, Date and year of Communication

For example:



Johnson George, Telephone interview, 12 August 2018.

Citing the same reference more than once

When a reference is cited a number of times, use op cit. after the year has been given. If the page number is different from the first use, cite the new page number as well.

For example:

Asante K O and Meyer-Weitz A 2015 op cit. pp. 230-231.

Citing the same reference consecutively

Use Ibid. when the same reference appears consecutively. If the page number is different from the first use, cite the page number as well.

For example:

1. Florn B H 2015, 'The cost of youth homelessness', *Journal of Adolescence*, vol.17, no.2, pp.163-176.

2. Ibid. pp.32-33.

Multiple Authors

For every reference type, give all the authors Surnames and first Initials followed by a comma in the bibliography. The last author listed should be preceded by 'and'.

For example:

Sharp J, Peters J and Howard K 2002, The management of a student research project, Gower, Aldershot, England.