A Call for Contributions – November 2017

The November 2017: “Responding to Homelessness in Queensland” edition of Parity

This edition of Parity is sponsored by the Queensland Department Housing and Public Works, Micah Projects, Mission Australia, Queensland Shelter, QCOSS, Anglicare Southern Queensland and Horizon Community Housing (thus far).

Introduction
All people involved in responding to homelessness in Queensland are invited to contribute to the upcoming November 2017 “Responding to Homelessness in Queensland” edition of Parity.

Parity is the national publication of the Council to Homeless Persons and is the national homelessness publication in Australia. (Please visit: www.chp.org.au/Parity)

One of the aims of this publication is give everyone working to respond to homelessness in Queensland the opportunity to have their say about the policy and service response to homelessness in Queensland. All people working in government, with specialist homelessness services, mainstream government services, social housing providers, other related welfare sectors or in universities and other relevant research bodies are invited to contribute.

This edition is intended as an updating and revision of the original August 2010 “Responding to Homelessness in Queensland” Edition of Parity. A great deal has changed in terms of the policy framework for responding to homelessness as well as the program and service response to those in need of support and housing.

Most importantly, this edition will provide the opportunity to set out and discuss the State Government’s Housing Strategy and its impact of the response to homelessness.

Artwork
All contributors are welcome to submit any artwork, photographs or images that they would like to accompany their articles (should space allow). All those involved in artwork programs for people who are or who have experienced homelessness are invited to contact the Parity editor at parity@chp.org.au to discuss the inclusion of artwork produced by clients in this edition of Parity.

A Framework for Discussion: Responding to Homelessness in Queensland

The following chapter outlines are intended guide for people wishing to contribute to this edition.

Chapter 1: Putting the Response to Homelessness in Queensland in Context

The aim of this chapter is to contextualise current homelessness policy and programs. A crucial part of understanding this context is to be clear about the history of, and the background to, the development of current homelessness policy in Queensland. For example, how successful was the Queensland Government’s “Responding to Homelessness in Queensland Strategy 2005-09” in making a difference to the outcomes for homelessness services users and clients? Likewise, what was the impact of the 2008 Commonwealth Government’s The Road Home reforms to homelessness service delivery and in particular, the National Affordable Housing Agreement (NAHA) and the
National Partnership Agreement on Homelessness? (NPAH) Similarly, what was the impact on homelessness service provision of the policies of the Campbell Newman Liberal National Party Government?

In essence, what are the elements of continuity and discontinuity in the evolution and development of homelessness policy in Queensland?

All government policies are built on the bones of previous policies, their purported successes and their perceived failures as well as being developed in response to the different values and principles of those in succeeding governments.

In order to fully understand where we are at today, it is crucial to set out how these policy responses evolved and changed over time and what influenced these policy changes.

Chapter 2: Homelessness in Queensland
The aim of this chapter is to provide a map and an overall “picture” of the current state of homelessness in Queensland. This chapter would examine empirical issues like enumeration, the character and make-up of the homeless population, the location of those experiencing homelessness and base line issues of homelessness demographics and any other information required to understand the size, nature, character and composition of the homeless population in Queensland.

This chapter will also seek to examine and discuss the distinct characteristics of homelessness in Queensland, particularly the impact of remote, rural and regional issues and the impact of the differences in issues experienced by “town” and “country” and as importantly, the manifold issues of Indigenous homelessness and the response to Indigenous Homelessness in Queensland.

Chapter 3: Current Homeless Policy
The purpose of this chapter is to set out the State Government’s Housing Strategy with particular reference to how this strategy will impact upon and affect the program and service response to homelessness in Queensland.

(This chapter will be provided by the Department of Housing and Public Works)

Chapter 4: Responding to the Housing Strategy
The aim of this chapter is to give all people involved in the response to homelessness in Queensland the opportunity to analyse, examine and respond to the State Government’s recently released Housing Strategy.

Chapter 5: Program, Service and Practice Responses
The aim of this chapter is to examine program, service and practice responses to homelessness in Queensland and in particular, provide an opportunity for everyone operating at the coalface to share their expertise and the benefits of their experience.

- What are some examples of “best practice” in the service response to homelessness?
Similarly, what are some examples of holistic and integrated program and service delivery models?

- What are some examples of successful collaboration and partnerships across both homelessness services and across different sectors?
- What has been the impact of a focus on relational practice in homelessness service provision?
- Likewise, what are some examples of innovative models of service provision that have attempted to respond to the specific characteristics of homelessness in Queensland?
- Both inner urban, metropolitan, outer-metropolitan, regional, rural and remote services and programs will be included to make sure that practice examples are representative of the whole state.

Chapter 6: Consumer and Client Input

The primary purpose of this chapter would be to provide an opportunity for people who are or have been homeless, and in particular people who are or have been clients or users of services, to have their say about the response to homelessness in Queensland and their experience of seeking and receiving homelessness assistance.

Chapter 7: Key Themes and Issues in Queensland

The aim of this chapter is to provide the opportunity and the scope for the discussion of a number of key issues that underpin and influence both the development of homelessness in Queensland and in particular, the policy and program responses to it.

These are not presented here in any order or hierarchy of importance. This list of themes and issues is not intended to be exclusive or comprehensive. Potential contributors wishing to discuss other themes and issues they believe relevant to the response to homelessness in Queensland should do so.

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander homelessness
- Homelessness in regional Queensland
- Domestic and family violence
- Young People leaving care
- Youth homelessness
- Affordable housing
- The impact of the NDIS
- Responding to chronic or long-term homelessness
- Transitory homelessness in Queensland
- Post-release issues for those exiting prison
- Integrated service delivery
- Migration and movement

Other specific issues and themes that could be pursued include responding to elderly homelessness, responding to the homelessness experienced by asylum seekers and refugees, mental health and drug and alcohol issues and the response to homelessness. This above list is by no means exhaustive.
Opinion Pages: The Framework for the Future

The aim of this Section is to provide the space for policy makers, services providers, researchers and advocates to address the central question:

Where to now for the response to homelessness in Queensland?

Contributing to the November 2017 “Responding to Homeless in Queensland” edition of Parity

NB: Expressions of Interest: Prospective contributors are asked to email parity@chp.org.au with a brief description or summary of the article they propose to submit. Expressions of interest are due by COB Friday, 16 June 2017.

Deadline: All contributions need to be submitted by COB Friday October 13th 2017.

Submissions: All contributions should be submitted as Word attachments to an email addressed to parity@chp.org.au

Word length: Contributions can be up to 1600 words. This equates to a double page spread in Parity. Single page articles can be up to 800 words in length. Contributions of a greater length should be discussed with the Parity Editor.

Artwork: Contributors are invited to submit the artwork they would like to accompany their article. Inclusion is dependent on the space being available. If artwork is not provided and is required, it will be selected by the Parity Editor.

Questions: If you have any questions at all about contributing to this edition please contact the Parity Editor by email parity@chp.org.au or ring 03 8415 6201

Referencing

NB: Due to space considerations, contributors are encouraged to use endnotes when referencing their Parity articles. All works that are cited or referred to in an article should be referenced.

For example:

CHP does not encourage contributors to list a bibliography of references used in the development of an article but are not cited in the article. There is simply insufficient space for the inclusion of extensive bibliographies.

For more detailed information on referencing and writing guidelines for Parity see:
http://chp.org.au/services/Parity-magazine/contribute-to-Parity/

Content
By providing your contribution, you confirm and agree that (except where you have referenced or cited any other’s work) the contribution is your original work and has not been copied from any other source.”

Use of content
If your contribution is accepted, it will be published by or on CHP’s behalf in an edition of the Parity magazine. Parity is available in hard copy and online.

Online copies of back editions of Parity can be found on:

http://search.informit.com.au/browseJournalTitle;res=IELHSS;issn=1032-6170

Assistance
Feedback, input and assistance can be provided with drafts if required. If prospective contributors have any questions at all they should contact the Parity Editor, Parity@chp.org.au or ring 03 8415 6200 or 03 8415 6201.