

# The Victorian Homeshare Project

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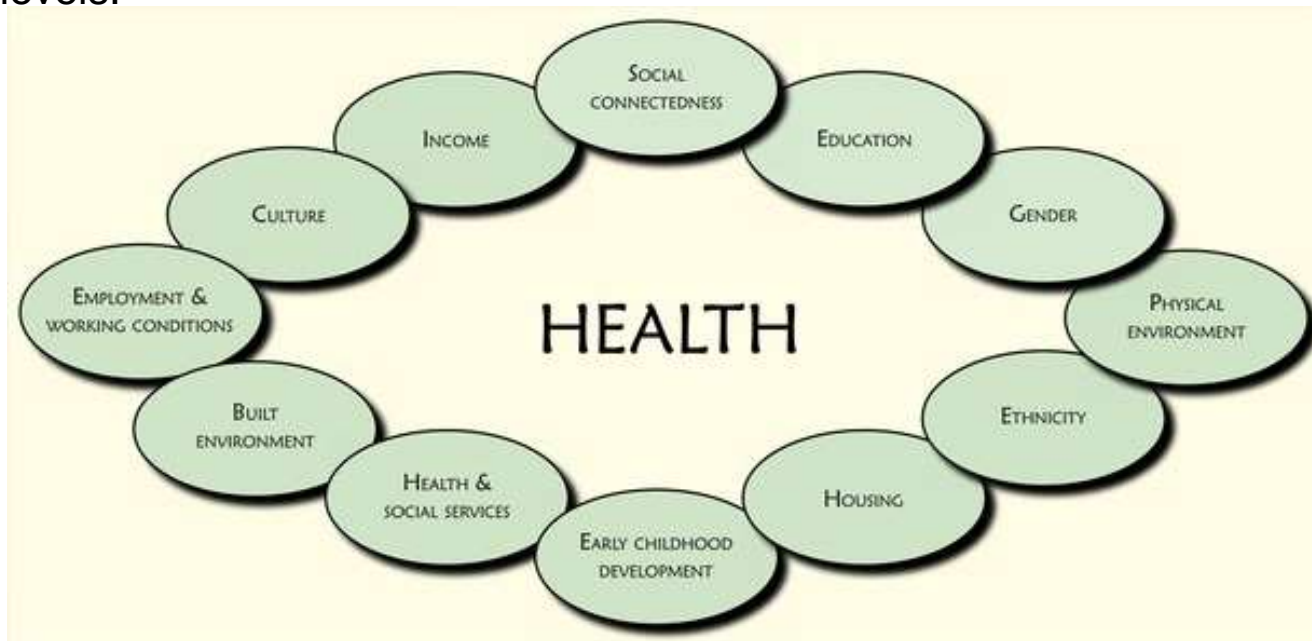
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- Introduction
- Social Determinants of health
- Sense of community
- Place attachment
- Health promotion
- Community services sector reform
- Victorian Homeshare providers

# Social Determinants of Health

- The conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age.  
Shaped by the distribution of money, power and resources at global, national and local levels.



- Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of the person and their family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond their control.

*The Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

# Sense of Community

- “a feeling that members have of belonging and being important to each other, and a shared faith that members’ needs will be met by the commitment to be together”

*(Chavis, Hogge, McMillan, & Wandersman, 1986)*

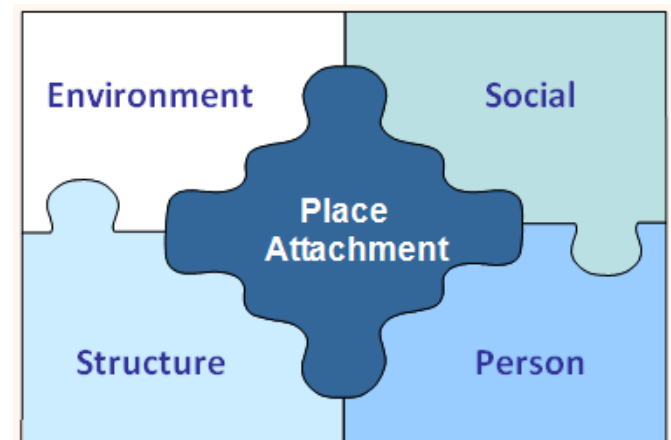
- Psychological Sense of Community
  - Membership
  - Influence
  - Integration and fulfillment of need
  - Shared emotional connection

the value of  
COMMUNITY

# Place Attachment

- Place attachments promote and reflect stability, signifying long term bonds between people and their homes and communities  
*(Brown & Perkins, 1992).*
- Place attachment is especially significant to older people as feelings about experiences in, or of, key places may be a factor in keeping the past alive, thereby maintaining a sense of continuity, fostering identity and protecting the self against deleterious change.
- Long term residence increases sentimental ties to a place, and local social involvements with friends, family, organisational memberships and local shopping are also consistent and significant sources of attachments to a local place.

