

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR & CEO

Housing is a core human right and the foundation every Australian needs for full economic and community participation, yet on any given night in Queensland more than 21,000 people are homeless.

Every day, our members and staff see the human face behind the homelessness statistics. Homelessness doesn't discriminate between age or background. For some, homelessness is a one-off occurrence; for others, it is prolonged or episodic, entwined with periods of housing.

Whether it be sleeping on the streets or moving between temporary situations, to living in a crowded or unsafe dwelling, homelessness affects a person's ability to participate in family and community life. The situation is steadily getting worse with growing numbers of people living without secure accommodation or experiencing housing stress and the social housing system is struggling to cope with the increasing demand. As a society, we are called to do more - in the words of the Society's founder, Blessed Fredrick Ozanam, "Let us not be discouraged, let us be better."

In 2017, the St Vincent de Paul Society Queensland established Vinnies Housing, a wholly owned subsidiary, to further the Society's mission to relieve poverty, distress and disadvantage through a renewed and strengthened focus on the provision of subsidised housing options and affordable housing and support services to people experiencing housing stress, homelessness or at risk of homelessness

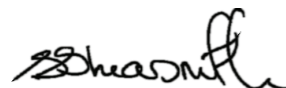
This Strategic Plan 2018-2023 aligns with the five overarching strategies identified in the Society's Strategic Plan 2017-2022 and aims to guide the works of Vinnies Housing, in partnership with the Society, to deliver effective housing services to those in need through our shared themes of Spirituality, Story, Partnerships, Governance and Sustainability. These strategies provide the platform for us to remain steadfastly committed to our Mission, to face change where it is required, reinforce our spirituality and underpin our sustainability. It provides a grounding and embeds proper planning and best practises in all that we do.

This Strategic Plan has been developed in consultation with the Society and formally approved by the Society's State Council. We are called on and challenged to further develop the scope of the affordable housing and support services we offer to meet the expectations of our companions in need. Through this plan and our collective members, volunteers, staff and supporters, we seek to facilitate a measured and sound response to that call.

We invite all Vincentian members, volunteers and employees, to join us on this journey over the next five years and rise to 'the call to more'. Together, we can commit to make the Vinnies Housing Strategic Plan 2018-2022 a success so that we can better serve those living on the margins of society and meet the primary challenge of our mutual mission to be unambiguous in our desire to serve Christ in the Poor.



Dennis Innes
Chair



Sharon Shearsmith
CEO



St Vincent de Paul Society QLD
Housing *good works*

STRATEGIC PLAN 2018-2023

CONTACT US

For more information on the Strategic Plan please contact:

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STRATEGIC THEME 1 – OUR SPIRITUALITY

GOAL Support all of our members and staff involved in Vinnies Housing to become fully engaged in and committed to our Mission of serving Christ and the poor through a true understanding of their needs.

OBJECTIVES

- Deliver on the Society's mission by providing appropriate housing services which meet the needs of people experiencing or at risk of housing crisis.
- Support the establishment of and consultation with regional or local Housing and Homelessness Committees in any geographical location within Queensland where there is an identified need and desire to provide a more coordinated response.
- Facilitate the training of key stakeholders and implementation of resources which further the Society's mission and improve responses to housing needs across Queensland.

STRATEGIC THEME 2 – OUR STORY

GOAL Enhance the outcomes of our work through engagement with our people and the community, enriching and celebrating our collective successes.

OBJECTIVES

- Collaborate to develop a framework utilising a whole of organisational approach which enables people in need of housing services to access the full range support services available across regions to maximise our collective impact.
- Develop a strategy and resources to promote the Vinnies Housing brand and its good works to key stakeholders and with the community.
- Establish systems which monitor the effectiveness of our work, share our outcomes and actively seek to identify continuous improvement opportunities.

STRATEGIC THEME 3 – OUR PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL Develop and grow our partnerships to ensure sustainability and positive outcomes for all stakeholders.

OBJECTIVES

- Evaluate and strengthen existing partnerships.
- Identify strategies for sustaining and building partnerships across all sectors to enhance our sustainability and service delivery outcomes.
- Explore opportunities to merge with or acquire properties and/or tenancy management to promote the objects of Vinnies Housing.

STRATEGIC THEME 4 – OUR GOVERNANCE

GOAL Maintain appropriate, effective and efficient governing and support structures to enhance values, culture and operations consistent with those of the Society.

OBJECTIVES

- Pro-actively engage with the Society and other key stakeholders in order to shape present and future requirements.
- Provide training and resources which promote good governance and effective tenancy and property management practices including probity in procurement.
- Review and maintain systems for future capital expenditure planning and strategic asset management including an appropriate IT platform.

STRATEGIC THEME 5 – OUR SUSTAINABILITY

GOAL To strengthen our performance and capacity to sustainably resource our organisation to enable us to continue to effectively to support those we assist.

OBJECTIVES

- Measure our effectiveness by developing appropriate key performance indicators and outcomes reporting frameworks.
- Develop a consultation framework to support the identification of housing need, program opportunities and the securing of resources and funding to sustainably respond to housing needs.
- Develop a robust monitoring and evaluation framework to ensure financial stability and sustainability.

OUR MISSION

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires to live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate community.

OUR VISION

The Society aspires to be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering “a hand up” to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

OUR VALUES

Commitment – Loyalty in service to our mission, vision and values.

Compassion – Welcoming and serving all with understanding and without judgement.

Respect – Service to all regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinions.

Integrity – promoting, maintaining and adhering to our mission, vision and values.

Empathy – Establishing relationships based on respect, trust, friendship and perception.

Advocacy – Working to transform the causes of poverty and challenging the causes of human injustice.

Courage – Encouraging spiritual growth, welcoming innovation and giving hope for the future.

OUR AMBITION

We are committed to supporting people through their life journey, ensuring human connection and service provision that enriches lives and empowers communities. We will do this through person to person engagement and exemplary service provision that enriches their lives and contributes to strengthening the communities in which they live.

OUR ASPIRATION

We aspire to serve Christ in the poor through service to and unwavering support for those who suffer deprivation, marginalisation and inequality.