

ACHIA

Aboriginal Community Housing
Industry Association NSW



Friday, 19 April 2024 | ACHIA Alert #26

2024 ACHIA NSW Deadly Housing Summit

NRSCH Registered Members Exclusive Event

Join us for a 2-day, exclusive event on beautiful Awabakal & Worimi Country, filled with insightful discussions, opportunities to network and share resources, and hear the latest from Subject Matter Experts in the fields of Legal, Finance, Risk Management and Work Health and Safety.

Date: 1 - 2 May 2024

Venue: Rydges, Newcastle

REGISTER below and PROPEL YOUR BUSINESS FURTHER

If you would like to yarn more about this event, contact Shane Todd, ACHIA NSW Service Development Manager at shane.t@achiansw.org.au or [0498 441 218](tel:0498441218).

REGISTER HERE

Gunida Gunyah Aboriginal Corporation





On 3 April 2024 the ACHIA NSW team had the amazing privilege of visiting with Gunida Gunyah Aboriginal Corporation in Gunnedah on Gamilaraay/Gomerio Country. We spent time yarning with many of the amazing

team and hearing about the work they are doing in the housing space, and more broadly with their local community.

Thank you to Gunida Gonyah for the opportunity to see the Deadly workspaces you've created and what your clients have access to.

If you are a Not-for-Profit Aboriginal Community Housing Provider in NSW, apply now to become a Member of ACHIA NSW.

Group Picture (Left to Right): Jane, Shane, Eleanor, Leanne and Stephanie

[Become an ACHIA NSW Member Here](#)

Proposed AHO-ACHP Contract

ACHIA NSW wrote to the Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) on 3 November 2023, and sent a follow up letter on 8 April 2024 highlighting significant concerns with the current draft contract template for Common Terms and Conditions.

The concerns highlighted by ACHIA NSW include:

- Homes NSW is seeking contract consistency which is not reflected in the draft contract template.
- The (key) principles provided within the contract as a guiding vision of working together is lost with unacceptable and unfair liabilities being transferred to ACHPs.
- The current contract template disadvantages ACHPs and increases the gap between ACHPs and CHPs, including with regard to:
 - structural repair responsibility; and
 - the addition of a bespoke insurance clause which will reduce the availability of insurers willing to participate.
- A lack of available information and detail about the level and type of independent financial advice sought by AHO in developing the draft contract, with specific reference to the contract structure and the intent of the contract to allow ACHPs to lend using cash flow of rent - a significant variance in comparison to conditions applied to CHPs.
- The Asset Management Framework is not consistent with the contract terms offered.
- AHO to provide current asset plans with signing of new contracts, inclusive of collected rents to support asset sustainability (planned maintenance).

Do you have concerns about the Common Terms and Conditions contract proposed by AHO? If so, we encourage you to call the ACHIA NSW Sector Development Team to discuss, so we can incorporate your perspective whilst affording you anonymity - unless you specify otherwise. Please see contact details following.

Lynnett Newton, Housing Industry Development Manager on [0429 044 133](tel:0429044133)

Paula Taylor, Housing Industry Development Manager on [0497 096 919](tel:0497096919)

Simon Wade, Director - Sector Development on [0491 208 899](tel:0491208899)

ACHIA NSW will continue to advocate for fairer contract conditions and a position that provides an equal standpoint for ACHPs serving communities throughout NSW on behalf of government.

NCOSS Regional Forum

Call out to Aboriginal Community Housing Providers out west – specifically in Dubbo, Forbes, Parkes, Condobolin, Wellington, Coonamble, Coonabarabran, Bourke, Nyngan, Cobar, Walgett, and Brewarrina!

NCOSS REGIONAL FORUM – DUBBO

DATE: 22 May 10am to 3.30pm

VENUE: Rhino Lodge 14L Camp Rd Dubbo

Join in the conversation about how to reduce risk for regional communities in Western NSW.

[NCOSS](#) and local hosts [Mission Australia](#) in Dubbo would like to invite decision makers from social services, community organisations, lived experience advocates, and government agencies, including Local Government, from Western NSW to an interactive in person Regional Forum in Dubbo.

The focus of the day will be:

- Keeping communities safe and kids out of jail.
- Keeping communities housed.
- Workforce issues in the social service sector.