*(Hummon, 1992)*



# Risk and protective factors

- Risk Factors

Injury	Health problems, obesity or development of disease
Poverty	Loneliness, social isolation and exclusion
Mental health issues such as depression and stress	Elder abuse
Retirement	Financial stress, mortgage
Grief/Loss	Reduced help seeking behaviours
Substance abuse	Disability

- Protective Factors

Increased health literacy	Good nutrition
Adequate income	Adequate exercise and maintenance of healthy weight
Regular health checks	Feeling safe
Strong partner or family support	Community activity, volunteering and civic participation
Social and community networks	Homeshare

- Aged Care Reform
- NDIS
- The future of Homeshare



# Victorian Homeshare Providers

**UnitingCare *lifeAssist***

**Wesley Mission Victoria**

**Care Connect & Spectrum**

**Supported by funding from  
Commonwealth and Victorian  
Governments**

**through the Home and Community  
Care Program**



**Wesley Mission Victoria**





## North West Homeshare

A partnership between  
**CARE CONNECT** and  
**SPECTRUM MIGRANT RESOURCE CENTRE**



Wesley Mission Victoria



## What we do

**At Care Connect and Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre we have 75% older householders and 25% householders with a disability.**

- **Who are Householders?**
- **Who are Homesharers?**

## What we do?

# Homeshare

Homeshare is a free, live-in program for older people, people with a disability and carers. It offers a flexible and safe way for you to remain living in your own home.

Homeshare Coordinators match you with a mature and responsible volunteer who lives in your home rent free, in exchange for providing practical support.

Learn how Homeshare in North West Melbourne can support you to live the life you want.

Practical support provided might include:

- shopping
- transport to appointments
- meal preparation
- household cleaning
- light gardening
- help with the computer
- a sense of security.

Note: Practical support does not include personal care or administering medication.



 (03) 9362 8000

 [homeshare@careconnect.org.au](mailto:homeshare@careconnect.org.au)

## What we do?

The Care Connect and Spectrum Migrant Resource Centre partnership in the North and Western suburbs of Melbourne encourages CALD communities to participate in the Homeshare Program, resulting in matches with:

- Italian
- Australian-born Chinese
- Greek
- Chinese
- Serbian
- Bulgarian
- Australians
- New Zealanders.

## The matching step process

### Intake

- Intake worker sends out Homeshare information sheet
- Telephone interview completed and advice about assessment process and average time for assessment
- Discussion of initial intake and eligibility and allocation of a HS Coordinator and back up
- Coordinator to organise face-to-face assessment interview

### Assessment

- Initial home visit, personal interview, accommodation inspection. Complete client assessment documentation and home safety risk assessment
- Initial assessments to be done in pairs (lead and back up)
- Lead HS Coordinator and back up provide their assessment of suitability. Team discusses and questions/concerns are raised
- Outcome decided - accepted/declined
- Lead HS Coordinator to send assessment outcome letter to applicant
- If no decision – follow up information sought
- Follow up discussions with significant others (family member, friend, care provider). This is often done at the face-to-face interview as family member is present.

### Matching

- Discuss possible matches - criteria for matching as per manual
- Discuss any new information collected
- Lead and back up arrive early to meet Householder and Homesharer
- Follow tips for first introduction discussion
- Facilitate discussion between Householder and Homesharer - common interest, backgrounds etc
- Provide steps forward in the process
- Stress no decisions to be made at first introduction meeting

## Homeshare program staffing

- **Care Connect two part-time co-ordinators**
- **One Spectrum co-ordinator**
- **Fees and charges**



Wesley Mission Victoria



## How well do we do it?

Wesley Mission Victoria's Homeshare success is demonstrated by people being able to live in their own homes because they have support from Homeshare.

- Matches last from a few months to several years.
- When matches come to an end many people ask to be rematched.



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## How well do we do it?

Summary of three Melbourne programs 2014-15

- 389 Promotional activities
- 230 Householder enquiries
- 1,222 Homesharer enquiries
- 52 Total matches for over 1242 Weeks
- 17 from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- 11 Householders under 65
- 39 householders over 65



## How well do we do it?

### What does 10 hours a week of support look like?

- Varies from person to person.
- Companionship and overnight presence is most important .
- Preparing the evening meal together, shopping, gardening.
- Sharing life stories, history, culture.

## How well do we do it?

Are people happy with Homeshare?

