

# Northern Territory Project Plan

## NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT ON HOMELESSNESS

### PART 1: PRELIMINARIES

1. This Project Plan is a schedule to the 2014-15 National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness (NPAH) and should be read in conjunction with that Agreement. The objective in the National Partnership is: *The Parties will sustain their commitment to reducing homelessness through sustained effort and partnerships with business, the not for profit sector and the community.*
2. The NPAH supports Commonwealth and jurisdictions efforts to reduce homelessness levels across Australia, recognising that a reduction in homelessness requires targeting key groups: rough sleepers; people experiencing homelessness more than once, people experiencing violence, especially women and children; children and young people, including those subject to or exiting care and protection; Indigenous people; and people exiting social housing and institutional care, such as health and mental health services, juvenile justice or adult prisons. The relationship between overcrowding, housing and homelessness is also recognised.

### PART 2: TERMS OF THIS PROJECT PLAN

3. This Project Plan will commence on 1 July 2014, provided it is agreed between the Commonwealth of Australia, represented by the Minister for Social Services, the Northern Territory, represented by the Minister for Housing.
4. As a schedule to the NPAH, the purpose of this Project Plan is to provide the public with an indication of how the reform or project is intended to be delivered and demonstrate the Northern Territory's capacity to achieve the outcomes of the NPAH.
5. This Project Plan will cease on completion or termination of the NPAH, including the processing of final payments against performance benchmarks or milestones.
6. This Project Plan may be varied by written agreement between the Commonwealth and State Ministers responsible for it under the overarching NPAH.
7. The Parties to this Project Plan do not intend any of the provisions to be legally enforceable. However, that does not lessen the Parties' commitment to the plan and its full implementation.

## PART 3: STRATEGY FOR NORTHERN TERRITORY IMPLEMENTATION

## Initiative information – Service Continuity

Table 1: Description of initiatives

No.	*Initiative Title	Short description of Initiative	Name of Service Provider/s	Output/s addressed (refer to Clause 10 of NP)
1	South Terrace Managed Accommodation (Akangkentye Hostel)	This initiative provides short to medium term managed accommodation for Indigenous people and families who are visiting Alice Springs to seek medical treatment, or to address other essential needs. The facility is known as Akangkentye Hostel and has 18 ground level units of accommodation, an industrial kitchen and a resident's dining room.	Aboriginal Hostels Limited	10g
2	Youth Refuge	This service provides crisis and short term accommodation in Alice Springs to youth, with case management support to help young people focus on their needs and aspirations in response to, and during a period of crisis.	Alice Springs Youth Accommodation and Support Services (ASYASS)	10d, 10i
3	Youth Housing and Advocacy Program	This service provides semi-supported short, medium and long term accommodation for young people who may be single parents, couples, individuals or young families.	Alice Springs Youth Accommodation and Support Services (ASYASS)	10d, 10g, 10i

4	Katherine Family Accommodation Support Service (KFASS)	This service provides short to medium term supported accommodation and case management for individuals and families. Also provides outreach support to clients who have transitioned from Katherine Youth Accommodation and Support Services (KYASS) to promote independence. Service is available to individuals and families in the Katherine region.	Anglicare NT	10g
5	Katherine Youth Accommodation and Support Service (KYASS)	The Katherine Youth Accommodation and Support Service (KYASS) provides crisis and short-term supported accommodation in the Katherine area and coordinates a range of services to ensure young people are linked to support such as education, training, alcohol and other drugs services, living skills and counselling. This service also actively seeks to re-unify young people with their families.	Anglicare NT	10b, 10c, 10d, 10g, 10i
6	Youth Accommodation and Support Services Darwin (YASS D)	This service provides medium to long-term accommodation for young people aged 15-19 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Darwin area. Also provides a proactive casework (outreach support) and inter-agency case management component.	Anglicare NT	10d, 10i
7	Youth Accommodation and Support Services Palmerston and Rural (YASS PR)	This service provides short-term accommodation for young people aged 15-19 who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Palmerston and Rural area. This service also provides a proactive casework (outreach support) and inter-agency case management component.	Anglicare NT	10d, 10i
8	Youth Housing Options and Pathways Program (YHOPP)	The Youth Housing Options and Pathways Program provides medium and long term transitional accommodation and case management services to young people aged 15 to 19 years. This service aims to assist young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to access stable accommodation and support to engage in employment, education or training.	Anglicare NT	10d, 10g, 10i
9	Darwin Aboriginal Islander Women's Shelter Transitional Housing	This initiative provides funding for the operation of eight self-contained transitional housing units. The facility provides transitional accommodation and case management support for women and children escaping domestic and family violence who are looking to transition into public housing.	Darwin Aboriginal & Islander Women's Shelter Inc.	10f, 10g, 10i

