



Parity

Call for Contributions – June 2025

“They’re kicking us around”: homelessness and family violence in Victoria.

Final submission deadline: COB 9 May 2025

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

Submission procedure: If you would like to contribute an article for the edition, the first step is to email the Parity editorial team at parity@chp.org.au with a one-paragraph pitch. This will allow us to provide early feedback on your idea to make it the best read possible. In some cases, if we receive multiple pitches on the same topic, we may suggest to authors that they collaborate on an article.

Introduction

Family violence is the single greatest driver of visits to the homelessness sector in Victoria. More than 29 per cent of women, children, and young people who visit the Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) identified family and domestic violence as the main reason for doing so.

This May, Council to Homeless Persons, in partnership with Safe and Equal and supported by the Lord Mayor’s Charitable Foundation, is launching a landmark report: *Bridging the gap between homelessness and family violence*. *Bridging The Gap* examines the experiences of those seeking support from SHS and Specialist Family Violence Services (SFVS), frequently being referred back and forth without receiving an adequate response; and makes recommendations for how the two sectors can better work together. The June 2025 edition of *Parity* will continue this conversation.

The central focus of this edition is the intersection of family violence and homelessness in Victoria, the experiences of women, young people and children navigating this intersection, and the



challenges and opportunities for the SHS and SFVS to provide crisis and emergency accommodation for these consumers.

We encourage submissions by those with lived experience engaging with the SHS and SFVS sectors. Submissions exploring practice issues are encouraged from workers at the intersection of homelessness and family violence, including but not limited to IAP workers, family violence case managers, refuge managers and staff, those working in the criminal justice system, and policy professionals.

Artwork

All contributors are encouraged to submit any images that they would like to accompany their articles. Please note, it's essential you have the right to reproduce any images you provide for inclusion in the edition. If artwork is not provided and is required, it will be selected by the Parity editorial team.

Guest Editor

This edition of Parity is Guest Edited by Elena Robertson, primary author of the *Bridging The Gap* report.

Topics we'd like to cover

How do women, young people, and children forced into homelessness by family violence experience the SHS and SFVS? (focussing on Lived Experience submissions):

We are interested in hearing from women and young people who have experience with homelessness and family violence, discussing:

- What are the existing housing options for women, young people, and children experiencing family violence and homelessness?
- What are the challenges and barriers in accessing crisis and emergency accommodation for women, young people, and children experiencing family violence and homelessness?
- What are the impacts of homelessness caused by family violence on children and young people?
- What are the potential solutions?

What are the barriers to provision of better services? (seeking both Lived Experience and Service Sector submissions):

- How do funding agreements and packages shape our sectors' responses?



- To what extent does the availability of crisis and emergency accommodation—including the availability of *appropriate* crisis and emergency accommodation—impact our sectors' responses?
- To what extent are the needs of women with large families; AOD issues; experiences of institutionalisation; insecure visa status; pets; mental health issues; and other forms of complexity being met by our sector?
- To what extent are the needs of gender diverse people experiencing homelessness and family violence being met?
- What is and should be the role of motels in the provision of emergency accommodation?

What opportunities exist to shift the burden onto people who use family violence, and therefore reduce the incidence of homelessness for women, young people, and children who have been targeted? (seeking both Lived Experience and Service Sector submissions):

Exploring the concept of accountability, what it might look like if it were men who use violence that entered the SHS and SFVS rather than the people they target? In this section, we welcome submissions that consider:

- Safe at Home responses;
- Current and emerging practice to remove from the home men who use violence;
- Evidence from residential Men's Behaviour Change Programs; and
- Perspectives from men's family violence workers.

Where do we go from here? (seeking both Lived Experience and Service Sector submissions):

- What currently exists in Victoria, Australia, and internationally that demonstrates successful outcomes for women, young people, and children experiencing homelessness and family violence?
- To what extent are existing or emerging programs and interventions effective and why? What would it take to translate these programs and interventions to a Victorian context?
- What are the gaps in research, knowledge, and training that, if filled, would enable us to better respond to family violence and homelessness?
- Contributions exploring, amongst other things, the role of an increased social income; core and cluster refuge expansion; Housing First responses; and
- What role could/should a peer workforce play in responding to family violence and homelessness?



Key information

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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.

Online copies of back editions of *Parity* can be found on:
<http://search.informit.com.au/browseJournalTitle;res=IELHSS;issn=1032-6170>

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* editorial team 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.