

Inquiry into Homelessness in Victoria

Ms Ellie O'Connor

Organisation Name:

Your position or role:

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Drag the statements below to reorder them. In order of priority, please rank the themes you believe are most important for this inquiry into homelessness to consider::

Public housing,Services,Mental health,Housing affordability,Family violence,Indigenous people,Rough sleeping,Employment

What best describes your interest in our Inquiry? (select all that apply) :

Working in the mental health sector ,Working in the alcohol or other drug services sector ,Working with Aboriginal Victorians ,Working in Homelessness services ,Working in the health sector

Are there any additional themes we should consider?

YOUR SUBMISSION

Submission:

As a social worker I see numerous under privileged people of society who have endured extreme hardship from birth living in public/community housing. Too many times social workers see these damaged individuals lose their housing due to a lack of support in maintaining there tenancies.

This is due to mental illness, drug and alcohol, incarceration, disability, low income (new start allowance) etc.

The majority of homeless Victorians I professionally support have previously held tenancy's in the housing system but lost it for the reasons mentioned above. All community support agency's are spread shockingly thin and we can see that through the extremely high rates of burn out community support roles.

As a professional in the field who works with homeless Victorians on a daily basis and have so for the past 5 years, I believe improving community support organizations can strengthen the housing support so many of public housing residents require. Particularly the mental health and AOD services.

Do you have any additional comments or suggestions?:

The rooming houses available to homeless Victorians are incredibly inhuman. They need to be regulated to ensure the most disadvantaged and vulnerable people are not being taken advantage of.

FILE ATTACHMENTS

File1:

File2:

File3:

Signature:

Ellie