10	Youth Crisis Residential Program	This program provides services to assist young Indigenous men and women to access secure accommodation, attend school or training, remain engaged with family and receive support to build life skills. Provision is contingent on the young person being identified as homeless or at risk of homelessness, and their agreement to engage in work, training or education.	Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation	10d, 10i
11	Spin 180 Youth Homelessness Program	The program provides intensive case management, referral and support to divert young people away from homelessness and anti-social behaviour and to increase young people's capacity for social inclusion, self-reliance and self-sufficiency. Aims to strengthen family links.	Mission Australia	10d, 10i
12	Percy Court Managed and Supported Accommodation  (Aherlkeme Village)	This Alice Springs initiative provides 28 self-contained units, made up of seven three-bedroom units, three four-bedroom units and eighteen one-bedroom units. Percy Court (known as Aherlkeme Village) provides case management, support and life skills training to people who are homeless, at risk of homelessness or have no tenancy history for a period of up to 12-months. The program is based on four modules that are delivered on a one-to-one basis with clients each week. Successful participants transition into public housing.	Mission Australia	10g, 10l
13	Supported Accommodation, Darwin	This initiative provides supported accommodation in Darwin to men who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. Delivery of services under this project incorporates provision of accommodation and strength based case management with a focus on capacity building, supporting linkages with key services and preparing clients to exit into alternative accommodation.	Mission Australia	10g
14	Bakhita Transitional Housing.	This services provides transitional housing in Darwin (10 beds) to increase the capacity of the VincentCare program run out of the Bakhita Centre. The beds are for adult males from Department of Housing's priority waitlist. The service provides case management to clients in transitional housing and post accommodation for up to 12 months.	St Vincent de Paul	10g, 10h, 10l
15	VincentCare Bakhita Centre Accommodation and Outreach Services	Bakhita Centre provides medium to long term transitional supported accommodation, case management and outreach services to homeless people in Darwin.	St Vincent de Paul	10b, 10c, 10g, 10h

16	Transitional Aftercare Service <i>(VincentCare Transitional Aftercare Support Service)</i>	This initiative in Darwin provides a medium stay (up to 26 weeks) aftercare, outreach and case management service for adults aged 18 years and over. It operates as a transitional service for people exiting intensive alcohol or other drug rehabilitation, other institutions and entering independent living.	St Vincent de Paul	10b, 10c, 10h
17	Alice Springs Accommodation Program	Provides safe and supported crisis & medium term accommodation and outreach support to homeless men, over 18 years. Service also provides accommodation, outreach & support through the Towards Independence Program Alice Springs (TIPAS) for families who are at risk of becoming homeless.	The Salvation Army (NT)	10g
18	Darwin Homeless Men's Program	Provides short-term accommodation in Darwin to single men for periods up to 13 weeks. The accommodation includes two meals. Also includes information, referral, advocacy and case management.	The Salvation Army (NT)	10g, 10h
19	Case Management – Salvation Army Red Shield Hostel <i>(Red Shield Hostel Community Pathways Program)</i>	This initiative in Darwin provides case management to clients who cycle through homelessness at the Red Shield Hostel, and through outreach services. The initiative assists clients in developing relationships, budgeting skills, goal setting, self-esteem and dealing with complex issues that might hinder their success.	The Salvation Army	10b, 10c, 10g, 10h
20	Towards Independence Program Top End (TIPTE) & Headlease Program	Provides an outreach program to assist families to move from a high dependency lifestyle to one of independence.	The Salvation Army	10g
21	Assistance for people leaving correctional services <i>(Mission Australia Post Release Support Service)</i>	This service works with prisoners who are due for release within three months, and want to re-integrate back into the Darwin, Katherine and Alice Springs communities. After the individual has been released the service continues to provide case management while re-establishing themselves in community. This can help to reduce the likelihood of re-offending.	Mission Australia	10g, 10d, 10i
22	Domestic and Family Violence Support <i>(Alice Springs Womens Shelter)</i>	Funding to increase the capacity of the Alice Springs Womens Shelter to assist women and children escaping domestic and family violence.	Alice Springs Womens Shelter	10f, 10g

