



Message from our CEO

Our Newsletter has a name

In our last edition we asked you to suggest a name for our newsletter and I'm pleased to announce the new name is Inside Westside. A big thank you to everyone who submitted their great ideas. Tenants who submitted a name were in the running for a \$100 Coles Myer Gift Card and Tim from Kilburn (pictured) was the lucky winner.



Looking for Contributors

Westside is your newsletter. We are looking for people interested in being on our Editorial Panel. We will have four meetings a year at our office in Prospect or you can participate via phone. If you are interested call Alison on 8155 6070. If you don't have much time you can submit your ideas for articles via our website, www.wha.org.au or email admin@wha.org.au.

Julie Rehn
CEO

Westside Values	Pg 2	Thinking of buying a home	Pg 3
Pets	Pg 2	Monica's Story	Pg 3
Complaints	Pg 2	Cost of Living Concession	Pg 3
New Manager welcome	Pg 2	Community Events	Pg 4
		Mental Health	Pg 4

Kids show us what makes you happy

Are you under 16? Feeling creative? Send us your artwork!

We would love to have your art-work up in our office for everyone to see and of course, great prizes are up for grabs for your efforts!

Send your picture on A4 paper and we will display it at our office. Westside Housing Association
PO Box 445 PROSPECT, SA 5082

Inside the envelope write your name, age, address and phone number.

Competition closes 31 August 2015

Win 1 of 3 Gift Cards up to \$100. Get parental or guardian permission to enter.



Westside meets the requirements of our new Regulator

Westside has successfully registered as a Tier 2 community housing provider. Community housing organisations have to undertake a thorough review every year with the Office of the Community Housing Regulator to make sure they meet new national standards.

These new regulations provide assurance for government and investors whilst ensuring that we are well managed and meet the housing needs of tenants.



Westside wins award

Westside is pleased and humbled to be announced as the winner of the "Tenant-Led Initiative" category at the SA AHI Awards for Professional Excellence in Housing. Westside has been recognised for its work, providing a viable alternative to co-operative housing which has been rapidly declining in recent years.

Delighted by the news, Julie Rehn, CEO said "Westside is committed to using this period of rapid change in social housing to capture the strengths of housing co-operatives and let go of the weaknesses. Co-op members have put their faith in Westside by giving up control over their housing and they are continuing to contribute their ideas

Continued inside



WESTSIDE'S VALUES –

What should they be?

In 2014 we became independent of a Church based agency. The next step is to establish the values that will guide the way we work. Staff have come up with 7 values they believe are important:

- ✓ Courage
- ✓ Empathy
- ✓ Integrity
- ✓ Professionalism
- ✓ Respect
- ✓ Teamwork
- ✓ Trust

What do you think?

Phone Alison 8155 6070 or give us your comments through our website wha.org.au.
Closing date Monday 31 August

Welcome to new housing co-ops

Once again we are pleased to welcome new tenants who have chosen to transfer from a housing co-operative. Co-op members have worked tirelessly for many years to run their organisations. Some have now chosen to transfer their homes to Westside.

Welcome to members of:

- Craigmores Housing Co-operative
- ISIS Housing Co-operative (16 members)
- W.I.S.E. Housing Co-operative



Vic and Sommer

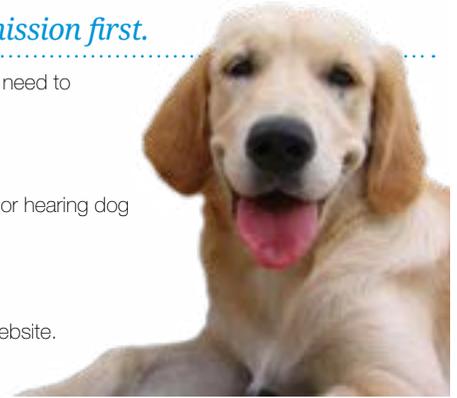
Pets

It's okay to have a pet, if you get permission first.

Pets can be great companions but there are things we need to consider like:

- whether the property is suitable for the pet
- whether the pet is an assistance pet, like a guide or hearing dog
- whether the dog is subject to a Control Order
- the neighbours

Pet request forms are available from our office or our website.



