

Media Release

1 August 2018
Homeless Connect – Homeless Week 2018.

30 local services and businesses have joined forces for Homeless Connect Canberra during Homelessness Week 6 – 13 August, a national week of action highlighting that ending homelessness in our communities is achievable.

Homeless Connect is based on a “one-stop-shop” model of service provision for people experiencing homelessness. The new initiative is focused on bringing together business and community groups to provide free services to people who have experienced homelessness for a day.

While the event is aimed at connecting people with practical service provision and support, community agencies acknowledge that to make sustainable change in the lives of these individuals, it is all about housing.

“1600 Canberrans are homeless on any given night. Whether they are sleeping rough, staying temporarily with friends or sleeping in unsafe overcrowded dwellings. They are without a home,” says Kate Cvetanovski, Executive Director Northside Community Services.

“While Homeless Connect is about connecting to services, there is no magic service formula that is going to make a long term difference if, at the end of the day, our frontline teams cannot connect people with a home.”

Homeless Connect Canberra is aimed at strengthening the wellbeing and protection - and ensuring the survival – of people who are experiencing homelessness in the ACT. The event will connect people with service providers including dentists, legal aid, podiatrists, hairdressers, physiotherapists, veterinarians and, of course, housing support. More than 30 services and businesses are committing to the event.

Homeless Connect Canberra will take place from 11am – 3pm on August 8 at Pilgrim House, home of the Early Morning Centre which provides breakfast, support and referral for people experiencing homelessness.

For more information or comment please contact:

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