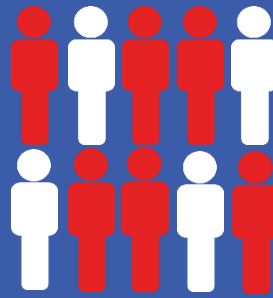


HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

Homelessness is far more than “rooflessness”. Homelessness means being without a safe, sustainable and private space to live.



In Ballarat over **60%** of persons seeking housing assistance from specialist homelessness services did not get safe and secure housing in 2020-21.

The top three reasons for people seeking homelessness and housing assistance in Victoria during 2020-21 were:



FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES

47% of people who rent in Ballarat are in distress.



FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

67% of women escaping FV had to return home due to nowhere for them to go.



HOUSING CRISIS

155,000 households currently on the social housing waiting list with a national shortage of over **400,000** homes that are affordable for those experiencing homelessness or living on the lowest incomes.



In 2020-21, **41,652** young people aged 15-24 sought homelessness services as “**presenting alone**”, meaning they weren’t supported by parents or carers.

Only **5,092** were able to be provided with **medium- or longer-term accommodation**. **24,053** **missed out** on accommodation because none was available. The remainder could only be provided **crisis accommodation**.



Of the people presenting to homelessness services in 2020-21

76% Could not be provided long term accommodation

32% Could not be provided crisis accommodation



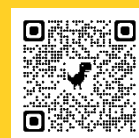
Building 16,810 social housing units would cost approximately \$7.6 billion and could deliver \$15.3 billion in additional economic output as well as 47,009 additional jobs.

\$244 Million per year

The benefit of providing social housing and reducing the number of women that experience homelessness after leaving a violent partner by 9,100.

WHAT CAN WE DO INDIVIDUALLY TO HELP?

- Schools - hold a can drive with your community and donate to local emergency relief services.
- Share your support for creating affordable housing and contact your MP and ask them to take the Homelessness Pledge [Everybody's Home \(everybodyshome.com.au\)](http://Everybody's Home (everybodyshome.com.au))
- Support a local charity group supporting vulnerable groups in our community.
- Learn more about other challenges people face like Food Insecurity.
- Get involved in activities that support homelessness causes like Homelessness Week.



Ballarat Community HEALTH

Scan for more information and references