COMPLAINTS

All feedback is welcome. At Westside we want to provide a great service and one of the best ways for us to do this is by receiving feedback from you on what we do well and where we can improve.

Resolving complaints can help us to provide better services for you, so telling us if something is or isn't working can help us to come up with solutions that could benefit everyone.

Feedback and Complaints

To give us your feedback or complaint speak to a Westside staff member.

Hopefully we can resolve the issue straight away. If this isn't possible, you can ask for your concern to be passed onto a manager to try to find a solution.

If you don't feel comfortable speaking to someone about your concerns, ask for a copy of our Feedback Form or head to our website at <http://wha.org.au/contact/feedback>

Response Time

We will try to respond to you as soon as possible. If we need to investigate you will receive a response within 14 days. If the issue needs to be escalated we will keep you informed regularly of progress until the matter is finalised.



If you feel that you need support through the complaints process contact the Tenant Information and Advocacy Service (TIAS) on 8305 9459 or 1800 060 462.

Westside wins award *Continued from pg 1*

and skills to the organisation to develop a community that is sustainable into the future" Over the past year Westside has welcomed 101 homes from 9 housing co-operatives including; La Luna, Roof Over Our Heads (ROOHS), Resourceful, Permaculture, Halifax, House One, Women of Independent Status and Expression (W.I.S.E.), Craigmores and ISIS Housing Co-operatives.

Westside welcomes a new manager

Vic joined Westside in May this year. Vic is responsible for ensuring our tenants receive excellent service and that we comply with legislation and other government requirements.

Prior to joining Westside, Vic was the Chief Operating Officer for a Tier 1 organisation in NSW. After visiting Adelaide for a holiday in October 2014, Vic decided Adelaide was the place for him and relocated in December bringing with him his wife, Tracy and a recent addition to the family, a Beagle puppy.

Thinking of buying a home?

With interest rates at an all-time low, you may be considering purchasing your first home.

If so, here are some State Government initiatives to help you take that first step.

1. \$50,000 boost from Homestart

Did you know that as a tenant of Westside you may be eligible for an additional \$50,000 loan when you purchase any home. Visit homestart.com.au for more information, or call 1300 636 878

2. Exclusive sales to people on lower incomes

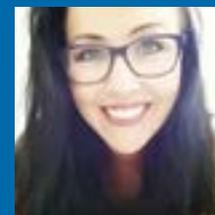
There are a range of homes (new

and existing) for sale under the Affordable Homes Program. These properties are only available to people who earn less than \$75,000 (singles) or \$95,000 (couples or families up to 3 children), more for larger families. www.affordablehomes.sa.gov.au

3. Grants and Stamp Duty Concessions

You may be eligible for: - \$15,000 First Home Owner Grant, or - Partial Stamp Duty Concession for an off-the-plan apartment in Adelaide, Bowden or Gilberton See www.revenuesa.gov.au/grants-and-concessions

MONICA'S STORY



When I first started renting with Westside

9+ years ago, I never thought I would end up where I am today.

9+ years ago I was on the disability support pension struggling to come to terms with that fact that at 26 I was unable to work full time to support myself. I still wanted my independence and a friend of mine had been part of the Co-op and was kind enough to have me voted in, within a few months a house became available and Salisbury East became my home.

After many years of treatment and emotional support from family and friends I was able to start working part time and eventually full time (now 5+ years on). I am now studying part time to obtain my Masters in Business and am still working full time.

There have been many struggles over the years, but I have always appreciated the support of Westside Housing and the staff and feel that it is now time for me to 'pay it forward' in the hopes that the next person can get what they need from this opportunity.

Thank you Westside Housing, you are very much appreciated.

Monica

Get into your own home sooner.

HomeStart's EquityStart Loan helps to boost borrowing power for current community housing tenants.

An additional loan of up to \$50,000 is combined with a standard HomeStart loan, which you could use to buy the Westside home you're living in (if it's for sale), or to build or buy another property.



To find out more, visit homestart.com.au or call 1300 636 878



Would you love to buy your own home but think your income is too low?

