

Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations



**Annual Report
2002 – 2003**



Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations

Working to prevent and address homelessness

Annual Report

2002 – 2003

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all of those who continue to work with us to prevent and address homelessness in Australia.

We would particularly like to acknowledge the ongoing financial support we receive from the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS). We also wish to thank all AFHO members for their support throughout the year.

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Vision, objectives and structure

reducing homelessness

The Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations (AFHO) is the national homelessness peak organisation that works to address and prevent homelessness in Australia.

Our Vision

To proactively research, develop and promote national policy and action to reduce homelessness and its impact upon the diverse range of people that it affects.

AFHO aims to achieve this vision through the development and analysis of policy, consultation with, and representation of, services for homeless people, advocacy for homeless people, and provision of information about homelessness.

Constitutional Objectives

AFHO's objective is to provide an effective national voice on homelessness and related issues by:

- ♦ being especially concerned with the well-being of those experiencing or vulnerable to homelessness, and to promote their well-being through socially just policies and programs
- ♦ undertaking actions, research, and policy aimed at:
 - developing and promoting AFHO's policies
 - preventing or ameliorating the extent and effect of homelessness
 - educating the community on issues relating to homelessness
- ♦ participating in or carrying out programs designed to contribute to the alleviation of homelessness and related issues
- ♦ providing a structure which enables members to inform policy development
- ♦ providing a structure which maintains and develops relationships between members.

Our Structure

Founding Members:

AFHO federates three founding members representing services for homeless people at the national level – the Council for Homeless Persons Australia (CHPA), the National Youth Coalition for Housing (NYCH), and the Women's Services Network (WESNET). Single men and women, families, young people and women escaping domestic violence are all represented through the founding members of AFHO.

AFHO staff at 30 June 2003:

Executive Officer: Ara Cresswell

Ara is responsible for the overall coordination and management of AFHO, representation of AFHO at a national level and the strategic oversight of AFHO policy development around homelessness.

Policy & Networking Officer: Tom Muller

Tom is responsible for homelessness policy analysis and development through engagement with members and other key stakeholders.

Communications & Administration Coordinator: Megan Tanswell

Megan ensures the effective functioning of the office and coordinates and manages communication activities to the AFHO board, members and other key stakeholders.

Administrative Assistant: Jo Broad

Jo assists with the administrative functioning of the office and provides support to the AFHO Board.

Membership base:

AFHO has around 400 members. These include individuals, homelessness services, consumers, researchers, government departments and agencies, social workers, and organisations which support AFHO's vision.

Founding members

men, women, youth & families

Council for Homeless Persons Australia (CHPA)

CHPA was established by State and Territory networks in 1996 following concern that the needs of single adults and families experiencing homelessness were being overlooked by both Government and the wider community.

The aims and objectives of CHPA are to:

- ♦ advocate to achieve social justice for people who are homeless
- ♦ undertake policy development in pursuit of the purpose of the organisation
- ♦ facilitate information exchange between members
- ♦ initiate and sponsor national research projects on homelessness and related issues
- ♦ support and develop the capacity of State and Territory networks
- ♦ work in partnership with members and government to improve the quality of services available to people who are homeless.

The National Youth Coalition for Housing (NYCH)

NYCH was established in 1982 to prevent and alleviate youth homelessness in Australia by:

- ♦ providing coordination and resourcing to services for young homeless people nationally
- ♦ monitoring government policy and service developments relevant to youth homelessness
- ♦ undertaking policy development and research on youth housing/homelessness
- ♦ lobbying government and the broader community to take the required steps to reduce youth homelessness in Australia.

Women's Services Network (WESNET)

WESNET was first funded in December 1994 to provide a national voice for State and Territory domestic and family violence services, and women's homelessness services. WESNET aimed to improve and promote high quality service provision for women and children who have experienced domestic or family violence, or who are homeless for any other reason. WESNET is dedicated to strengthening and informing the tradition of women developing and running services for women who are subjected to male violence.

WESNET objectives are to:

- ♦ provide leadership as a national women's peak advocacy body in relation to domestic and family violence
- ♦ contribute to and monitor policies, legislation and programs which impact on women and children experiencing domestic and family violence
- ♦ promote equity of access to services for all women including Aboriginal women, Torres Strait Islander women, women from immigrant, refugee and/or non-English speaking backgrounds, women in rural and isolated areas, older women, young women and women with a disability, and give issues relating to equity of access a highest priority
- ♦ promote community awareness of violence against women and its personal and social consequences at a national level and support and facilitate the community education role of services at a local level
- ♦ undertake research relating to the provision of support and accommodation services for women and children escaping violence and for women using SAAP funded services for other reasons
- ♦ build and promote collaborative relationships with key stakeholders and
- ♦ ensure a viable, well governed and credible organisation representing WESNET members nationally.

Chairperson's report challenges, commitment & achievements

It is a great honour to be presenting my third Chairperson's Report for AFHO in the 2002-2003 Annual Report. Like previous years, AFHO has this year undertaken an extensive work load and has faced many challenges and frustrations. At the same time there has been a sense of achievement.

AFHO is a small national peak organisation in terms of funding and resources and yet the sheer volume of high standard work performed is outstanding. Throughout the year AFHO has provided invaluable support and information to its members and provided advice to the Commonwealth Government and State/Territory Governments on issues related to homelessness. I will not attempt to summarise this but commend the report to you to read as it will provide details of the breadth and depth of AFHO's work and the results of that work.

The challenges and frustrations mentioned above in AFHO's work relate mainly to the external structural barriers to reducing homelessness in this country. It remains a contradiction to the "wellness" of Australia that there are over 100,000 homeless people, including homeless children, in this country. AFHO remains staunchly committed to continuing to raise the issues and ensuring homelessness is foremost in the minds of those in Government who have the responsibility for the direction of Australian society. AFHO also remains staunchly committed to the role of structural advocacy and rigorous debate; we will continue to challenge those Government policies and initiatives that we believe will further hurt disadvantaged people. AFHO is equally committed to research and sector development and promoting the programs and initiatives that will enhance the lives of homeless people.

As mentioned above, this year has been significant in that there has been a sense of real achievement in AFHO and a feeling of optimism about how we move forward in our efforts to tackle homelessness.

Some of this sense of achievement stems from the National Homelessness Conference *Beyond the Divide*, which AFHO hosted in Brisbane. There was much inspiration gained by seeing almost 1,000 people gather together with energy and commitment focusing on how we eliminate homelessness and improve the situation for homeless people. There was an extensive amount of work put into the planning and preparation for this conference, and there is no doubt that this effort paid off in the successful delivery of the event. Participants were encouraged from the start of the conference to recognise the improvements we have made in delivering services and individual support to homeless people but, at this conference, to use the opportunity to reconsider the causes of homelessness including poverty, lack of appropriate and affordable housing, domestic and family violence, unemployment and underemployment. In this context, attention was drawn to a diminishing public policy focus on the structural causes of homelessness, and an increasing policy focus on

individual *support* issues in response to homelessness. I am pleased that the result of this is the emergence of clear themes that represent the most important issues as seen by all the different sector interests at the Conference in terms of future directions to address homelessness. These are:

- ◆ human rights
- ◆ poverty and incomes
- ◆ discrimination
- ◆ violence, domestic violence and law reform
- ◆ housing
- ◆ support including early intervention, transitional and crisis responses
- ◆ collaboration and partnerships.



Narelle Clay, Chairperson

Chairperson's report (con't)

challenges, commitment & achievements

AFHO, in the coming year, will progress these priority areas of work and we will capitalise on the increased interest in AFHO and its work from all the different interest sectors, groups, services, Government Departments, and individuals.

In the next year, in addition to progressing the work from the conference, the national evaluation of SAAP IV will be a priority area. AFHO is firmly committed to the SAAP Program and is convinced of the positive role SAAP plays in supporting homeless people. The evaluation is very important and will contribute to the future directions of service delivery to homeless people. There is plenty of anecdotal evidence to support a SAAP V, with increased funding to enable SAAP to address the needs of homeless people and to enhance and strengthen the sector's service system.

