



HANZA NEWS

July 2012

Issue number 8

Promoting Homeshare in Australasia

NEWS

Hanza to form a **HOMESHARE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE – a CoP!**

Our forward thinking HANZA members from Uniting Communities' Homeshare SA, have proposed that HANZA form a *Homeshare Community of Practice*. Kellie MacGillivray and Garth Ebelthite wrote to us in May "wondering whether there might be an opportunity through HANZA to develop a learning opportunity through the creation of a discussion group around our own individual clients in the form of Case Studies."

An exciting exchange of emails followed, as we worked with Kellie and Garth on how such a group could work and who would lead it. Trying to think of a snappy name for the group pre-occupied us but the answer came from our newest HANZA member, HR&SS. Housing Resource & Social Support is a small disability agency in Melbourne who are all fired up to start Homeshare. When I was explaining the proposed case discussion group to them, their CEO suddenly said this is really about establishing a CoP – a Community of Practice and VERY trendy!

Communities of Practice is a term that has slipped right under my radar – I don't know how that has happened! I googled the term and was staggered at all of the references to CoPs. One that I really liked is here ... <http://www.ewenger.com/theory/> Another one is associated with Infoxchange and is really good ... <http://www.itango.infoxchange.net.au/communities-practice>



Homeshare SA's Kellie MacGillivray and Garth Ebelthite, our Homeshare CoP leaders

Kellie and Garth have agreed to lead the Homeshare CoP for at least the first six months which is fantastic. They felt that there would be great value in gaining insights from other HANZA members on how to manage the Homeshare program and its matches; how to mediate different situations and to provide a valuable learning opportunity for all members. "We are all really busy with the business of developing and growing the Homeshare Brand" and what better way of doing that than doing it together.

The HANZA committee has developed an operational policy for a Homeshare CoP and will be circulating it along with an invitation to participate, to all HANZA members over the next month. We are looking forward to a great response to this initiative.

The Homeshare CoP is such a good example of putting into practice the spirit and intention of HANZA's "Principles of Working Together Agreement". *Beris Campbell – HANZA liaison team.*

INTERNATIONAL HOMESHARE

Plans for the 3rd World Homeshare Congress in Oxford, UK are progressing apace.

Dates: 4th and 5th July 2013

Theme: **Homeshare: What works?** Developing the evidence base for Homeshare

Venue: Rewley House

Congress Dinner: Still being planned!

The program will start to come together now that the critical venue questions are resolved. We will keep you posted.

THE NUTS AND BOLTS OF WORKING TOGETHER

DONATIONS:

Your HANZA COM has devoted some time recently in composing a thoughtful, sincere and appealing letter asking for donations from all the people who are interested to see Homeshare and HANZA prosper.

Then we sat down to make up the "donors list". We were all reluctant to put down the names of friends and supporters who help us with their professional skills from time to time and always give us lots of encouragement. Apart from that we realised that everyone that supports HANZA also has their own good causes to support. So we tore up the beautiful letter.

As you know from its inception, HANZA costs have been defrayed by interested individuals on the HANZA COM. HANZA has commenced to invoice its full organisational members, and associate members for annual fees, and participating members in the costs for teleconferences. So we now have some funds, but until we have a larger number of members we will not be able to cover costs. Compulsory insurance is our largest cost at around \$600 per year and is looming up again in October, 2012.

All donations to HANZA are tax deductible. We are not looking for a big fat cheque. We would like a volume of small cheques.

Cheques should be made payable to HANZA Inc. and posted to The Secretary, HANZA Inc. 62 Seymour Road, Elsternwick. 3185. Vic. Alternatively Bank transfers can be made to Bendigo Bank in the name of HANZA Inc. BSB 633-000 Account No. 141300335. Please identify your donation so that we can issue your receipt for taxation purposes.

If this request offends you, please just forget it, we were reluctant to do it anyway, but we need some funds.

A NEW INITIATIVE:

Your HANZA committee has had another brainwave, resulting from the move of Wendy Francis from WA, where she has been an important part of the Homeshare program there. Wendy now lives in Sydney and it is an opportunity too good to waste. We need a program there. So Wendy has kindly agreed to become the first HOMESHARE AMBASSADOR. Her role will be to promote the idea of a Sydney program in any area that seems appropriate to her and to do it as soon as possible. No pressure. While the last little bit is in jest, I have inserted our policy statement for your consideration.

POLICY: The members of HANZA will endeavour to retain within the Homeshare Movement the expertise and commitment to quality Homesharing services of successful practitioners and/or managers by appointing HANZA Ambassadors.

We are hoping that our NZ friends will also take up the challenge. What do you think?