Excited to find out more... suddenly your home owner goals are looking much more achievable!

Habitat for Humanity builds decent, affordable houses for families on low income

enquiries.sa@habitat.org.au

8344 6009

www.habitat.org.au/sa



Habitat for Humanity South Australia

Everyone deserves a place to call home

Cost of Living Concession

Have you applied for the state government cost of living concession? You may be eligible for a concession of up to \$100. Applications must be submitted to by 31 October 2015. For details phone the Concessions Hotline on 1800 307 758 or search Cost of Living Concession on www.sa.gov.au

Give Away

Do you need a filing cabinet?

Westside have 5, 4 drawer filing cabinets to give away. If you are interested, please contact our office on 8155 6070 to register your interest. We will pick people at random and contact you if you are successful to arrange a time to deliver to you.



Community Events

Resources and Community Events



HUTT ST CENTRE
**WALK A MILE
IN MY BOOTS**

7:30AM - 31 JULY MCLAREN VALE / 7 AUG ADELAIDE / 14 AUG BAROSSA

STEP UP FOR ADELAIDE'S HOMELESS
Register at walkamile.org.au
or call 8418 2515

/HuttStCentre
#walkamile



About 6,000 people experience homelessness in South Australia each year. Please take an hour out of your day and join thousands of other South Australians to walk a mile to show your support for people facing homelessness.

In 2015 we want to see 6,000 people walking a mile in the boots of the 6,000 people who are homeless each year in South Australia. No person who is homeless should feel like they're walking alone.

Walk a mile in my boots is Hutt St Centre's official National Homelessness Prevention Week event, with the Adelaide event in its seventh year and the largest of its type in Australia. Our regional events in McLaren Vale and Barossa Valley will also be returning this year for the second time.

Westside's staff will be participating in the city walk "Walk a Mile in my Boots" 7.30am Friday 7 August Victoria Park/

Pakapakantha, (Wakefield St entrance) Adelaide. If you would like to support the great work of Hutt St Centre (cost \$5-\$25), we would love to have you walk with us. Please contact Michelle Roberts 8155 6073 and mroberts@wha.org.au to register your interest.

Walk a mile in my boots will give you an insight into what people who are vulnerable and experiencing homelessness face each cold winter morning – walking the streets to get breakfast, a cup of tea and a hot shower – by experiencing that life for one hour, walking one mile. So start gathering your friends, family and colleagues and get ready to walk a mile with us.

McLaren Vale, Friday 31 July 2015
Adelaide, Friday 7 August 2015
Barossa Valley, Friday 14 August 2015

To find out more visit walkamile.org.au or email events@huttstcentre.org.au

Ticket Bounty

With an average of only 80% of cinema seats used in each session, Ticket Bounty has partnered with cinemas to create great movie ticket deals. Tickets start from as little as \$6.95. For more information and a lists of participating cinemas and available movies visit www.ticketbounty.com.au/

Something on Saturday

The Adelaide Festival Centre's Something on Saturday program has been going strong every Saturday throughout winter for over 38 years. Live performance tickets start at \$14.50 and the Foundation Kids Corner offers free craft workshops. Your kids will love it! Check out the website and program at www.adelaidefestivalcentre.com.au/whats-on/something-on-saturday/

Playground Fun

There are so many great playgrounds around Adelaide where you can take your kids to run and climb and enjoy the outdoors. Playground finder is a website that lists all of the great playgrounds in Adelaide and lets people using the playgrounds with their kid's rate them. Visit the website and click on South Australia to find a great playground close to you www.playgroundfinder.com

Mental Health

Beyond Blue

3 million Australians are living with anxiety or depression, Beyond blue is a service working to reduce the impact of anxiety, depression and suicide in the community by raising awareness and understanding.



They offer support, facts information and resources for all ages, either by a telephone helpline 24/7, chat online 3pm – 12am 7 days a week or email.

Call 1300 22 4636

Beyondblue.org.au

Westside Housing Association Inc.

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Ph: (08) 8155 6070 Email: admin@wha.org.au
Office Hours 9.00am to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday