



EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO A HOME! TOGETHER WE CAN END HOMELESSNESS IN WA!

On any given night in Western Australia, around 9,000 people are counted as homeless, and we know, more are homeless but not recorded as such.

Many will be sleeping rough; others will be relying on homelessness services (assisting over 24,000 people a year), or the goodwill of family and friends for a couch or spare bed. For others, the place they sleep will come without secure tenure and at a high price. Most will feel very unsafe.

Everyone experiencing homelessness has travelled different paths, but all have hopes and dreams like everyone else. **The fact is, it costs us more, on average, to leave someone homeless than to house and support them.**

On **12 April**, 'The State of Homelessness in Australia's Cities' report will be delivered in Perth with the Australian Alliance to End Homelessness (AAEH), and WA Alliance to End Homelessness (WAAEH). The report is a ground-breaking piece of research bringing together interview data from over 8,000 people sleeping rough, and otherwise homeless in Australia. It will provide a critical understanding of the health and social impacts of homelessness in Australia's cities.

The following day, **13 April**, the WA Alliance to End Homelessness (WAAEH) will respond by officially launching the 'The Western Australian Homelessness Strategy', a **10 Year Action Plan to #EndHomelessnessWA**.

The WAAEH is comprised of a group of organisations that have come together to end homelessness in Western Australia. You can read more about the alliance at <https://www.endhomelessnesswa.com/>. They have developed the Strategy following an 18-month community campaign bringing together contributions of many people from homelessness services, those experiencing homelessness, funders of services, and members of the community.

In developing the strategy, the WAAEH were inspired by similar programs in other countries (such as the Calgary Action Plan) which have galvanised communities to end homelessness and had a significant impact on outcomes. It is hoped this strategy will have the same effect.

Following the WAAEH launch, everyone is invited to the public launch of the #EndHomelessnessWA campaign where 1,000 performers comprising an orchestra; massed choir, plus professional and community ensembles, will move through the streets of the City of Perth performing Gavin Bryars' *Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me Yet*. This event is led by the [UWA Conservatorium of Music](#) and co-hosted by the WAAEH and [The Centre for Social Impact UWA](#).

There are many ways people can get involved to drive this forward. Register support to #EndHomelessnessWA by signing the petition at www.endhomelessnessWA.com, be part of the movement and help spread the word at 'Love Never Failed Us Yet' event [Register your interest](#) here, or share through social media <https://www.facebook.com/EndHomelessnessWA/> https://twitter.com/Homelessness_WA Instagram: @endhomelessness_WA

THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING!

MEDIA ENQUIRIES: Gina Church M: 0409 299 220 E: ginachurch@westnet.com.au

**REGISTER YOUR INTEREST TO ATTEND THE LAUNCHES: ginachurch@westnet.com.au
12 APRIL, 9am – 11am: 'THE STATE OF HOMELESSNESS IN AUSTRALIAN CITIES'
13 APRIL, 3.30pm – 5pm: 'WA ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS ACTION'**