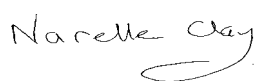
AFHO is a powerful national voice for a section of the community whose voices have been marginalised and are often forgotten. The strength of AFHO lies in the diversity of our membership base and in the force of the consumers and service delivery agencies who inform our policy and directions.

The work of AFHO could not be done without such outstanding results from the staff. Ara Cresswell was appointed as the Executive Officer in September 2002 and I would like to pay tribute to Ara Cresswell for taking on the challenge of this demanding position and thank her for her capable and enthusiastic management and her passion and commitment. Ara brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in the homelessness sector to AFHO. Tom Muller acted as the Executive Officer until the commencement of Ara Cresswell and he did a magnificent job in this role and I would like to thank him for his exemplary work.

The Staff team of AFHO is unique. Tom, Megan and Jo are a group of very different individuals with very different skills. The common qualities are their highly skilled and professional approach to their work, their capacity to manage a huge workload and their passion for a more socially just society. The staff's support and resourcing of the Board, the Executive and of me is remarkable and appreciated.

To the Board and Executive members who work mostly in their own time to assist AFHO with the governance role and the complex policy work, my sincere thanks. A strong, committed and respected Board is essential to do the work AFHO does and I feel immensely proud of the AFHO Board in this regard. The issues of homelessness are on many government and community agendas and this is, in part, thanks to the efforts of the Board and their participation in a range of different forums, networks and consultations as well as their direct work with AFHO. It would be remiss of me not to mention the extra effort of the Executive Members - Julie Oberin, Liz Fritz and Kate Lord. The role of Chairperson would be impossible with the support of this fine group of people. It is without a doubt a privilege to work with these remarkable people.

I felt immensely buoyed at the Conference because I strongly believe that so many people from all the different sectors joining together, all committed to making things better for homeless people, can make a difference. The work of AFHO is essential and AFHO will be active in pursuing changes to resources, policies, programs and priorities until we have achieved a more just Australia where everyone has adequate housing and no-one experiences the devastating effects of homelessness.



Narelle Clay
Chairperson, AFHO

Activities 2002 – 2003

year in brief

Over the past year AFHO has continued to cement its role as the national peak body for homelessness, and demonstrate its significant value as an advocate on homelessness.

The AFHO Board and Management

Two Board meetings were held in 2002-2003. The first Board meeting was held in Canberra in November 2002 and the second in Brisbane in April 2003. Full Board teleconferences were held between meetings in August 2002 and February 2003. Monthly teleconferences of AFHO's Executive Committee were also held, along with teleconferences of other AFHO Board sub-committees, as required.

Funding

In 2002-2003 AFHO continued to receive funding under the National Secretariat Program (NSP) agreement, which began in July 2001.

In addition to this funding AFHO undertook a number of activities in 2002-2003 to raise funds for the organisation. These have included:

- ♦ Levying of fees on members (income-based)
- ♦ Consultancy fees and administration expenses for projects
- ♦ Raising funding for the 3rd National Homelessness Conference from a variety of sources including FaCS, the National SAAP Coordination and Development (CAD) Committee, the Commonwealth Department of Veteran Affairs, the Attorney-General's Department, the Northern Territory Departments of Housing, and Health and Community Services, the Queensland Departments of Families, and Public Works and Housing, the NSW Departments of Community Services, and Housing, the Victorian Department of Human Services, the Tasmanian Department of Health and Human Services, the ACT Department of Disabilities, Housing & Community Services, and also from the Housing Industry Association, the Brisbane City Council, and the Australian Services Union. AFHO appreciates the assistance and support.

Staffing

There have been a number of staff changes in AFHO during 2002-2003.

Ara Cresswell joined AFHO as the Executive Officer in September 2002. Ara has worked in the SAAP sector for almost 20 years, and was previously a Board member of AFHO. Megan Tanswell was employed by AFHO in November 2002 as the Communications and Administration Coordinator. AFHO is very pleased to welcome both Ara and Megan to the organisation.

Sira Nicholas, who was employed by AFHO in June 2001 as the Administration Assistant before becoming the Communications and Administration Coordinator in August 2001, finished working with AFHO in December 2002. We thank Sira for her outstanding work while with AFHO.

Tom Muller, Policy and Networking Officer, and Jo Broad, Administration Assistant, continued in their employment with AFHO throughout 2002-2003.

Projects

AFHO worked on several projects during 2002 - 2003, including:

SAAP Client Satisfaction Project: AFHO undertook this project during the second half of 2001-2002 as the lead agency in a consortium involving David MacKenzie (RMIT), Leanne Craze (Consultant), and Helen Connor (Consumer Consultant), and in partnership with eight supported accommodation agencies across Australia. The project involved developing options for the measurement of client satisfaction in SAAP services. In 2001-2002 AFHO and the partner organisations undertook a literature review, the drafting of a Discussion Paper and Summary Paper, and consultations with service providers, clients, and other stakeholders in eight locations across Australia. The Interim Report on the project was presented to FaCS in April 2002. Eight projects pilots were held throughout the country in July-August 2002, before the Final Report was submitted to the department in October 2002. The Department accepted the Final Report in 2003.

Preventing Centrelink Breaches amongst homeless young people and others: AFHO undertook this project in collaboration with the Welfare Rights Centre in Sydney. The project developed information for clients and service providers, in the form of a wall chart and pocket booklet, to advise people about their rights and responsibilities with regard to the social security system, in an effort to address the current high rate of Centrelink breaches and penalties. The wall chart and pocket booklet were printed and distributed through the Welfare Rights Centre in Sydney and AFHO in the second half of 2002. AFHO and the Welfare Rights Centre in Sydney also applied for additional funding from FaCS in January 2003 to update and reprint the project materials.

National Homelessness Conference: Throughout 2002-2003 AFHO undertook significant work in organising, holding and following-up the outcomes of the 3rd National Homelessness Conference *Beyond the Divide* held in Brisbane in April 2003.

Development of potential new project proposals: AFHO submitted costings to Centrelink for involvement in a training project for both Centrelink and SAAP staff relating to homelessness and income security. AFHO has also worked with FaCS and Hanover to develop a project proposal analysing the association and pathways between problem gambling and homelessness, which the department presented to the National SAAP Coordination and Development (CAD) for consideration.

Policy work

AFHO has developed and advocated policies in a number of areas during 2002-2003, including:

- ♦ Correspondence with Federal Government Ministers on issues including the welfare reform agenda, Australians Working Together and the Commonwealth State Housing Agreement
- ♦ Production and extensive distribution of the AFHO Policy Platform, which is available on the AFHO website. Chapters of the Policy Platform include:
 - ♦ Roles and responsibilities in addressing homelessness
 - ♦ Housing and homelessness
 - ♦ Crisis responses to homelessness
 - ♦ Poverty and homelessness
 - ♦ Domestic and family violence as factors in homelessness
 - ♦ Income levels and homelessness
 - ♦ Homelessness and employment, education and training
 - ♦ Health issues and homelessness
 - ♦ Mental health and alcohol and other drug issues as factors in homelessness
 - ♦ Data collection and statistics on homelessness

- ♦ A paper relating to the Mid-Term Review of the Supported Accommodation Assistance Program
- ♦ A submission and presentation to the Senate Community Affairs Reference Group *Inquiry into Poverty in Australia*
- ♦ A Federal Budget Submission
- ♦ A submission to the Review of the Centrelink Crisis Payment.

Communications Activity

Key communication, information sharing and awareness raising included:

- ♦ The AFHO quarterly newsletter, the *AFHO News*, was published in July 2002, October 2002, and March 2003
- ♦ A monthly email activities bulletin which is forwarded to a wide range of stakeholders
- ♦ Development of the new AFHO web-site
- ♦ A combined survey, with Centrelink, regarding the SAAP sector's engagement with Centrelink offices across the country
- ♦ Media Releases
- ♦ Articles for other publications
- ♦ Development of a Briefing Kit for AFHO Board members
- ♦ Development of an AFHO Visual Identity Manual
- ♦ Maintenance of a staffed AFHO Secretariat that responds to ad hoc inquiries and input from members and others
- ♦ Extensive work promoting the 3rd National Homelessness Conference and working with the media to ensure coverage of the conference and its key messages.