Confirmed speakers include:

- **Cara Varian - CEO NCOSS** and **Dale Towns – Area Manager, Mission Australia Dubbo** will introduce the day and highlight some of the issues being discussed.
- **Rebecca** Pinkstone – CEO Homes NSW – Rebecca will discuss how HomesNSW hopes to transform the way social and affordable housing is done to increase access, improve tenant experience, and collaborate with services on the ground.
- **Dr Mindy** Sotiri – CEO Justice Reform Initiative – Dr Sotiri will talk about what works to keep kids out of jail and communities safe.
- Local speakers from a variety of youth, housing and employment services.

The full program will be released closer to the date but there will be plenty of opportunities for participants to discuss issues, challenges and opportunities. These discussions will be captured in a report that will inform NCOSS advocacy and local advocacy in your communities.

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Consultation Paper - Review of NRSCH Metrics

In March 2024, the Regulator for Community Housing released a consultation paper to review 5 recommended changes to the NRSCH Metrics, affecting both NRSCH and Local Scheme Registered Providers.

The concept of the review is to align practices across the country and create a national regulatory system. At this stage Victoria and Western Australia do not participate.

The recommended changes are summarised as:

1. New measure – Collection of complaints data from ACHP's
2. Amend current measure – Eviction performance calculation around evictions
3. Amend current measure – Eviction threshold – in support of recommendation 2
4. New measure – Collection of reason for eviction
5. New measure – collection of tenant accommodation when moving out

Please contact nrschnationaloffice@homes.nsw.gov.au if you did not receive a consultation paper inviting your feedback.

Feedback submissions close on 24 April 2024

ACHP Grant and Training Opportunities

Indigenous Advancement Strategy (IAS) - PBC Capacity Building Funding

This program aims to assist native title holding corporations, known as Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBC's), to generate economic benefits through the effective and sustainable management of their land. Must be registered or register an account through grant guru to access details and application.

Visit: <https://www.niaa.gov.au/indigenous-affairs/grants-and-fundin...>

Online Training Workshop: Privacy & Data Laws

ORIC has an upcoming online workshop on Privacy & Data Laws. The workshop will be held on Monday, 22 April 2024, from 12 noon to 3 pm.

Register: <https://www.oric.gov.au/training-courses/privacy-and-data-la...>

NSWALC Small Community Grants

NSWALC will make small grants available to community members and community organisations in each NSWALC region for the following purposes:

- To assist Aboriginal people to participate in arts, crafts, and sporting activities;
- To encourage participation in and the maintenance of contemporary and traditional cultural life of the Aboriginal community;
- For promoting understanding of and respect for Aboriginal culture;
- For supporting personal development opportunities for Aboriginal people; and
- For supporting the health and wellbeing of Aboriginal peoples in NSW.

Apply: <https://alc.org.au/scg/>

Upcoming Conferences

Disrupting Violence Against First Nations Women

8 - 9 May 2024, Sydney

This conference provides a platform to address the need for appropriate and effective early intervention and primary prevention for First Nation communities so that we can respond, prevent, and understand the continued violence against Women and Children.

Disrupting Violence Against First Nations Info

AHURI

9 May 2024, Sydney

This one-day conference will explore the findings from the AHURI inquiry, Informing a strategy for circular economy housing in Australia. The program will facilitate a broader discussion about what it will take to decarbonise Australian housing through the full lifecycle from construction through to demolition.

AHURI Info

6th National Housing & Homelessness Forum

14 - 17 May 2024, Darwin

This event stands as a beacon of hope, meticulously designed to equip delegates with crucial tools, strategies, and insights to combat the multifaceted issue of homelessness. With a jam-packed 4-day agenda, it features 50+ outstanding speakers and captivating case study-led sessions.

National Housing & Homelessness Info

HIA National Conference

16 - 18 May 2024, Cairns

The three-day conference features world class speaker presentations with business learning outcomes, interactive workshops, networking opportunities and culminates in the celebration of the best in the industry at the HIA-CSR Australian Housing Awards.

HIA Info

First Nations Women in Leadership Summit

22 - 23 May 2024, Brisbane

Hear from First Nations Women and be inspired by shared stories of leading transformative change through passion, connections, resilience, wisdom, knowledge, experience and new perspectives.

Nurture your leadership aspirations and learn how to navigate leadership spaces and the challenges that lie therein. This conference inspires women on their leadership journeys and helps future leaders prepare to bring about change that empowers women to achieve equality and equity.

First Nations Women in Leadership Summit Info

IBA Home Ownership

Together, lets empower our communities and pave the way for brighter futures. Reach out to us and nominate your interest in a visit from IBA today, because everyone deserves the chance to call a place their own.

