

Homeshare Australia and New Zealand Alliance.

HANZA NEWSLETTER

Vol.2 February 2010

NEWS

Our first HANZA newsletter boasted about how we had at last achieved funding for Wesley Homeshare. Since then a curious bureaucratic glitch has arisen. Although funding is committed, arrangements have yet to be finalised. But no doubt it will all come good in the end. We are nothing if not patient.

On a happier note, we have a Logo for HANZA, and are ready to send it out for your approval. If you all approve, we will be able to attach it to our documentation. You will receive a CD with the logo in various forms and can use it where it is fitting. The design was created by one of our committee, Shirley Anderson, and knocked into shape by a friendly graphic artist.

INTERNATIONAL HOMESHARE CONFERENCE

As a follow up to the Homeshare International Conference, Beris Campbell has participated in a teleconference with other committee members. The secretary, Elizabeth Mills, has released the latest version of the HI Charter which I append to this newsletter. Homeshare International represents another level of Homeshare activity around the world. This gives us an even greater network of colleagues from whom we can learn and gain support.

THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF WORKING TOGETHER

Devoted readers of the first newsletter will realise that we have failed in our first undertaking as the HANZA lead organization. We promised a teleconference for you in November. Our apologies. November came along sooner than we expected and internal rearrangements within Wesley mission has preoccupied us all.

For the same reasons, our plan to fund a dedicated HANZA worker has come unstuck for the time being. We will try again after Christmas

We are having consultations with a Website designer who is willing to help us build a website pro bono.

*This newsletter is being sent to all those organizations whose participants have expressed a desire to participate in the **Homeshare Australia and New Zealand Alliance (HANZA)** as well as longtime supporters of Homeshare.*

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Note encouraging news above about a Logo and a website. We are hoping for some help with the design of this newsletter in the future.

DISABILITY HOMESHARE

Our disability program is progressing along quite smoothly. The matches require more time and thought and there are still plenty of challenges.

We are very aware that the needs of parents of adults with a disability are of great urgency and believe that Homeshare will be useful in establishing independence for some of these children.

NEWS FROM HANZA MEMBERS AROUND AUSTRALASIA

Communities @ Work Inc. (ACT)

Camilla Rowland reports that there is no movement in Homeshare development in Canberra at the moment. Government consultation with Seniors in the ACT has resulted in the construction of clusters of town houses being built specifically for seniors. Services will be provided to individuals in these clusters.

Camilla has not given up on Homeshare and will apply for funding for a pilot program in the next round. Just now, 'the timing is not right', but Canberra is the perfect place for a program, with its young population, university, housing shortage and ageing population.

St. John Ambulance (Qld.)

Judith Allen is hopeful of funding for a pilot scheme.

Queensland Community Care Network Inc.

Ken Maudsley is determined to achieve a Homeshare program in Brisbane. Part of his plans includes a trip to Melbourne early in the new year to see how Beris and the team operate.

Community Accommodation & Support Agency Inc. (CASA)

Kay Spandley in Mackay established a group of interested persons in 2008, their purpose being: "To assist in the development and establishment of a home-sharing program in the Mackay region, where sole owners/occupiers of housing could share their homes with those in need of accommodation."

Members of the group represent areas of government and service providers relevant to the establishment of such a program. They are all enthusiastic and dedicated.

At this time they are raising funds for a consultant to write their submission for funding.

Interestingly, Kym first heard of Homeshare from Judith Allen, which only goes to show the usefulness of networking.

Uniting Care Wesley Adelaide Inc.

Barbara Donaldson is the enthusiastic leader of the Homeshare effort in Adelaide. She is encouraged by significant local support and is confident of launching a successful, funded program. She already has one match!

Wesley Mission Melbourne

With the help of some very savvy consultants, the team has presented its business plan for the coming year. Elements of this work may eventually be of use to HANZA members, featuring as it does some costing models, and a more business oriented approach to the delivery of services.

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Homeshare International Network

CHARTER

Aim of the network

Homeshare is the exchange of accommodation for supportive companionship (which may include a rental element). Homesharers do not provide nursing or personal care. There are Homeshare programmes in many different countries, run by a range of different agencies. The aim of the Homeshare International Network is to encourage the development of effective support services in the form of Homeshare programmes operating to a high standard, and by sharing information and working together, improve all programmes' ability to:

- ensure maximum access to companionable support at home for all who would benefit, including, but not limited to, older people and those living with disabilities;
- ensure maximum access to affordable accommodation for those who need it;
- encourage positive intergenerational relationships;
- demonstrate effective service policy and practice
- offer mutual support
- influence policy both internally and externally
- encourage appropriate research.

Mission

As member centres our mission is:

1. to provide a reliable and high quality matching service
2. to promote the concept of Homeshare as an integral part of community development;
3. to support homesharers and householders;
4. to share information and work together, for greater efficacy.

Vision

Our vision is for a society in which fewer people live lonely and isolated lives, and where intergenerational solidarity is promoted.

Values

Our values are based on these beliefs:

- The importance of having the opportunity to remain in ones own home

- The importance of having access to affordable accommodation
- The importance of an evidence base for the effectiveness of homeshare

Key common principles of Homeshare International network members:

- The primary purpose of a Homeshare programme is to recruit householders in need of supportive companionship at home and match them to appropriate homesharers;
- Programmes may be resourced by volunteers, local authorities, commercial interests, or the individual participants themselves, according to local custom and need;
- Programmes are non-political and non-sectarian, and do not discriminate on the grounds of race, creed, gender or sexual orientation.
- Programmes are run in a professional manner, whether by paid staff or volunteers;
and
- Programmes are mutually supportive and committed to sharing information with fellow member programmes, and participating in processes and activities of the network.

Membership of the Homeshare International Network

It is envisaged that the Homeshare International Network will become an umbrella organization, run by its members, and eventually become the accreditation body for Homeshare programmes around the world. There will be two levels of membership of the Homeshare International Network:

1. Programme membership – each Homeshare programme will be encouraged to join the network, and will be asked to pay an annual subscription and to put a link to the Homeshare International website on their websites; to ensure that the HI Programme Directory is complete and up to date; to nominate members for the Homeshare International board of trustees; and to provide information and news for the HI Newsletter. Member programmes will enjoy the benefits of a discount on the registration fee for the biennial World Homeshare Congress, referrals of both householders and homesharers from the Homeshare International website. Homeshare International will offer a small bursary scheme, to assist new programmes to get underway.
2. Individual membership – a donation at the discretion of the individual will provide access to occasional updates, invitations to events etc.

We think that any HANZA member that wishes to do so should join HI in its own right.