23	Young People Leaving Care Program <i>(Moving On)</i>	This program assists young people leaving the care system and those who have previously left the care of the Department of Children and Families to gain independence by providing linkages to employment, education, housing and other support services in accordance with legislative requirements. The support provided to young people leaving care encompasses a range of programs and services that relate to accommodation, education and training, employment, legal and health services and counselling.	Anglicare NT	10b 10c,10d, 10i
24	Tenancy Support Program <i>(TSP)</i>	The Tenancy Support Program provides the opportunity for clients to work with service providers to help maintain their tenancy. Service providers offer case management and life skills training to people in public housing who require assistance to manage and sustain their tenancies. Support ranges from low to intensive level case management depending on the needs of the client.	CatholicCare NT Julalikari Council Aboriginal Corporation Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation Mabunji Aboriginal Resource Association Tangentyere Council Incorporated TSP	10l

**\*Please note: Initiatives can have numerous programs or projects with different service providers that are delivering specific shared outcomes with time and cost constraints.**

## Reform Directions

8. During 2014-15 the Northern Territory will progress the reform direction to continue to work in partnership with service providers on strengthening Tenancy Support Programs in urban and remote areas of the Northern Territory.

## Estimated costs

9. The maximum financial contribution to be provided by the Commonwealth to the jurisdiction is \$5.32m payable in accordance with Part 5 of the NPAH. All payments are exclusive of GST.

## Risk management

10. A risk management plan is in place for service delivery initiatives. Risks have been actively identified, entered into a risk log and categorised in terms of impact and likelihood. The risk management plan does not need to be provided to the Commonwealth.

## Relevant State or Territory Context

11. In developing this Project Plan consideration has been given to the Northern Territory context. Key factors that have influenced the proposed direction include:
  - a. support needed to assist homeless services in remote locations to continue to participate in the National Specialist Homelessness Services Collection;
  - b. remoteness and the significant shortage of affordable housing stock, both for rental and for purchase;
  - c. high numbers of people residing in available housing (overcrowding);
  - d. people escaping domestic and family violence;
  - e. long wait times for public housing in urban and remote areas; and
  - f. the migration of Indigenous people to urban areas with these people often living rough, staying in temporary accommodation or with family or friends.

## Reporting requirements

12. Reporting requirements for jurisdictions under previous NPAHs have been replaced with a requirement for jurisdictions to ensure that NPAH funded agencies participate monthly in the Specialist Homelessness Services Collection (SHSC) administered by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW).
13. The Commonwealth will utilise existing data provided in the SHSC for NPAH reporting. Data will be sourced by the Commonwealth from the SHSC, significantly reducing the reporting burden on jurisdictions.
14. The Northern Territory agrees to ensure funded services that are in scope for the SHSC participate in the SHSC or have an exemption from participation agreed by the Commonwealth.

15. The Commonwealth will monitor agency reporting in the SHSC. The Northern Territory agrees to complete information in through the SHSC regarding:
  - a. non-participation indicator and reason (if applicable); and
  - b. NPAH funding indicator.
  
16. The Northern Territory agrees to allow the AIHW to provide the Department of Social Services (DSS) information to monitor agency participation in the SHSC and confidentialised client level data, including a unique identifier for NPAH-funded agencies, to inform NPAH reporting on client outcomes in relation to NPAH funding. The data provided by the AIHW will not be able to ascertain the identity of SHS clients and agencies, and will satisfy all privacy and confidentiality requirements.
  
17. The AIHW will continue to allow three months for agencies to submit their data and will notify DSS of agencies which are required to participate but have not submitted data into the SHSC after the reporting due date.

### Sign off

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this agreement as follows:

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**Signature**

**Date**

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The Hon Matthew Conlan MLA

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**Signature**

**Date**

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The Hon Kevin Andrews MP