Annual surveys, match reviews, exit interviews

Overwhelmingly positive feedback of Homeshare's success

Quotes



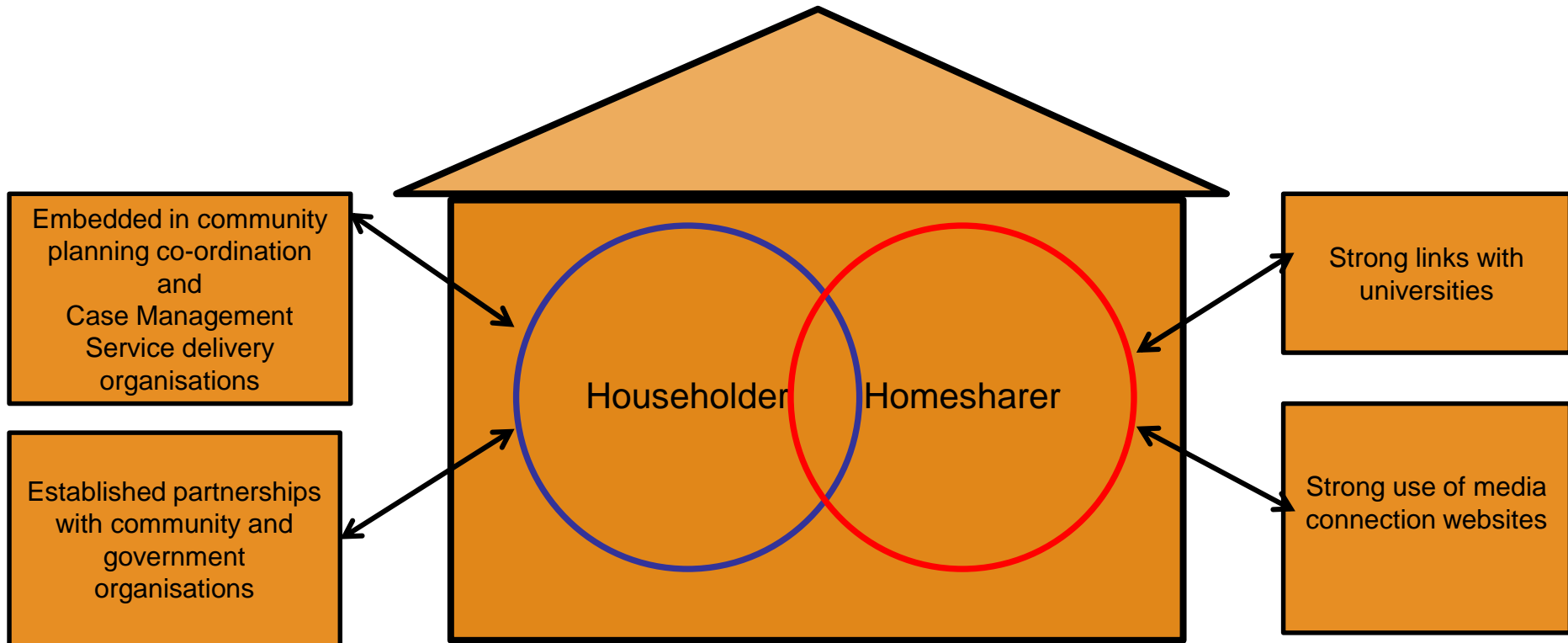
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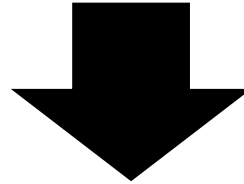
# Victorian Homeshare Programs

## HOMESHARE VICTORIAN PROGRAMS

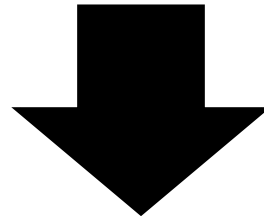
(Government funded)



# Victorian Homeshare Programs



NEW TRANSITIONS



Free market  
approach

Fee-for-  
service model

Individual  
client-funded  
packages

Advocacy to  
influence  
government  
policy

Marketing  
and  
promotion to  
new  
customers

## Homeshare Challenges

### Value for money

- **Social and economic outcomes:**

Volunteer time 2014/15 = 12,420 hours + 730 inactive overnight shifts. Equivalent paid work = \$709,144

Delay or prevent entering residential care = massive savings

- **Financial sustainability**

Hybrid model

- **Cost efficiencies**

Technology

## Homeshare challenges

### Marketing Homeshare

- A household term
- Horizons beyond Welfare Sector
- Partnerships

## Homeshare match interview Rose and Olympia



## Questions



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