

ALL NEW ZEALANDERS WELL-HOUSED



Community Housing Aotearoa (CHA) Newsletter 22 September 2020

Welcome to the fortnightly newsletter of Community Housing Aotearoa *Nga Wharerau o Aotearoa*.

Included in this issue – CHA and Te Matapihi providing homelessness sector services, recruitment for a Policy and Practice Manager (Homelessness) and a Communications Manager at CHA, World Homelessness Day, plus other sector news and upcoming events.

Homelessness Sector Services Underway!

CHA and **Te Matapihi** have been contracted by **HUD** to establish a homelessness sector service to “support the homelessness sector to improve the wellbeing and housing outcomes of individuals and whānau who are at risk of, or experiencing homelessness through prevention, supply, support and system change.”

Many of you will have joined one of the twelve zoom sessions held by **CHA** and **Te Matapihi** over July and August to discuss the establishment of the new service.

We were hugely impressed with the passion of providers on the ground, particularly given the stress of **Covid-19**, the range of organisations involved in the sector, and the growing level of local coordination.

We received great feedback from sector organisations and people with lived experience on how this service might help. Most sessions raised the need for permanent affordable housing that offered people choices, and the importance of not losing sight of the end

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Community Housing Aotearoa \(CHA\) Newsletter 22 September 2020](#)

[Homelessness Sector Services Underway!](#)

[CHA is recruiting – Communications Manager and Policy and Practice Manager \(Homelessness\)](#)

[Evolution at CHA – aligning senior roles with strategic plan](#)

[World Homelessness Day - 10 October 2020](#)

[Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development](#)

[Affordable Housing Underway At Wānaka Subdivision Hikuwai](#)

[Update on Emergency Housing Contribution](#)

[Final call for responses -
CHA member survey 2020](#)

[In the news](#)

[EVENTS](#)

[The Changing
Environment of
Residential Tenancy Law
workshop 20 October](#)

[Australasian Housing
Institute](#)

ISSN 2463-2619

goal. Growing kaupapa Māori approaches was acknowledged as critical to ending homelessness long term.

There was a great deal of interest in more coordinated responses, a stronger voice to government, workforce development support, and tools to both improve our effectiveness and to track our progress towards ending homelessness.

CHA and Te Matapihi are delivering the **Homelessness Sector Services** in collaboration and there is an ongoing process to foster the working partnership between the two organisations. We are coming back out to organisations and networks to keep communication flowing and discuss local priorities.

We are working on the roll out of the **Local Partnership and Innovation Fund** – getting the information out to providers and assisting with coordination in the regions. Information sessions are underway on changes to the **Residential Tenancies Act**, and we will be talking to **Transitional Housing Providers** about the proposed **Code of Practice**.

CHA continues to work with **HUD** to understand their priorities under the **Homelessness Action Plan** so that work with the sector can be planned and coordinated.

Both **CHA** and **Te Matapihi** have additional resourcing dedicated to working with the homelessness sector, and **CHA** are recruiting a new **Policy and Practice Manager (Homelessness)**.

The work will grow over time as the team settles in, and priorities emerge.

If you have any questions or suggestion please contact **David Zussman** via [email](#).

CHA is recruiting – Communications Manager and Policy and Practice Manager (Homelessness)

Are you interested in applying your skills at a national level? Please apply to join the CHA team and work towards 'All New Zealanders well-housed' in one of the two currently open full-time roles:

- [Communications Manager](#)
- [Policy and Practice Manager \(Homelessness\)](#)

The position descriptions are in the links above. For more information, please contact Heather Walker, Mana Recruitment on +64 9 632 1108 or Heather@manarecruitment.co.nz

Evolution at CHA – aligning senior roles with strategic plan

We are pleased to announce two changes in the senior team at CHA: David Zussman is taking on a new role as Manager Engagement and Support, and will now lead our overall Communications, Engagement and provider support work across the housing continuum. The two open roles will be part of David's team – the Communications Manager and Policy and Practice Manager (Homelessness).

Brennan Rigby's role is now named Manager Systems Shift, with the role now designed to fully integrate The Shift Aotearoa Project into CHA's overall evolution as a systems change organisation. This will facilitate the internal growth, sector growth and system settings work supporting our vision of 'All New-Zealanders well-housed'.

Kia kaha David and Brennan!

World Homelessness Day - 10 October 2020



If you are hosting or convening activities relating to **World Homelessness Day (WHD)** please let us know and we will include those in the next newsletter and via other channels.

The Shift Aotearoa [website](#) has a dedicated page for WHD and we will be building content from now till 10.10.20.

If you would like to **add content** to this page please make contact via email [here](#).

We also want to hear the voices of those working in homelessness through COVID-19, as well as the voices of people with lived experience. **Community Housing Aotearoa** through **the Shift Aotearoa** will compile a series of interviews for WHD – these will be released on **the Shift Aotearoa** website on **Friday 9 October**. We are hoping for diverse experiences, and we are not only looking for managers and CEOs, but for those who would like to share a story, or explore the experience in more depth.

To share a story or experience please make contact via email [here](#).

We are also supporting **The Shift** (the global team) in their WHD project '*Global Action on Homelessness*'. They are also seeking to gather stories and voices: they have provided a script on claiming the right to housing, and invite especially those living in homelessness to record this in their own voice, and share it to the team.

The script and more details are now available on our [website](#).

Government Policy Statement on Housing and Urban Development

The Ministry of Housing & Urban Development is continuing its early engagement on the Government Policy Statement (GPS-HUD) and has released [presentation materials](#) which provide an overview of this work. You can also read more about it on the [HUD website](#). For more information on the Government Policy Statement please email your enquiry to HUD_GPS@hud.govt.nz.

CHA is participating in the engagement by providing sector knowledge and encourages your participation. In general, we are saying that the GPS should set out the policies, practices and resource flows across a well-functioning housing system, that makes real the right to housing. We are collecting sector views from those who've participated in the early feedback, and will summarise in due course. Please contact [Scott](#) or [Brennan](#) with any thoughts you have that you'd like CHA to include its engagement.

Affordable Housing Underway At Wānaka Subdivision Hikuwai

Queenstown Lakes Community Housing Trust's ground-breaking assisted ownership model, Secure Home, is coming to Wānaka for the first time – with six houses under construction at Hikuwai.

Click [here](#) to see the full article

Update on Emergency Housing Contribution

The Ministry of Social Development has confirmed the Emergency Housing Contribution which the Government announced in February this year will go into effect beginning 19 October.

The contribution was meant to go live at the end of March but was delayed because of the Level 4 COVID-19 response. From **19 October**, people living in emergency housing more than seven nights will need to need to pay 25% of their income towards their housing costs.

For more information read the [announcement](#) on the MSD website and review the [Cabinet papers](#) regarding the decision.

Final call for responses - CHA member survey 2020

The strength of our sector is built on the strength of the members of Community Housing Aotearoa. We want to ensure we are delivering value to you, and delivering on the sector's strategic plan. If you are a full or partner member of CHA, you should have received a link to

member survey on SurveyMonkey three weeks ago (only one person per organisation to respond please). Please contact Ngahuia Wright at support@communityhousing.org.nz to confirm membership details if you have not received the link to the survey. Thank you for taking the time to help us understand how we are doing in meeting your expectations.

In the news

- [Covid-19: NZ in the eye of the storm - Māori social housing provider](#)
- [Public Housing wait list nears 20,000 applicants](#)
- [How much Government paid Tauranga motels for emergency housing during lockdown](#)
- [Here's why more Aucklanders should move to Christchurch](#)
- [Moving people into stable housing necessary to break poverty cycle](#)
- [Good credit, good references and still one of 200 waiting for social housing](#)
- [New Zealand now: Housing at July 2020](#)
- [Green Party And TOP Commit To Introducing Rent Caps](#)
- [Five Nelson electorate candidates outline plans for housing](#)

EVENTS

The Changing Environment of Residential Tenancy Law workshop 20 October

Are you and your team ready for the new environment developing in the community housing space? Since December 2018 there have been numerous and significant changes to Residential Tenancy Law in Aotearoa New Zealand. Providers and advocates benefit from up to date information in order to fully support vulnerable tenants on their housing journey. Please sign up to spend the day exploring this evolving landscape.

This one-day workshop takes an in-depth look at law changes and the impact they will have for both tenants and housing providers. As well as putting the new legislation under the microscope, there will be an opportunity for organisations to brainstorm the steps they need to take to be ready for this new landscape.

Workshop Content:

- An overview of all the changes to Tenancy Law since December 2018 including damage liability and methamphetamine
- An in-depth look at the most recent changes focusing on:
 - Changes to the status of Transitional Housing
 - Changes to termination of tenancy provisions
 - Changes to fixed term tenancies and how this effects community housing providers
 - Strengthening access to Tenancy Tribunal for vulnerable

tenants

- Additional provisions to increase housing security

- Consideration of how these changes will impact Community housing providers and their tenants
- The challenges and opportunities presented by the law changes

Cost: \$150 + GST per person (includes lunch)

When: Tuesday 20 October 9am-3.30pm

Where: Venue to be confirmed – central Wellington

Register now by clicking the link: <https://tenancy-law-wellington.lilregie.com/>

Please circulate this message around your networks to anyone you feel might benefit from attending.

I look forward to seeing you.

Regards

Kathryn Burton

Workshop Facilitator

Australasian Housing Institute

Check out the upcoming AHI online workshops and events on their [website](#).

24 September - Influencing without Authority

6 October - Preventing Debt and Recovering Arrears

8 October - Having Difficult Conversations

14 October - Case Notes and Record Keeping