

Shelter SA
Unit 44/81 Carrington Street
Adelaide, 5000

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15th, 2013

Media Contact:

Dr. Alice Clark
0425 060 649; alice.clark@sheltersa.asn.au

Views on homelessness are best kept “private”

The new Shelter SA Discussion Paper “**Private Voices Public Issues**” is being released today. If you’re interested in homelessness in South Australia read on! The discussion paper is important because it includes unheard voices and private perspectives on homelessness which are not always included in public policy debates. Shelter SA events and interviews with people working in the homelessness sector from both government and non-government agencies places findings in the context of a workforce development strategy, to ensure the best outcomes for homeless people. Dr. Alice Clark, Executive Director of Shelter SA said, “We examine the dominant voice of government, the more hidden voices of workers but particularly the deafening silence when it comes to people experiencing homelessness themselves”. Shelter SA advocates for safe, affordable and appropriate housing for all South Australians especially people living on low incomes and aims to encourage public discussion by:

- including unheard and minority voices in discourse around homelessness without privileging one perspective or knowledge base over the other;
- creating a shared understanding of the positives and negatives within the sector;
- shedding light on ways to improve service delivery within the homelessness sector;
- supporting healthy relationships within and between Government and non-Government service providers
- producing a range of possible solutions, emanating from the field, for consideration by Government, individuals and groups.

The discussion paper is available [here](#) – we encourage you to circulate to anyone who shares our interest. Address any comments or questions to Alice Clark, Executive Director of Shelter SA, alice.clark@sheltersa.asn.au.

Public feedback will be collated and posted on the Shelter SA website www.sheltersa.asn.au in the near future so watch this space!

Shelter SA is a peak housing organisation and advocates for improved housing outcomes for everyone, including those who are on low incomes and who are living with disadvantage. Access to affordable, appropriate and secure long-term housing is the key to overall social well-being, and is critical to improving health and education outcomes for everyone.