



EARLY BIRD REGO EXTENDED!

We've just received the exciting news that the Commonwealth Assistant Minister for Social Services, Senator the Hon Mitch Fifield has accepted HANZA's invitation to officially open the World Congress on Thursday 5th November.

Senator Fifield has responsibility for disabilities and ageing at a national level. This is a significant addition to the program as he will update us on the Government's progress moving aged care from a welfare-style system to one in which older Australians choose their own care services through a market-based system. This is particularly relevant for Homeshare as the Government believes these reforms will encourage service providers to offer competitive, high-quality and innovative services.

As an incentive to those who haven't yet registered for the Congress but who will no doubt want to take advantage of this opportunity to hear from Senator Fifield – as well as the rest of our exceptional speakers – we have decided to extend early bird registration to 31 August.

Register by 31 August and you will receive a 21% discount or 25% discount for Homeshare International members.

www.worldhomesharecongress2015.org.au/registration

JOIN THE BUZZ AROUND HOMESHARE AUSTRALIA

We couldn't have asked for better exposure for Homeshare in the lead-up to November's conference with a number of Australian media outlets profiling successful matches and pilot projects in Melbourne and Sydney in recent weeks.

In Melbourne, Olympia and Rose shared their story; Homeshare providing stability for Olympia after returning to Australia from Greece and allowing Rose to stay in her home and close to her friends and belongings. In Sydney, Managing Director of Youth Action Katie Acheson discussed the matching process and the type of assistance Homesharers give to Householders.

While the primary goal of Homeshare in Australia is to increase the options for older people and people with a disability to remain at home for longer, the housing affordability crisis in this country is creating added interest in the intergenerational benefits of Homeshare.

You can read some of the media coverage here:

[Senior saviours open doors to needy in exchange for housework](#)

[The odd couple](#)

[Homeshare proposal matches young people with elderly in exchange for cooking and cleaning](#)

[How to live rent-free and make a difference](#)

The coverage has a lot of people talking about Homeshare and we can't wait to continue the national – and international – conversation at the 4th World Homeshare Congress!



Homesharers Barbara and Yin meet up with HANZA's Shirley Anderson and Beris Campbell

MEET SOME HOMESHARE MATCHES

Victorian and ACT Homeshare programs will introduce some of the wonderful people who are enjoying Homeshare in Session 2, Day 1 *'Showcasing Homeshare Programs from around the world'* and also in the workshop on Day 2 exploring shared living initiatives in disability. All will be happy to share their experiences of homesharing in conversations and Q & A sessions.

HANZA President Shirley Anderson and Congress Coordinator Beris Campbell, recently caught up with long-standing Wesley Homeshare match Barbara and Yin at the University of Melbourne Social Work Alumni dinner and invited them to the Congress. Barbara is a retired social worker and Melbourne Uni Alumni, and Yin, from China, is studying social work at Monash University in Melbourne – a great match that has been in place for more than four years.

VICTORIAN HOMESHARE INITIATIVES

Homeshare programs have been growing in Victoria for 15 years and provide great stories of commitment and ambition for Homeshare. Session 2, Day 1 will kick off with *'The HANZA ambition'* and what has been achieved since 2000 across Australia. This will be followed by a presentation from the group who are rolling out Homeshare across Melbourne.

DISABILITY HOMESHARE INITIATIVES

Homeshare initiatives in disability in the new world of the National Disability Insurance Scheme in the ACT, WA and Victoria will be presented to the Congress. This is a challenging but exciting time in the new disability service delivery landscape and the potential for Homeshare and other shared living programs to play an important role is enormous. Community Connections in the ACT will lead a workshop on Day 2 examining both Homeshare and shared living with valuable input from the highly successful UK organisation Shared Lives Plus.

NEW SPEAKERS ADDED TO THE PROGRAM

If you haven't paid a visit to the World Homeshare Congress website in recent weeks then it is worth doing so to view the new speakers that have been added to the program and the full list of countries which are sending representatives. This truly will be a World Congress!

You can also start to plan which concurrent session you would like to attend on Day 2:

- Shared living initiatives in disability services.
- Homeshare – a housing program or live-in support?
- Homeshare practice issues.

And you should also be thinking about the questions you would like to ask our star panel of Patricia and Don Edgar, Bob Birrell, Malcolm Johnson, Jane Herington and Lyn Allison (panel MC) when they address the topic *'Homeshare's time has come'*.

The panel will explore the world's ageing population and the increasing lone person householder trend and the role Homeshare can play in tackling some of the social and economic opportunities and challenges that an ageing population presents. This will be the important conversation of the Congress and you will have ample opportunity to ask the panellists any pressing questions relating to how Homeshare fits into planning for the demographic challenges of the future.

2015 INTERGENERATIONAL REPORT

The Intergenerational Report is the social compact between the generations according to Australia's Treasurer Joe Hockey. Homeshare is an intergenerational program that we believe can play a significant role in meeting the needs of an ageing population which wants more options in retirement living, and younger Australians who are finding it increasingly difficult to find affordable accommodation. Homeshare has the ability to take pressure off government coffers whilst fostering greater understanding between generations and maintaining diverse and vibrant local communities. We have invited Roderick Campbell, Research Director at The Australia Institute, to deliver a paper to the Congress on *'The economic and political significance of Homeshare in Australia'*.

HELP US PROMOTE THE CONGRESS

Receive Congress updates and help promote the event by following HANZA on social media.



Homeshare-Australia



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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CONGRESS GO TO
WWW.WORLDHOMESHARECONGRESS2015.ORG.AU

Homeshare:

- encourages independent living
 - supports relationships between generations and cultures
 - provides companionship and safety at night
 - complements family and formal home supports
 - provides affordable accommodation in exchanges for help in the home
 - ensures value for money for government and consumers
- ...and lots more

