



# Homelessness Australia

*Creating a framework for ending homelessness*

## **MEDIA ALERT**

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### **Will You Be Homeless in 2020? National Homeless Persons' Week to be Launched in Sydney**

**Homelessness Australia, the national peak body representing homelessness service providers and advocating for people experiencing homelessness will launch National Homeless Persons' Week in Sydney on Monday 2 August.**

The Australian Government's Minister for Housing and the Status of Women, The Hon. Tanya Plibersek, MP will launch National Homeless Persons week in conjunction with Homelessness Australia.

**What: *Will You Be Homeless in 2020? National Homeless Persons' Week 2010***

**When: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010, 10am-11am**

**Where: Caretaker's Cottage, Youth Refuge, 96 Bondi Road, Bondi Junction, NSW 2022.**

At the launch, Homelessness Australia's National Chairperson Narelle Clay, AM will tell those present that while homelessness is a complex problem with multiple causes, it can be solved.

"There are many causes of homelessness in Australia including domestic violence, family breakdown, the lack of affordable housing, poverty and social inequality. Homelessness can be a complex problem but we know that it can be solved. The significant new investment in social housing and new homelessness strategies, and the funding for the existing homelessness services mean we are on the right track to halve homelessness in Australia by 2020 but more has to be done. We have been given an historic opportunity to significantly reduce homelessness in Australia." Narelle Clay said.

With a range of events happening in a host of cities and towns across Australia, Homelessness Australia hopes that this year, National Homeless Persons' Week will raise awareness of both causes of homelessness in Australia and potential solutions to the problem.

Narelle Clay went on to say "This year National Homelessness Week falls during the election campaign providing the opportunity for all parties to commit to a bipartisan approach to keep homelessness high on the list of priorities to address. So far in the election campaign we have not heard anything about homelessness from any of the parties".

"Homeless Persons' Week is a great opportunity for people in the community including politicians to learn more about homelessness in Australia, its causes and solutions to the problem. People can do this by going onto our website for information on events countrywide, to read the latest reports and facts sheets, or becoming a member to do more towards creating a framework for ending homelessness. We hope it will also provide an opportunity for homelessness service providers to showcase the work that they do.", Policy and Research Officer, Travis Gilbert said

For Further information please Contact:

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Homelessness Australia National Homeless Persons' Week: [www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au](http://www.homelessnessaustralia.org.au)