

## Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria

**Name:** Cathy Fischer

**Organisation:**

**Organisation position:**

**In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this Inquiry into homelessness to consider:** Rough sleeping,Services,Public housing,Indigenous people,Family violence,Housing affordability,Mental health,Employment

**What best describes your interest in our Inquiry?** Working in the alcohol or other drug services sector

**Are there any additional themes we should consider?**

**Submission:** Approximately 80% of the people I work with have homelessness or are in a housing crisis of some type. Finland fixed homelessness using the Housing First model and providing all homeless people with housing. It is well proven that housing fixes homelessness and that it is very economical to do so as it massively decreases the burden homelessness places upon emergency services, hospitals and the justice system. When people have secure and stable housing they can recover from trauma, addiction and mental health problems and begin to contribute to their community.

**Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?**

**Signature:** Cathy Fischer