



Child Safety  
Commissioner

promoting  
the safety  
and wellbeing  
of children



EastCare



# Leaving Care and Homelessness: A CHP Sector Forum Launch and Forum Program

## Date

Tuesday August 24th, 2010

## Time

10.00am until 2.30pm

## Venue

Fitzroy Town Hall, Napier Street, Fitzroy

## Who should attend?

All those interested in developing better responses to the housing and support issues confronting young people leaving out of home care.

*This Forum is sponsored and supported by  
the Office of the Child Safety Commissioner, Salvation Army Eastcare and the City of Yarra.*

## Program

### 10.00am – Introduction and Welcome

Michelle Burrell, CEO CHP

### 10.05am – Welcome to Country

### 10.10am–10.25am – Parity Launch

Launch of the July *“Everybody Knows: Leaving Care and Homelessness”* Edition of *Parity*  
The Hon. Richard Wynne, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Aboriginal Affairs

### 10.25 am–10.50am

*Leaving Care and Housing: New DHS initiatives for young people leaving care.*

Gill Callister, Secretary, Department of Human Services

### 10.50 am–11.00am

*A Way to Go: Reply to the Minister and the Secretary:*

Tracie Alborough, Salvation Army Eastcare

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**11.00am–11.15am – Morning Tea**

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**11.15am–11.45am – The Research Perspective:**

*What is the research saying and are the current strategies responding effectively to the needs of young people leaving care?*

Philip Mendes, Monash University, and  
Guy Johnson, RMIT

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**11.45am–12.00pm**

*Defining the Problem: Unpacking the issues and working together to deliver a solution.*

Bernie Geary, Child Safety Commissioner

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**12.00 pm–12.15pm**

*Putting the 'care' back into the Leaving Care system*

Cheryl Baxter, Salvation Army Eastcare

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**12.15pm–12.30pm – Panel discussion and Questions from the floor**

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**12.30pm–1.00pm – Lunch**

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**1.00pm–1.05pm – Explanation of breakout sessions**

Facilitator: Michelle Burrell, CEO CHP

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**1.05pm–1.40pm – Breakout sessions: Where to from here?**

*Develop recommendations to reduce the number of young people leaving care becoming homeless and develop better responses to the issues they confront.*

**Breakout groups:**

**Rural/regional issues:**

*What are the different issues and responses required for young people leaving care in rural and regional areas?*

**Exit and Transition Planning:**

*What characterises/constrains effective exit and transition planning?*

**Housing and Support:**

*How can we create better linkages and opportunities for housing and support?*

**Research:**

*What needs to be done to improve the evidence base; how can collaboration between the sector and researchers be enhanced?*

**Community Responses:**

*What role can the community play in supporting children to safely transition from care into the broader community?*

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**1.40pm–2.10pm – Group feedback and recommendations**

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**2.10pm–2.30pm – Wrap up/Close**

Michelle Burrell, CEO CHP

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## Registration

**Please Note:** Only 150 places available at this Forum.

Please register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment.

**Register online at: <http://chpleavingcare/eventbrite.com>**

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**Registration Costs** (including GST)

CHP Members: \$25.00

Non-Members: \$30.00

Homeless Service Users/Concession holders: Free

**If you have any questions or queries about this event or about registration,  
please contact CHP on (03) 9419 8699 or email [admin@chp.org.au](mailto:admin@chp.org.au)**

**[www.chpevents.org.au](http://www.chpevents.org.au)**