

Shelter SA visits Federal Treasurer, Scott Morrison

Shelter SA has been working with National Shelter to secure a briefing with Treasurer Scott Morrison. With National Shelter, State and Territory Shelters, the Australian Council of Social Services and State CoSSs we will meet with the Treasurer on 28 March, in Canberra, to discuss the future of the National Affordable Housing Agreement, capital gains tax, negative gearing, commonwealth rent assistance and homelessness. We will report back soon on the discussion and outcomes of this important meeting. We also thank Michelle Lensink, SA Shadow Minister for Social Housing, who assisted us to speak with the Treasurer's advisors, advocating for a meeting with the national housing peak body.

PICKLE is helping

If your organisation would like the Shelter SA team to visit your organisation to explain the benefits of the PICKLE App, or you would like to order Pickle posters and/or postcards, please contact us at sheltersa@sheltersa.asn.au or by phone on 08 8223 4077. The PICKLE app has been developed by Shelter SA, with support from a DCSI Community Benefit SA grant. The idea behind PICKLE is to connect young people who are experiencing homelessness, at risk of homelessness, or in unsafe situations, to the nearest possible service organisation, ensuring they get the help they need when they need it. PICKLE appeals to people who might be more inclined to search on-line for assistance rather than making a phone call to a generic help centre, where they may or may not find the support they are looking for including people living with disabilities, from different cultures or experiencing mental health issues. The technology is easy to use – PICKLE is free, quick and private. Data analytics about the age group, types of services being searched and how many people are accessing and using PICKLE is very encouraging. Please take a moment to visit the PICKLE website here: www.pickle.org.au and to download the PICKLE app, go to the App Store or Google Play and search 'Pickle by Shelter SA'. We urge all our stakeholders and supporters to share PICKLE with clients and networks.

Housing Improvement Act 2016

On 3 April 2017, SACAT will be conferred jurisdiction under the Housing Improvement Act 2016. Under these changes SACAT will have the power to review decisions made by the Housing Improvement Branch (which is part of the Department of Communities and Social Inclusion) to make a range of orders, including housing assessment orders, housing improvement orders and housing demolition orders as well as being able to issue rent control notices and notices to vacate. Applications of this kind will be handled by SACAT's Administrative & Disciplinary Stream. SACAT will also be able to deal with "housing improvement tenancy disputes" which are:

- Disputes between parties or former parties to a residential tenancy agreement (including residential parks and rooming houses) about matters arising under the Housing Improvement Act, and
- Any matter that may be the subject of an application under the Housing Improvement Act to SACAT (such as an order for ejection, for enforcement of an ejection order by a Tribunal bailiff or an order for compensation under section 23 of the Housing Improvement Act).

Applications of this kind will be handled by SACAT's Housing & Civil Stream. SACAT's online application form will be updated in the coming weeks to allow such applications to be made to the Tribunal from 3 April 2017. Further information about these changes will soon be published on the SACAT website [here](#).

Fund My Community Grants – workshops

Are you interested in applying for a Fund My Community grant, or need assistance with the application process? The South Australian Government is holding two back-to-back workshops for prospective applicants of the Fund My Community Program from 9:30am on Wednesday 22 March 2017. The first workshop will focus on the application process and will cover a range of topics, including:

- An overview of FMC
- Learnings from past FMC rounds
- Eligibility criteria
- Navigating the online application form
- Writing your FMC application (with one-on-one help available if you need it)
- Results Based Accountability

The second workshop will focus on using online tools such as web presence and social media to promote your application. To register, please visit the [information for applicants page](#). Applications for Fund My Community grants 2017 close 5.00pm 31 March 2017. For more information on Fund My Community 2017, please visit www.yoursay.sa.gov.au/fmc2017.