Networking & Liaison

AFHO continues to have a high degree of contact with both government and non-government stakeholders in homelessness. A lot of energy is put into developing and maintaining these contacts, in order to increase our relevance and influence and to improve the overall potential for positive change in relation to homelessness.

Over 2002-2003 AFHO met with a wide range of government and non-government organisations including the following:

- ♦ A substantial amount of the Secretariat time went into the organisation of the National Homelessness Conference.
- ♦ Representation and consultation with various branches of the FaCS including the Housing Support Branch.

These meetings have related to issues such as the National Homelessness Strategy, the National Homelessness Conference, gambling and homelessness, research priorities for FaCS, Family Homelessness Prevention Pilots, the launch of the FaCS Strategic Plan and a number of “meet and greets”.

- ◆ Representation and consultation with Centrelink focusing on the relationship between SAAP services and Centrelink offices (including a joint survey of the SAAP sector to ascertain links), the impact of breaching on homelessness, training for Centrelink staff in relation to homelessness, and a presentation to the Centrelink Community Officers Conference.
- ◆ Representation and consultation with the Welfare Reform Area of FaCS focusing on the Australians Working Together (AWT) initiative, particularly the Personal Support Program.
- ◆ Continued liaison and networking with all State and Territory housing and community services departments concerning the National Homelessness Conference.
- ◆ Continued liaison and networking with a number of Commonwealth departments regarding the National Homelessness Conference including the Veterans' Affairs Department and the Attorney-General's Department.
- ◆ Continued liaison and networking with the private sector regarding the National Homelessness Conference.
- ◆ Ron Jackson, Minister Vanstone's Housing Adviser, attended the AFHO meeting in November and a wide range of issues were discussed.
- ◆ Representing the SAAP sector on the Telstra Low Income Measures Assessment Committee.
- ◆ Participation on the CAD Information Sub Committee (ISC) Group.
- ◆ Participation on the ISC sub committee to examine the Service and Regional Research submissions.
- ◆ Participation on the Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Homelessness (CACH).
- ◆ Participating in the National Council Meeting of National Shelter.
- ◆ Participation on the Centrelink AWT reference group.
- ◆ Participating in the Attorney-General's Forum for non-Government Organisations.
- ◆ Consulting and networking regularly with other peaks and organisations including Australian Council of Social Services (ACOSS), the Centre for Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE), the National Association of Tenants' Organisations (NATO), Families Australia, Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute (AHURI), Community Housing Federation of Australia (CHFA), and Welfare Rights Centre.
- ◆ Attended a service open day at Southern Youth and Family Services in Wollongong.
- ◆ Attendance at ACOSS National Housing Summit.
- ◆ Attendance at the Combined Southern Youth sector quarterly meeting.
- ◆ Attendance at ACOSS Congress.

Looking back, but moving forward: Beyond the divide



"We, together, must actively develop and pursue policies that will value every person, no matter where they live, no matter what their religion, race or nationality is."

- Kerrie Tim



"We need to bring business, government, welfare agencies.... together in forging new initiatives to give hope to people that there are other positive ways to live life rather than at the mercy of an addiction or under the constant threat of having nowhere to call home."

- Tim Costello

"The political process is crucial to achieving... economic decision-making that is consistent with Australia's international human rights obligations. At the same time, legal mechanisms can... ensure that fundamental guarantees of human dignity are safeguarded."

- Di Otto



Ruth Busch presented a keynote address at the National Homelessness Conference on rights, violence and family law reform.

- Ruth Busch



"Preventing homelessness among young people is our first goal. Getting the right help to them at the right time in a way that works for them is our second goal."

- Mark Sullivan



"We (Centrelink) are working hard to remove the barriers and to address our limitations and we are moving towards realising our potential."

- Sue Vardon

The Minister for Family and Community Services, Amanda Vanstone, presented the opening address at the National Homelessness Conference.

- Amanda Vanstone, Minister for Family and Community Services



"What we need is a strong, intelligent and progressive approach from Government to do everything possible to stop the increase in homelessness and to start reducing it. We need to invest in an approach which details over the next ten years a way "beyond the divide" which will in ten years time be measured against the reduction in homelessness."

- Narelle Clay



Priorities 2003 – 2004

advocate, support & improve

The key issues that AFHO will focus on over the 2003-2004 year are outlined below.

Progressing the Outcomes of the National Homelessness Conference

A number of key themes, based around policy, advocacy and service delivery issues, emerged from the National Homelessness Conference, *Beyond the Divide*. The key themes can be summarised as: human rights; poverty and incomes; discrimination; violence; housing; support; early intervention; and collaboration and partnerships.

Key conference messages arising out of each conference theme are:

- ♦ Improve the protection of, and strengthen the human rights of homeless people.
- ♦ Include poverty and place it at the top of the agenda in the current Federal Government *Welfare Reform* process.
- ♦ Include and re-emphasise in all discussions, policy debates and action on homelessness the importance of unemployment, lack of affordable and secure housing, poverty, low incomes, domestic and family violence, discrimination, and other structural issues as causes of homelessness.
- ♦ Acknowledge and respond to the discrimination that continues to systematically exclude groups of people from access to incomes, housing and the like.
- ♦ View domestic and family violence as the absolute policy and practice priority in the case of homeless women and children who have experienced such violence. Lobby and advocate for legal reform to protect the children from further violence.
- ♦ Recognise that domestic and family violence are the major causes of women's and children's homelessness in Australia.
- ♦ Develop a long term housing response to the serious housing problems facing Australia. Ensure any responses involve focus on a wide range of housing options and responds to the wide range of housing needs among the homeless population.
- ♦ Substantially increase and improve services and housing to people with high support needs including people with mental illness, people with substance misuse issues and children, to both avoid homelessness and assist people out of homelessness.
- ♦ Ensure appropriateness and effectiveness of the use of SAAP services by people with high and complex needs, with particular regard for the safety of staff and other service users.
- ♦ Continue to place policy emphasis on all aspects of service provision and approaches to homeless people including early intervention and prevention strategies, crisis, transitional and long term support to homeless people to address homelessness.
- ♦ Collaboration and integration between stakeholders remains critical to the improvement of services to homeless people, and to bring about the policy and program integration required to prevent and address homelessness. This includes raising the profile of the community sector and ensuring better understanding of the sector from Government agencies.

AFHO intends to develop strategies, and commit staff and financial resources to ensure that these key conference priorities are picked up and focused on in 2003-2004.

The National Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) Evaluation

The National Evaluation of SAAP IV is a requirement of the SAAP Act and the bilateral Agreements between Commonwealth and States/Territory Governments. The findings of the evaluation will inform Commonwealth, State and Territory Governments on how to tackle homelessness in the future in light of governments' priorities and budgetary responsibilities.

The SAAP IV National Evaluation is required to be completed and presented to relevant Commonwealth, State and Territory Ministers at least 12 months before the end of the SAAP IV Bilateral Agreement, that is, the evaluation must be completed by June 2004.

AFHO will be represented on the SAAP IV National Evaluation's Technical Reference Group. In addition, AFHO has informed CAD that it is willing to play a role in facilitating access to services and client groups.

AFHO also intends to advocate hard in the coming year to ensure that the evaluation explores issues of importance for the sector, and to obtain a commitment from the Commonwealth and States/Territories to not only sign a SAAP V Agreement, but increase the level of funding.

Reviewing AFHO's Strategic Plan

In 2003-2004 AFHO will review the key objectives, goals, and priorities of the organisation's Strategic Plan for 2001-2004. Through the review and in consultation with the founding councils, member organisations and other key partner organisations AFHO will develop a new three-year strategic plan to cover the period 2005-2008.

