

COMMON GROUND CANBERRA — A HOUSING FIRST MODEL

Common Ground Canberra aims to successfully end long term homelessness through housing the most vulnerable people in our communities. It is not a temporary or transitional service or shelter — it is a permanent supportive housing solution.

Opened in 2015, Common Ground Canberra is an innovative 5-storey development designed and constructed to support a vibrant, inclusive and diverse community of tenants.

SUPPORTIVE



INCLUSIVE



Based on New York's innovative Breaking Ground program, the Northside team is incredibly proud to provide the support services and community engagement. We work in close partnership with our tenancy management partners, Argyle Housing, to deliver and coordinate on-site support to our tenants.

Common Ground Canberra is a secure access building with 40 self-contained one bedroom apartments with the entire ground floor dedicated to housing community common space, on-site tenancy, support and community services.

Our tenants are diverse, vibrant and a valued part of the Gungahlin community. 20 apartments are dedicated to people who have a lived experience of chronic homelessness and 20 apartments are dedicated to individuals and couples on a low income (for example, students or apprentices on low wages).

The Northside team collaborates with a wide range of external support agencies, government agencies and community organisations to deliver clinical services, training, employment and education support, life skills and recreational activities and events. We also actively engage with other public housing tenant communities in an outreach capacity.

DIVERSE



ENGAGED



Housing First recognises that stability is more likely to be achieved if an individual or family has a safe, permanent place to live.

The Housing First approach harnesses the power of permanent, safe housing to help people recover and heal from the trauma of homelessness and gives them a safe space in which to address the issues that may be stopping them from living the lives they want.