



### HOW DOES THE STATE GOVERNMENT HELP PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS OR AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS?

The Western Australian State Government together with not-for-profit community service sector organisations is committed to responding in new and sustainable ways to give people at risk of, or experiencing homelessness, the opportunity to move beyond the immediate crisis and into long term sustainable housing.

The Western Australian State Government assists people experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless through direct service provision and by contracting and funding not-for-profit community sector services to provide support and accommodation.

In Western Australia, the Department for Child Protection and Family Support is the lead agency responsible for the coordination and implementation of funding for homelessness services through the National Affordable Housing Agreement; and the National Partnership Agreement.

In Western Australia, approximately, \$81 million for 2015-16 is allocated to the not-for-profit community services sector for the provision of homelessness and domestic violence accommodation and support services. Services include supported crisis and transitional accommodation, outreach programs for rough sleepers, day centres where homeless people can access food, medical attention and hot showers, housing and tenancy support services and family and domestic violence services, across the metropolitan and regional areas of the State.

#### Recent Homelessness Initiatives

The **Kalgoorlie Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation** facility opened in January 2013, providing accommodation for up to 41 people who are visiting Kalgoorlie from remote communities.

New purpose built premises for the **Salvation Army's Homelessness Services – The Beacon** opened in February 2014. The Beacon is an inner city service providing 102 rooms to accommodate and support to single men, couples and women.

A new **Women's Refuge in Busselton** opened in February 2014. The refuge is able to accommodate 6 women and their children who are escaping domestic violence.

**Entrypoint Perth** commenced in February 2014. It is a free assessment and referral service assisting people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in the Perth metropolitan area to access accommodation and support options.

The **Foyer Oxford** opened in March 2014 providing accommodation and case management support to 98 young homeless people aged 16-25, including young parents and young people who have been in the care of the Department for Child Protection and Family Support.

**Tom Fisher House** as an Interim Night Shelter commenced in April 2014. It is a joint partnership between the State Government and the St Vincent de Paul Society. The

Interim Night Shelter accommodates up to eight chronically homeless men over the age of 18 years. A new purpose built facility due for completion in February 2016 will have 10 rooms with two rooms being able to take couples.

**Derby Aboriginal Short Stay Accommodation** commenced in September 2014. It is able to accommodate up to 54 people in both individual and family units. The facility was designed for Aboriginal people who are visiting Derby, who would otherwise sleep rough or in overcrowded situations. It started taking in guests in September 2014.

The new **women's refuge in the Ellenbrook Region** is currently under construction. This is scheduled to open in early 2016.

A new larger facility for the **Wooree Miya Women's Refuge** is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion in mid 2016.