Establishing AFHO's Communications Strategy

To ensure the successful implementation of AFHO's Strategic Plan, a Communications Strategy will be developed. The Communications Strategy will incorporate a number of areas including undertaking research into AFHO's communications effectiveness to date, achieving better relations with the media, and committing to awareness raising and education strategies about homelessness.

AFHO Homelessness Policy Platform

One of the key challenges for AFHO has been to develop policy direction on homelessness inclusive and representative of the three founding organisations – the Council for Homeless Persons Australia (CHPA), the National Youth Coalition for Housing (NYCH), and the Women's Services Network (WESNET). To this end, from 2000 to 2002 AFHO researched and wrote a comprehensive homelessness Policy Platform.

When the Policy Platform was finalised in November 2002, the AFHO Board agreed that it would be a living document, continually reviewed, and updated by the three member organisations. In 2003-2004, the Policy Platform will be reviewed to ensure its continued saliency and relevance to policy debates within Australia.

Welfare Reform

AFHO has been represented on a Centrelink AWT Reference Group, and will continue to take an active role on this group over the next year. The role of this group is to provide advice to Centrelink on all aspects of the implementation of AWT, and to ensure that issues as they relate to homeless people are identified and that service delivery for this group is then strengthened.

Family Homelessness Prevention Pilots

AFHO has been represented on the Family Homelessness Prevention Pilots (FHPP) support group from the beginning of the project and will continue to participate on the support group and provide advice.

Priorities 2003 – 2004 (con't) **advocate,**
support &
improve

Data

AFHO maintains an active interest in all aspects of data collection and use across the SAAP sector. AFHO is represented on the Data sub-committee of the CAD, and the SAAP Research project sub-committee. We will continue, over 2003-2004, to maintain a watchdog role in relation to all aspects of SAAP information management.

Projects

In 2003-2004 AFHO will be involved in the following projects:

- ♦ The Breaching Project: This will involve reprinting the breaching project materials.
- ♦ Problem Gambling-Homelessness Project: AFHO will be participating on the project Steering Committee.

We will continue to seek funding for further projects, with an emphasis on attempting to gain funding for research into the use of SAAP services by under sixteens, and to progress a number of key areas from the conference.

**Advocating For Homeless
People's Rights
And Working To
End Homelessness
In Australia.**

Board members as of 30 June 2003

There have been some changes in the Board membership throughout the year. AFHO would like to welcome Geoff King, the new Indigenous representative, who hails from Western Australia. Maria Hagias has also joined the Board, as one of the WESNET representatives. Maria is the new Chair of WESNET, filling the large shoes of Julie Oberin. AFHO would also like to welcome Maria Leebeek who is one of the three NYCH representatives, and has extensive experience in the field of youth homelessness.



Narelle Clay, Chairperson

Narelle is the Chief Executive Officer of Southern Youth and Family Services which provides services in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven areas of NSW. She is also a teacher and trainer with the NSW TAFE in various courses related to human services, and specialises in areas of advocacy, community management, models of services delivery, policy development and industrial relations.

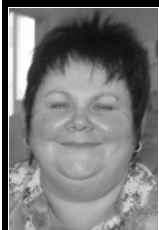
Narelle has been active in the community sector, particularly in the area of homelessness, for eighteen years. She is well known for her activism and commitment to seek social justice, and her endless energy to challenge, but also work with, Government to make changes. Narelle is currently a member of the Commonwealth Youth Advisory and Consultative Forum, the Commonwealth Suicide Community and Expert Forum, the NSW Ministerial Advisory Council on Homelessness, and the Association of Child Welfare Agencies.



Liz Fritz, Treasurer

Liz has been manager of Blair Athol Accommodation and Support Programme at Bilinga on the Queensland Gold Coast for fourteen years and has worked with people experiencing homelessness for seventeen years. Blair Athol provides both supported accommodation for single men, women and families (SAAP funded) and a range of non-accommodation support services for these groups and young people through a Housing Options Program.

Currently Liz is Chairperson of the Council for Homeless Persons Australia and a member of the Gold Coast Regional SAAP Network, the South Queensland Council for Homeless Persons and TAFE Industry Reference Group (Community Services). Liz is particularly interested in finding solutions for people experiencing long term homelessness with an emphasis on the impact of mental illness and addictive behaviours for these groups of people.



Kate Lord, Secretary

Kate has been working in the community sector for the last twenty two years. For eighteen of those years she worked predominately in the SAAP sector in a number of crisis shelters and related support services for homeless and at-risk young people. Kate is currently Manager for Anglicare Tasmania Inc in the southern region and is responsible for managing a range of programs including counselling and family support services, accommodation services, employment services, disability support services, and alcohol and other drug services.

Advocating for change at a systemic level has been an integral part of the work she has done in the community sector. She has taken an active role at a local, regional, statewide and national level around homelessness issues. As a founding member of the Youth Housing Task Force of Tasmania (now the Statewide Youth Housing Group) Kate has been involved in the National Youth Coalition for Housing for nearly fifteen years, holding the position of Tasmanian Delegate for nine years and is currently Co-Chairperson. Kate also represents AFHO on the SAAP IV Information Sub Committee (previously the Data Sub Committee), which oversees the ongoing development of the SAAP National Data Collection and research program.

Board members as of 30 June 2003 (con't)



Julie Oberin, Executive member

Julie manages Annie North Women's Refuge in Bendigo, Victoria, and is the recently retired National Chairperson of WESNET after six terms. She remains on the WESNET National Committee.

She has extensive experience in areas of domestic and family violence including regional and rural areas, with her employment history embracing the areas of women's health, young women's homelessness, and academic work in sociology, political studies, women's studies and public health. She has worked at a women's refuge and domestic violence service in regional Victoria since 1992, almost nine of those years as manager.

Julie's work in the area of domestic and family violence has been published widely. She has presented papers, workshops and participated on panels at conferences at regional, state, national, and international levels. Whilst WESNET Chairperson, Julie has been involved in a number of national research projects on domestic and family violence over the last few years. She has been involved with AFHO since its inception and is committed to ensuring that issues around women's and children's homelessness are key aspects of the homelessness agenda. Julie is undertaking PhD studies at the University of Melbourne within the area of domestic and family violence, and more specifically on models of women's refuges. She is currently the project manager and researcher for the WESNET PADV funded "Examining Progress in Accommodation and Support for Women who have experienced domestic violence" research project.



Wendy Anders, WESNET

Wendy is an Aboriginal woman from central Northern Territory and is currently the Manager of Kempsey Women and Children's Service (NSW) which provides crisis accommodation, support and referral for women and children escaping domestic violence. Wendy is the NSW representative for the WESNET Committee, and has been a member of the NSW Women's Refuge Movement for over sixteen years. She was employed as the Indigenous worker at the Albury Women's Refuge for twelve years, before moving to Kempsey, where Wendy has been a committed member of the NSW Women's Refuge Koori Support Group (Wallan Jindera's) and has also held the position of Indigenous delegate on the NSW Women's Refuge Movement Working Party, and held the Mid North Coast regional delegate position for two years.



Maria Leebeek, NYCH

Maria entered into the youth sector in 1991 after graduating from the University of Queensland as a Social Worker.

Maria has a range of experience in the housing field from direct practice (having been a youth housing worker for several years) to management (as the Director of the Brisbane Youth Service). Maria also has experience in research and project work having conducted a project into long term housing for young people and her involvement on various project reference groups. Maria maintains an ongoing commitment to the youth housing field from her long standing involvement in NYCH to her current position as the Policy and Development Officer for the Queensland Youth Housing Coalition Inc.

Board members as of 30 June 2003 (con't)



Leanne Burgess, CHPA

Leanne has been Chairperson of the Community Housing Coalition of WA since July 1999 and has also been a board member of the Council for Homeless Persons Australia since 1996, serving as both Secretary and Vice President.

Leanne is employed with Centrecare and was originally employed as a case worker within the Supported Housing Assistance Program (SHAP) in 1993 before becoming a Program Manager in September 1996. Leanne has been managing the Centrecare Accommodation and Outreach Service since 1996.

In addition to accommodation and outreach services, Leanne has previously had various other managing roles with Centrecare. These roles included the Parent Adolescent Services for three years, the Goldfields branch for six months in 2001, additional to a six month secondment to the WA State Homelessness Taskforce during 2001-2002 and more recently Djooraminda, which provides services for Aboriginal children and families in late 2002.



Maria Hagias, WESNET

Maria is the Executive Director of the Central Eastern Domestic Violence Service in Adelaide. Prior to this appointment Maria was the Manager of the Southern Domestic Violence Service in South Australia for eight years. Both are the largest domestic violence services in South Australia. These services provide accommodation and outreach support to women and children experiencing domestic violence.

Maria has worked in the SAAP sector for eight years, and has represented the sector on the SAAP Performance Measurement Advisory group, FaCS Family Development Committee, Women's Emergency Services Implementation Committee, Women's Services Network of SA and the WESNET National Committee. Maria is also a member of the SA Women's Emergency Service Coalition.

Maria has extensive experience in culturally and linguistically diverse policy, program development and practice issues relating to women and children affected by domestic violence. Maria has recently taken up the position of National Chairperson of WESNET.



Donna Curtis, NYCH

Donna has fourteen years experience working in the youth services sector primarily with homeless and at risk young people. Starting her career in the western Sydney area of Mt Druitt and Blacktown she has worked in the Sutherland Shire for the past ten years and is currently the Executive Officer for Shire Wide Youth Services Inc.

Her university qualifications include Youth Work and Social Work. She has also completed a counselling accreditation, trauma and abuse counselling and is a trainer in conflict resolution.

Donna has been actively involved in the Youth Accommodation Association NSW for the past nine years, the past two of those as the President. She represents NSW issues on the National Youth Coalition for Housing over the last five years and currently fills the role of Chairperson. All of this experience makes Donna highly qualified to present current policy and structural contributors of youth homelessness to the AFHO Board.

Board members as of 30 June 2003 (con't)



Von Bromilow, CHPA

Von is the Manager for Family Housing Services and has worked with AnglicareWA since 1990. She is based in Perth and manages programs relevant to homeless people in Western Australia including SAAP; WA's Supported Housing Assistance Program (SHAP) and (ASH) Anglicare Stabilising Housing pilot project. Von also manages a collaborative project with Centrecare and the State Department of Housing and Works, focusing on housing and support for homeless aboriginal families.

Von was Chair of the Council for Homeless Persons in WA for two years and has been a Board member of the Council for Homeless Persons Australia since 1996. She is a member of the Anglican Diocesan Taskforce on Intellectual Disability WA and a member of the Ministerial appointed Public Review Panel for the Department of Housing and Works in Western Australia.



Geoff King, Indigenous Representative

Geoff is the General Manager of Noongar Mia Mia Pty Ltd, which is a company set up by the Perth Noongar Regional Council to promote affordable and appropriate housing to Aboriginal people in the Perth metropolitan area with the ultimate goal of home ownership.

Geoff has extensive experience in the area of social housing and the issues facing aboriginal people in this area. Geoff was previously a senior manager at the Department of Housing and Works (DHW) in the Aboriginal Housing and Infrastructure Unit.

Geoff has strong links with the Noongar community in Perth and Koori people in N.S.W where he is originally from.

Geoff has worked in DHW in the area of Aboriginal employment and has a sound knowledge of the eligibility for traineeships and general employment needs as well as barriers preventing adequate employment.

Geoff was a member of the Board of the Community Housing Coalition of Western Australia and sat on the advisory committee of the National Family Homelessness project, which is an initiative based on the National Homeless Taskforce recommendations.

AFHO Staff:



Ara Cresswell
Executive Officer



Tom Muller
Policy & Networking
Officer



Megan Tanswell
Communications &
Administration
Coordinator



Jo Broad
Administrative Assistant

Homelessness stats and facts

domestic violence,
eviction, financial difficulty

Supported Accommodation Assistance Program (SAAP) National Data:

It is estimated that SAAP services supported 95,600 clients during the twelve month period in 2001-2002. This figure compares with 91,200 in 2000-2001 and represents an increase of almost 5%. The number of support periods or occasions of support in 2001-2002 totalled 177,000, representing an increase of about 5% from the 168,200 in the previous year.

Profile of SAAP Clients:

Male	44 %
Female	56 %
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders	17 %
People from non-English speaking backgrounds	15 %
Clients aged under 25 years	36.5 %
Clients aged 25 to 34	28.5 %
Clients aged 35 to 44	21 %
Clients aged 45 and over	14 %
Average age of female clients	30 years
Average age of male clients	33 years

People aged 18 and 19 years had the highest rate of SAAP service usage at 147 clients for every 10,000 in the general population. The group with the second highest rate of SAAP services usage were 20-24 years old for whom there were 117 clients for every 10,000 in the age group. The third highest rate of SAAP services usage was 116 clients for every 10,000 amongst 15-17 years old.

Most common reason for seeking assistance:

Domestic and family violence	22%
Eviction/previous accommodation ended	12%
Relationship/family breakdown	10%
Usual accommodation unavailable	10%

The most common reasons for each client group are:

Male alone, aged under 25 years	Relationship/family breakdown (17%) Eviction/accommodation ended (16.5%)
Male alone, aged 25 or over	Financial difficulty (20%) Usual accommodation unavailable (14.6%)
Female alone, aged under 25	Relationship/family breakdown (21%) Eviction (13%)
Female alone, aged 25 or over	Domestic and Family Violence (44%)
Couple with no children	Eviction/accommodation ended (21%) Financial difficulty (14%)

Homelessness stats and facts (con't)

Couple with children	Eviction/accommodation ended (28%) Financial difficulty (15%)
Male with children	Eviction/accommodation ended (18%) Relationship/family breakdown (19%)
Female with children	Domestic and Family Violence (53%) Eviction/accommodation ended (9%)

SAAP Agencies:

There are around 1286 SAAP agencies located throughout Australia in 2001-2002. 30 per cent of agencies are located in NSW, and 29 per cent in Victoria. 55 per cent of agencies are located in capital cities; 7 per cent in other metropolitan centres; 31 per cent are located in rural regions; and another 7 per cent of agencies are located in remote regions. Agencies by their target group include 37 per cent of agencies targeting young people; 22.5 per cent women and children escaping domestic and family violence; 9 per cent families; 7.5 per cent single men; 3.6 per cent single women; and 20 per cent target across population groups.

This information was extracted from the National Data Collection's Annual Report 2001-2002 published by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare.

Treasurer's report



Liz Fritz, Treasurer

The 2002-2003 financial year provided continuing challenges for AFHO in terms of securing sufficient resources to undertake our work while at the same time seeking to manage our costs. It was necessary to generate additional income to meet the additional costs for advocacy, consultancy projects and the National Homelessness Conference.

We maintained the level of core funding we receive from the Department of Family & Community Services (FaCS) and we gratefully acknowledge their continued funding assistance. Additional funds were received from FaCS for new projects undertaken by AFHO, which included the *Measurement of SAAP Client Satisfaction* project and the *Preventing Centrelink Breaches among people at risk of or experiencing homelessness* project. AFHO also obtained sponsorship funding from the Commonwealth and State governments to help fund the National Homelessness Conference. This sponsorship funding was greatly appreciated.

I am pleased to report that AFHO's membership base has continued to grow with \$29,627.50 received in membership fees for the 2002-2003 financial year. This is a monumental increase of 347% from the last financial year. All members are listed at the back of this Annual Report and AFHO is appreciative of the strong support from community and government agencies and individuals.

Our Auditor, Everall, Merret & Mann, has provided a qualified audit report to our members for the 2002-2003 financial year and you will find this report on the following pages. The reason this report is a qualified opinion is because, like many non profit organisations, AFHO's income is based on grants, donations and membership fees and this income is unpredictable. AFHO has strengthened its infrastructure and this year has been able to exert good financial management and planning through the provisions we have made for our work over the next two years particularly in relation to the follow up work from the conference but also in regard to staff provisions, occupational health and safety requirements and other commitments.

Significant expenses during the year were contributed to the hosting of the National Homelessness Conference as well as staffing, office operations and the national board meetings.

Finally I would like to thank the executive and the AFHO staff for assisting me in my position as the treasurer and for their diligent management of AFHO's financial affairs.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Liz Fritz', written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Liz Fritz
Treasurer.

Auditor's report

Scope

We have audited the attached financial statements being the Committee Report, Committee Member's Declaration, Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to and forming part of the financial statements of Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations Incorporated for the 12 months ended 30th June 2003.

The association is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the financial statements and the information they contain. We have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the association.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion as to whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and statutory requirements so as to present a view of the association which is consistent with our understanding of its financial position and the results of its operations.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

Qualification Audit Opinion

It is not practicable to establish control over income such as donations, client contributions and similar type income until their entry in the Accounting Records. Our audit relating to this type of income was limited to amounts recorded.

The Committee has added a substantial amount of provisions this year. These expenses are not strictly 'provisions' as there is no commitment to pay these expenses. This affects the overall result of the association..

Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, subject to the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed,

1.The financial statements of Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations Incorporated present fairly the assets and liabilities at 30th June 2003, and the income and expenditure of the Association for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1 to the financial statements;

2.The Association has kept proper accounting and other records in accordance with general accounting practices and section 71 of the Associations Incorporation Act 1991;

3.The Association has complied with it's own Constitution in regard to accounting policies; and

4.We have been provided with all the information and explanations that we required to form this opinion

EVERALLS DFK & ASSOCIATES
Certified Practising Accountants

CANBERRA
9 September 2003



JOHN MANN FCPA
PARTNER

Committee Report for Year Ended 30 June 2003

The Committee presents this report on the association for the financial year ended 30th June 2003

Committee Members

The following persons were members of the Committee as at balance date;

Narelle Clay (Chair)	Kate Lord (Secretary)
Liz Fritz (Treasurer)	Julie Oberin (Executive Representative)
Leanne Burgess (CHPA Representative)	Von Bromilow (CHPA Representative)
Maria Leebeek (NYCH Representative)	Donna Curtis (NYCH Representative)
Maria Hagias (WESNET Representative)	Wendy Anders (WESNET Representative)
Geoff King (Indigenous Representative)	

Net Profit

The loss of the association for the financial year was \$39,689 (2002: \$1,351)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the course of the year were:

- ♦ To proactively research, develop and promote national policy and action to reduce homelessness and its impact upon the diverse range of people it affects.

There have been no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

Significant Changes in State of Affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of the association's affairs during the financial year.

After Balance Date Events

No known matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the association's operations, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the association in subsequent financial years.

Future Developments

The association expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and hence there are no likely known developments in future financial years.

Indemnities Granted

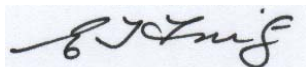
There have been no indemnities granted or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of the association.

Actions

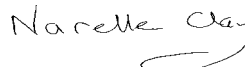
No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the association or intervene in any proceedings to which the association is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the association for all or any part of these proceedings. The association was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee Members and is signed for and on behalf of the members by:

Committee Member



Committee Member



Dated this.....**24th**.....day of.....**September**.....2003

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003

	Note	2003 \$	2002 \$
Revenue	2	1,039,872	482,807
SAAP Client Satisfaction		(44,964)	(45,036)
Breaching Project		(13,938)	(32,153)
National Homelessness Conference		(524,328)	(165)
Staffing		(269,638)	(168,461)
Office Operations		(43,191)	(37,168)
Communications		(22,303)	(21,364)
National Council Meetings		(13,830)	(25,126)
Staff Meetings		(4,914)	(7,544)
Board Meetings		(1,929)	(1,096)
Organisational Resourcing		(19,800)	(39,600)
CHPA		(6,562)	-
WESNET		(6,575)	-
NYCH		(5,348)	-
Management Fees		(89,261)	
Other expenses from ordinary activities		(12,980)	(106,445)
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax expense	3	(39,689)	(1,351)
Net profit from ordinary activities after income tax expense attributable to members of the association	11	(39,689)	(1,351)
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with owners as owners		(39,689)	(1,351)

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2003

	Note	2003 \$	2002 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	5	333,622	116,746
Receivables	6	18,317	25,413
Other	7	4,222	4,315
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		356,161	146,474
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	8	15,557	22,786
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		15,557	22,786
TOTAL ASSETS		371,718	169,260
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	9	43,007	28,985
Provisions	10	320,291	92,166
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		363,298	121,151
TOTAL LIABILITIES		363,298	121,151
NET ASSETS		8,420	48,109
EQUITY			
Retained profits	11	8,420	48,109
TOTAL EQUITY		8,420	48,109

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003

	Note	2003 \$	2002 \$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		1,014,214	549,259
Payments to suppliers and employees		(804,720)	(545,886)
Interest received		10,313	1,221
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	16b	<u>219,807</u>	<u>4,594</u>
CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payment for property, plant and equipment		(2,931)	(7,703)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>(2,931)</u>	<u>(7,703)</u>
Net increase in cash held		<u>216,876</u>	<u>(3,109)</u>
Cash at beginning of year		<u>116,746</u>	<u>119,855</u>
Cash at end of year	16a	<u><u>333,622</u></u>	<u><u>116,746</u></u>

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2003

Note 1 Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial report is a special purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

The financial report is for the entity Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations Inc as an individual entity. Australian Federation of Homelessness Organisations Inc is an association, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial report is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the following Australian Accounting Standards:

AAS 5: Materiality

AAS 8: Events Occurring After Reporting Date

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the association in the preparation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

a. Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to present values in determining the recoverable amount.

Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including buildings and capitalised leased assets, but excluding freehold land, are depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to the association commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Properties held for investment purposes are not subject to a depreciation charge. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Plant and equipment	4-100%

b. Employee Entitlements

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee entitlements arising from services rendered by employees to balance date. Employee entitlements expected to be settled within one year together with entitlements arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at their nominal amount. Other employee entitlements payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

estimated future cash outflows to be made for those entitlements.

Contributions are made by the association to an employee superannuation fund and are charged as expenses when incurred.

c. **Cash**

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and in at call deposits with banks or financial institutions, investments in money market instruments maturing within less than two months, net of bank overdrafts.

d. **Revenue**

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised upon the delivery of goods to customers.

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Dividend revenue is recognised when the right to receive a dividend has been established. Dividends received from associates are accounted for in accordance with the equity method of accounting.

Revenue from the rendering of a service is recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customers.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

e. **Goods and Services Tax (GST)**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

Note 2 Revenue

	Note	2003 \$	2002 \$
Operating Activities			
— SAAP Client Satisfaction		44,964	81,900
— Breaching Project Income		20,188	46,091
— NHS Consultation Project		-	9,300
— National Homelessness Conference		34,779	36,364
— National Homelessness Conference Sponsorship		124,273	-
— NHC Funds		364,629	-
— AFHO Core Funds		352,551	308,952
— Management Fees, Coordination and Administration Fees		95,890	-
— Other		2,598	200
		1,039,872	482,807

Note 3 Profit from Ordinary Activities

	2003 \$	2002 \$
Profit from ordinary activities before income tax expense has been determined after:		
a. Expenses		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	9,561	10,342
	9,561	10,342
Remuneration of auditor		
— audit or review	950	750
— other services	-	-
	950	750

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

Rental expense on operating lease		
— minimum lease payments	17,469	13,554
	17,469	13,554
b. Revenue and Net Gains		
Net loss on disposal of plant and equipment	599	-
	599	-
c. Significant Revenue and Expenses		
The following revenue and expense items are relevant in explaining the financial performance		
— Additional Provisions	272,025	-
	272,025	-
Other Expenses	778,957	459,512
Total Expenses	1,079,561	484,158

Note 4 Income Tax Expense

The association is exempt from income tax.

Note 5 Cash Assets

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
General Account	83,003	38,307
Investment Account	250,607	78,427
Petty Cash	12	12
	333,622	116,746

Note 6 Receivables

	2003	2002	
	\$	\$	
Trade debtors	18,317	25,413	
	18,317	25,413	

Note 7 Other Assets

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Prepayments	4,222	4,315
	4,222	4,315

Note 8 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
Office Equipment at cost	42,522	43,737
Less accumulated depreciation	29,794	23,776
	12,728	
19,961		
Software at cost	6,111	5,340
Less accumulated depreciation	5,048	4,299
	1,063	1,041
Office Furniture at cost	5,499	5,220

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

Less accumulated depreciation	3,733	3,436
	1,766	1,784
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	15,557	22,786

a. Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year

	Office Equipment	Software	Office Furniture	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at the beginning of year	19,961	1,041	1,784	22,786
Additions	1,886	768	277	2,931
Disposals	(599)	-	-	(599)
Depreciation expense	(8,520)	(746)	(295)	(9,561)
Carrying amount at the end of year	12,728	1,063	1,766	15,557

Note 9 Payables

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade creditors	10,630	2,967
GST Payable	15,401	8,585
PAYG/W Payable	11,020	4,741
ANZ Telstra Visa Card	3,432	10,605
Accruals	2,524	2,087
	43,007	28,985

Note 10 Provisions

	Note	2003	2002
		\$	\$
CURRENT			
Unspent Grants		6,250	85,581
Income in Advance		-	1,775
Conference Planning		75,000	-
Capital Costs		32,000	-
Staff Commitments		114,542	-
Special Projects		21,157	-
Conference Projects		29,326	-
Employee benefits	10a	42,016	4,810
		320,291	92,166
NON-CURRENT			
Employee entitlement	10a		
a. Aggregate employee entitlement liability		42,016	4,810
b. Number of employees at year end		4	5

Note 11 Retained Profits

	Note	2003	2002
		\$	\$
Retained profits (accumulated losses) at the beginning of the financial year		48,109	49,460
Net profit attributable to members of the association		(39,689)	(1,351)
Retained profits at the end of the financial year		8,420	48,109

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

Note 12 Contingent Liabilities

The committee members are not aware of any contingent liabilities in existence at the date of this report.

Note 13 Events Subsequent to Reporting Date

The association is not aware of any events after report date that would affect the integrity of the financial accounts.

Note 14 Related Party Transactions

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions unless otherwise stated.

Note 15 Segment Reporting

The association operates in one business and geographical segment, being the research, development and promotion of national policy relating to the homeless in Australia.

Note 16 Cash Flow Information

	2003	2002
	\$	\$
a. Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:		
Cash on hand	12	12
At call deposits with financial institution	333,610	116,734
	<u>333,622</u>	<u>116,746</u>
b. Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit from Ordinary Activities after Income Tax		
Profit from ordinary activities after income tax	(39,689)	(1,351)
Non-cash flows in profit from ordinary activities:		
Depreciation	9,561	10,342
Net loss on disposal of plant and equipment	599	-
Changes in assets and liabilities, net of the effects of purchase and disposals of subsidiaries		
Decrease/(Increase) in receivables	7,096	(24,517)
Decrease/(increase) in prepayments	93	(4,315)
(Decrease)/Increase in payables	14,022	(2,070)
(Decrease)/Increase in provisions	228,125	26,505
Cash flows from operations	<u>219,807</u>	<u>4,594</u>

Note 17 Association Details

The registered office of the association is:

PO Box 603

Dickson ACT 2602

The principal place of business is:

Unit 5

115 Maitland St

Hackett ACT 2602

The principal activity of the association is to proactively research, develop and promote national policy relating to homelessness and the diverse range of people it affects.

Financial statements for year ended 30 June 2003 (con't)

COMMITTEE DECLARATION

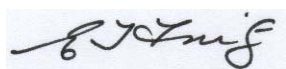
The committee have determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

The committee members of the association declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes present fairly the company's financial position as at 30 June 2003 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
2. The financial statements and notes present fairly the association's financial position as at 30 June 2003 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements;
3. In the committee's opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the association will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee Members

Committee Member



Dated this **24th** day of **September** 2003

Members 2002-2003 **thank you for** **your support ...**

ACT

ACT Shelter
Anglicare Canberra & Goulburn, Youth & Family Services
Australian Mental Health Consumer Network
Beryl Women's Refuge
Brain Injury Australia Incorporated
Canberra Community Housing for Young People Inc
Canberra Youth Refuge
CANFaCS - Canberra Fathers and Children Service
Doris Women's Refuge
Inanna
LASA Youth Centre - Salvation Army
St Jude's Family Support Service
Tenants Union ACT
Toora Women Inc
Transition Program - Barnados
Uniting Care Australia
Walters, Genelle
Welfare Rights & Legal Centre
Youth Coalition of the ACT
YWCA of Canberra

NSW

Albury Wodonga Youth Emergency Services LTD
Alices Cottages INC
Ammerley's Single Women's Refuge
ARCH Ltd
Armidale and District Women's Centre
Armidale Women's Housing Group
Armidale Youth Housing
B. Miles Women's Housing Scheme
Baptist Inner City Ministries
Barnados Australia
Bridges Project JPET Rozelle
Broken Hill Skills Centre Inc
Byron Emergency Accommodation Project
Campbell Page Moruya Youth Refuge
CCAB Anglicare North Coast
Centacare Broken Bay
Central Coast Emergency Accommodation
Coffs Harbour Youth Housing and Support Service
Community Services Programs Family Action Centre
Community Youth Homes
Consultant Community & Residential Crisis Services
Craze, Leanne
D.A.W.N. Inc
Delvena Women & Children's Shelter
Drug & Alcohol Women's Network Inc.
Dubbo Community Housing Leasing Programme Inc
Dubbo Reconnect Service
Elandra Women & Children's Service
Erskineville Youth Housing Inc
Fairfield Youth Accommodation Service
Far West Reconnect
Grafton Women's Refuge
Homeless Persons Information Centre
Homeless Persons Support Team
Homelessness Action Team - Dept of Housing
Housing Support & Advocacy - Centacare
Illawarra Legal Centre
Illawarra Youth Housing
Immigrant Women's Speakout Association
JPET
Katakudu Women's Housing
Kempsey Women & Children's Service Inc
Lismore Women's and Children's Refuge
Liverpool Youth Accommodation Assistance Company

Liverpool Youth Refuge Inc
Lotus House
Macarthur Ozanam Centre
Marist Youth Care
Mission Australia
Monaro Crisis Accommodation Service
Moree Women's Refuge - Ngala House
Murrane Women's Housing
Newmaqc Community Housing Co Ltd
NSW Women's Refuge Resource Centre
Open House Youth Accommodation Services Inc
Orange Community Accommodation Service
Parkes/Forbes Youth Support Service Inc
Parramatta Mission
Phoenix House Youth Services
Quamby House - SVDP
Raymond Terrace Neighborhood Centre Inc
Regional Accommodation Brokerage Service
Rendu Youth Services
Salvation Army Australia Eastern Territory
Samaritans Foundation
Samaritans Outreach Team
Shelter NSW
Shire Wide Youth Service
Shirewide Youth Services Inc
Silky Oaks Children's Haven
Sisters Housing Enterprises
South West Women's Housing
Southern Riverina Youth Support Services
Southern Youth and Family Services
St Vincent De Paul - National Council
Stepping Out Housing Programme Inc.
Tamworth Homeless Men's Support Group
Tamworth Youth Care Inc
Tenants Union of NSW
The Bridge Youth Service Inc
The Gender Centre
The Haymarket Foundation
The Station LTD
Veritas Outreach Youth Services
Vincentian Village Care and Support Service
Vinnies Emergency Accommodation/Reconnect
Wesley Mission - Homeless Persons Service
Westlake Macquarie Youth Accommodation Project
Wimlah Refuge
Wollongong Emergency Family Housing
Women's & Girls Emergency Centre
Youth Accommodation Association NSW
Youth Accommodation Services-Centacare Newcastle
Youth Angle Inc
Youth Off the Streets

NT

Alice Springs Women's Shelter Inc
Alice Springs Youth Accommodation & Support Services Inc
Anglicare NT Katherine
Anglicare Youth Housing Program
Centacare NT
Crisis Accommodation Gove Inc
Darwin Christian Outreach Centre
Dawn House
Gap Youth Centre Aboriginal Corporation
Katherine Women's Crisis Centre
Northern Territory Health and Community Services
Northern Territory Shelter
Palmerston Youth Outreach
Salvation Army Catherine Booth House
St Vincent de Paul - Bakhita Centre

Members 2002-2003 (con't) **thank you for your support ...**

Tangentyere Council
Tennant Creek Women's Refuge
Top End Association for Mental Health Inc
YWCA of Darwin

QLD

Aboriginal & Islander Childcare Agency
Anglicare Beenleigh Youth Accommodation & Support
Anglicare Central Qld
Anglicare CQLD Community Rent Scheme
Anglicare North QLD LTD
Bahloo Women's Youth Shelter
Bayside Tenancy Advice & Advocacy Service Inc
Beenleigh Area Youth Service
Blair Athol Accommodation and Support Program
Booval Community Service
Brisbane City Council
Brisbane Domestic Violence Advocacy Service
Brisbane Youth Service
Bundaberg Housing Action Group Inc
Caboolture Family Haven Inc
Callar Community Housing Group
Capricorn Youth Accommodation Service
Chisholm Inc
Churches of Christ Welfare
Clare Homes Supported Accommodation Uniting Church
Community Connections QLD
Crisis Accommodation Support Association Inc
CTC Youth Services
Family Emergency Accommodation Townsville Inc.
Fusion Community Care Australia
Gateway Community Group Inc
Gold Coast Youth Service
Goldcoast Project for Homeless Youth
Goodna Youth Services Inc
Graham, Ken
Gympie Widgee Youth Service
Hinchinbrook Community Support Centre
Housing Action Group Maryborough District
Inala Family Accommodation & Support Service Inc
Inala Youth and Family Support Service
Iona House
Jones, Lyn
Ken Hancock Home Surfers Paradise Anglican Crisis Care Inc
Kyabra Community Association Inc
Macleod, Margaret
Macleod Women's Refuge
Mareeba Community Housing Association Inc
Micah Projects - Inner City Services
Mitchell, Anne
Mount Isa Youth Shelter
Najidah Association Inc
Noosa Youth Service
North East Community Support Group SAAP Program
North QLD Combined Women's Services Inc
NPA Women's Services
NQ Domestic Violence Resource Service
Open Youth Project
Ozcare
QLD Community Housing Coalition
QLD Disability Housing Coalition
Queensland Shelter
Queensland Youth Housing Coalition
Queensland Youth Services
Reconnect Gold Coast
Roseberry Youth Services
Salvation Army Toowoomba Crisis Accommodation
Save the Children Fund - Qld division

Sera's Women's Shelter Inc
Shelter Housing Action-Cairns
Sherwood Neighbourhood Centre Housing Service
Skill Centre Inc
Social Action Office
South West QLD Tenants Association Inc
St Vincent de Paul Cornerstone Program
Tenant's Union - North Queensland Office
Tenants Union of Queensland
The Gold Coast Project for Homeless Youth
The Salvation Army Youth Outreach Service
Toowoomba Community Legal Service
Warringu ATSI Corporation
Whitsunday DV Service
Windana Support Centre Inc
Women's House - Shelta
Women's Information and Referral Centre Cairns
Wood, Heath
Youth & Family Services - Logan City
Youth Emergency Services
Youth Housing Project Association
Youthlink
Zig Zag Young Women's Resource Centre Inc

SA

Aboriginal Family Support
Adelaide Central Mission
Baptist Community Services SA
Bowden Brompton Housing Service
Butler, Karen
Byron Place Community Centre
Centacare Homeless, Mental Health & Youth Services
Community Housing Council of SA Inc
DASH
Domestic Violence Crisis Service Inc
Domestic Violence Helpline Adelaide Central Mission
Homelessness SA
Migrant Women's Support Accommodation Service
Multi Agency Community Housing Assn
National Council of Single Mothers & Their Children
Ranges Youth Centre Inc
RivSkills Inc
Service to Youth Council
Southern DV Service
Spencer Gulf Community Legal Service
St Johns Youth Service
St Vincent de Paul Society
The Salvation Army - Inglefarm
West Coast Youth Services Inc
Western Domestic Violence Service Inc
Women's Accommodation Support Service OARS

TAS

Anglicare Tasmania
Annie Kenney Young Womens Refuge
Colony 47 Inc
Community Connections Incorporated
Hobart Womens Shelter
Jireh House Association Inc
Karinya Young Women's Refuge
McCombe House - Salvation Army
Red Shield Housing Association
Salvation Army - Oakleigh House
Salvation Army Supported Housing
Shelter Tasmania
Warrawee Committee Inc

Members 2002-2003 (con't) **thank you for** **your support ...**

VIC

Access Youth Support
AIDS Housing Action Group (VIC) Inc
Annie North Women's Refuge
At Last Young Women's Refuge
Banyule Community Health Service
Barwon Domestic Violence Outreach Service
Barwon Youth Accommodation Service
Baywest Youth Housing Group
Bethany Community Support
Bethlehem Community Inc
Brophy Family & Youth Services
Central Hume Support Services
Centre for Multicultural Youth Issues
City of Melbourne
Cobaw Accommodation Services
Colac Area Health
Council to Homeless Persons
Domestic Violence & Incest Resource Centre
Eastern Homelessness Network Coordinator
Elizabeth Hoffman House
Family Access Network Inc
Flat Out Inc
Footscray Youth Housing Group
Good Samaritan Inn
Grampians Housing Network
Holdcroft, David
Hanover Welfare Services
Homeground Services
Hope Street Youth and Family Services
Hume Accommodation & Support Service
Immigrant Womens Domestic Violence Service
Inner South Community Health Services
Joan's Place
Kids Under Cover
Lodden Mallee Housing Services
Loddon Mallee SAAP Network
Mallee Accommodation & Support Program
Margaret Tucker Hostel
Maroondah Half Way House
Martina Collective, Georgina Inc
Molly's House Women's Refuge
North East Support and Action for Youth
Northern Homelessness Network
Olive's Place Inc
Pathways
Peplow House
Public Interest Law Clearing House
Quantum Support Services Inc
Regina Coeli Community
Regional Extended Family Services
Rural Housing Network Ltd
Sacred Heart Mission St Kilda
Salvation Army - Crisis Services
Salvation Army Crossroads Jacana
Salvation Army Crossroads Sunbury Accommodation Service
Salvation Army Social Housing Services
Salvation Open Door
Southern Family Life
St Albans Youth Housing
St Lukes Anglicare - Youth Services
St Vincent de Paul - Matthew Talbot Soup Van
St Vincent de Paul Aged Care & Community Services
Supported Housing LTD
The Bridge (Goulburn Accommodation Program)
The Salvation Army - Kardinia Network
The Salvation Army Eastcare
The Salvation Army South East Services Network

Uniting Care Ballarat Parish Mission
Uniting Care Connections - SHIFT
Victorian Women's Housing Association
WAYSS Limited
Werribee Support and Housing Group
Wesley Central Missions
Wintringham Hostels
Wombat Housing & Support Services
Women's Health West
Women's Housing LTD
Women's Info Support & Housing In the North
Woodland, Judith
Young Peoples Health Service
Youth Projects Inc

WA

Anglicare WA
ASWA
Bunbury Housing Association
Burdekin Youth in Action Inc
Centrecare Marriage & Family Services
CHPA
Eastern Metro Community Housing Assn
Family & Children's Services
Mercy Community Services Inc
Mission Australia - Family and Youth Services
Parkerville Children's Home
Ruah Community Services
Salvation Army Crossroads West
Salvo Care Line The Salvation Army
Shelter WA
St Vincent de Paul Society WA
Tenants Advice Service Inc
Women's Refuge Group of WA

