

Youth Homelessness & Housing in the Shire of Yarra Ranges

Presented by

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On behalf of the

Housing Young People Action Team (HYPAT)

Who are HYPAT?

Youth homelessness has been a recurrent issue raised at the Yarra Ranges Youth Service Providers Network over the past 2 years.

As a result an Action Team was formed with representatives from Local Government Youth Services, Anchor Community Care, Community Housing Limited, EACH & Centrelink.

What have HYPAT done?

3 MONTH DATA COLLECTION PROJECT

26 organisations participated including schools, TAFE Programs, churches, health services and community houses.

YARRA RANGES HOMELESSNESS & HOUSING REPORT

Includes information on pathways to homelessness, local statistics, housing & accommodation and recommendations.

Yarra Ranges Youth Homelessness Data

HYPAT & ANCHOR DATA

170 young people reported as homeless or at risk of homelessness during a 3 month data collection period

Of this sample, 57% were living between friends and family (secondary homelessness)

50% of Anchor's youth clients are aged 15 – 17 years.

Young People & Homelessness in the Yarra Ranges

- **The risk of homelessness for Young People in The Yarra Ranges was recorded as the second highest on average from the 31 Local Government Areas surveyed in Melbourne in 2000 (DHS, 2000).**
- **The range and complexity of issues affecting Young People who are presenting for housing support are diverse and complex, including: Drug & Alcohol, Mental Health, Family Conflict, Isolation & a Lack of Resources.**

Housing & Accommodation in Yarra Ranges

Emergency – None

Short Term – 8 THM properties dedicated to Young People, with a maximum of 20 shared tenancies at any time.

Long Term – No designated Long term public housing & no Youth Refuges or Boarding Houses.

Future Directions for HYPAT

- **Increase community awareness of the issues surrounding Youth Housing in Yarra Ranges.**
- **Lobby Local and State Government for more housing options.**
- **Gain support from local agencies and schools to raise the profile of these issues.**
- **Provide more options for Young People experiencing homelessness.**