If your community would benefit from a visit from IBA to talk everything home ownership, click the link below.

[Schedule a Visit](#)

SUPPLIER HIGHLIGHT



Van Homes

All Van Homes are built on site in their yard on the Central Coast of NSW. Van Homes and wide variety of options available from 1 – 4-bedroom larger style accommodation options. Van Homes have and will deliver to a wide variety and locations within Australia and already support many communities for all sorts of housing options. Some of the examples of these are for Women's and Children's crisis accommodation refuges, housing for emergency services personnel who travel around Australia helping communities with natural disasters, provide crisis and short-term accommodation to communities, families and individuals who have been affected by natural disasters and experience homelessness. Some people also choose to purchase them for leisure and travel around Australia using them for personal use, like a motorhome.

Van Homes are another great example of alternative options for housing in NSW!

Visit Van Homes



Austam Homes

Austam Homes are made on site in Tamworth NSW and will transport to your land within 400-600km of Tamworth. Austam Homes have a large range of prefabricated homes to choose from which range from single room granny flats up to 4–5-bedroom designs for larger families. All building can be multi-purpose options and come with many inclusions. Austam Homes is another example of utilising alternative options for housing in NSW.

Visit Austam Homes

Celebrating our ANZACs



We acknowledge all Aboriginal people who fought for their Country against invasion and colonisation and those who have fought overseas.

We acknowledge those who lost their lives.

ANZAC Day, observed on 25 April each year, commemorates the Australian and New Zealand Army Corps' (ANZAC) first military action during World War I at Gallipoli in 1915. Over the years, it has evolved into a day of remembrance for all wars Australia has participated in, including reflecting on the contributions of Indigenous Australians in the armed forces.

Indigenous Australians have a significant history of military service, dating back to before Australia's Federation in 1901. Despite legal barriers preventing them from joining the military, many Indigenous individuals enlisted by concealing their identity or seeking sympathetic approval. Records show substantial participation in various

conflicts, including the Boer War, World War I and World War II, where Indigenous Australians often had the highest participation rates relative to their population.

During World War II, entire Aboriginal communities in Northern Australia supported the war effort through defence work. Additionally, specific Indigenous units like the Torres Strait Light Infantry and the Northern Territory Special Reconnaissance Unit were formed.

However, Indigenous enlistment faced barriers due to discriminatory laws barring non-Europeans from serving. Despite this, many Indigenous individuals joined the military for promises of fair treatment, equality and opportunities not available to them in civilian life. While racism persisted within the armed forces, some Indigenous soldiers experienced improved treatment compared to their civilian lives.

Upon returning from war, Indigenous veterans often found the same or worse discrimination, colonisation and injustice as before. Despite fighting for their country and experiencing equal treatment during service, their contributions were not recognised. They were denied access to benefits and schemes provided to non-Indigenous veterans, such as land and job opportunities under the Soldier Settlement Scheme.

Recognition of Indigenous veterans' contributions has been a long-standing struggle. Recent efforts have led to the unveiling of memorials honouring Indigenous soldiers, but recognition remains inconsistent. Indigenous fighters in colonial conflicts and frontier violence are often overlooked, reflecting a broader pattern of denial of Australia's history.

ANZAC Day serves as a poignant reminder of the sacrifices made by Australian and New Zealand soldiers, including Indigenous Australians, in conflicts around the world. Despite facing significant barriers and discrimination, Indigenous individuals have served with courage and dedication. It is crucial to acknowledge and honour their contributions, ensuring their stories are not forgotten in the broader narrative of Australia's military history.

This great article was taken from the Lake Macquarie City Council's Koori Grapevine Newsletter - see below for how to join the mailing list.

The Office of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Employment and Engagement at Western Sydney University have written and published 'Too Dark To See', a tri-partite production comprising a coffee table book, film and photography exhibition which showed at the Australian War Memorial on this subject. The online copy of the book can be found here:

https://issuu.com/uwspublications/docs/indg1317_gok_too_dark_to_see_book_v1?e=3800682/39855138

Lake Macquarie Koori Grapevine



Continue to send us your pictures of “**Welcome to Country**” signs, acknowledging the beautiful lands in which we live and journey through.

By sending in your pictures, we acknowledge Aboriginal people and lands we call home.

Together, let's weave a visual tapestry that reflects the profound beauty and enduring spirit of our people.

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ACHIA NSW

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