HELPFUL HINTS

Patience, the essential quality for start-up Homeshare programs

A November 2000 Homeshare Vic newsletter recently came to light with an item that might provide encouraging news to the fledgling programs around the country.

How is Homeshare going?

The question on everybody's lips! What has been the Melbourne response? How many people have shown interest? Who are they? And the big one - how many matches have been made?

As has been found in other countries the larger the pool of householders and homesharers the greater the possibilities of achieving successful matches. The 'start up' phase for a Homeshare program poses lots of challenges just to get to that pool! Interest in the Melbourne program has been high with well over 100 referrals and enquiries received in the first 7 months. Forty three of these followed through with applications, home visits and interviews – 22 homesharers and 21 householders. Unfortunately not all of these went on to be matched. Our statistics would look fantastic if they did! But people's circumstances change, they change their minds or they are not suitable for the program.

At the end of seven months we have made three matches. The first one is now 3 months old and going very well. Seven householders and five homesharers are waiting for an appropriate match and several introductions are in the offing.

Making an appropriate match and meeting the parties' expectations and needs is a complex business. After all, you are trying to bring people together to do the hardest thing in human relations and that is to *live together!*

COMMUNICATION IS VITAL

I have had a mere four responses to our questionnaire. Shame on the rest of you!

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The website is to go into operation this week! While not completed, we are busily polishing, we can wait no longer. Try www.homeshare.org.au and see what happens to you.

DISABILITY HOMESHARE

Exciting developments are happening in Disability Homeshare. HANZA believes Australia could be leading the way in applying the Homeshare model in Disability.

Way out in front of the field is Perth Home Care Services. Hot off the press is the draft evaluation report of their *Training for self-directed home sharing arrangements*. The report is still under wraps but they are happy for us to alert you to what they have been up to and in the not too distant future, we hope, you will all be able to read about this very impressive piece of work.

Those of you who participated in the HANZA AGM workshop in March, might remember Perth's Wendy Francis mentioning that they were working towards self-directed Homeshare. This raised anxiety for some of the HANZA committee members! But we should never have doubted PHCS's professionalism and rigorous testing processes and evaluation standards. They are doing some very thoughtful and valuable work.

The WA Disability Services Commission (DSC) funded PHCS 'to develop training for self-directed homesharing arrangements'. Kate O'Neill, Perth's Homeshare Coordinator, developed and ran a series of training workshops in May. The training involved an initial information session and two additional workshops which explored aspects of Homeshare in more detail. The workshops had the involvement and support of a 'program mentor', an experienced family member who had previously developed and maintained their own

home share arrangement. At the conclusion of the training all participants were provided with a resource manual.

The training was well attended by nine families, who are interested to learn about Homeshare as an option for their young disabled family member, and five LACs (DSC's Local Area Coordinators) who were involved with the families. It is clear from the draft report that everyone learned heaps through the training experience including PHCS, of course! There is, of course, food for thought for all of us who are working to provide and develop Homeshare – particularly in this era of 'consumer directed care'.

HANZA - AGM ADVANCE NOTICE – 15TH NOVEMBER 2012

In response to this move to 'consumer directed care', 'self directed care', 'person centred service delivery' and other variations on the theme, the HANZA committee is proposing that the workshop to follow our AGM in November be devoted to discussing the implications for Homeshare of these directions.

The committee is preparing a discussion paper which we plan to circulate to all members in September to give everyone plenty of time to prepare a contribution to the workshop or to raise questions they would like to see discussed.

PUT THE DATE IN YOUR DIARY NOW!

NEWS FROM HANZA MEMBERS AROUND AUSTRALASIA

Uniting Communities - Adelaide.

Apart from dreaming up the Homeshare CoP idea (see page 1), the Adelaide program has made good progress in making its first matches and with more in the pipeline.

Perth Home Care Services - WA

In addition to their disability work, PHCS is maintaining seven older householder matches.

Housing Resource & Support Service (HR&SS) - Vic

Our newest HANZA member is eager to enter the Homeshare playing field. Late July a number of their staff and a service consumer actively participated in an intense Homeshare training workshop led by founding Homeshare Vic coordinator Beris Campbell, ably assisted by disability Homeshare coordinator Bernadette Larkin.

Uniting Care Community Options - Vic

UCCO is keen to get cracking on making some matches, at this stage in disability. Hoping to make some progress over the next month or so.

Potential new member ... Community Connections Inc., ACT

CCI's Executive Director, Ian Ross, is working on developing a Homeshare service to start in 2013. Ian is keen to liaise with and learn from Homeshare programs everywhere and has already been in touch with some HANZA members. Great to have a new program on the go – especially with 'enthusiastic' support from the ACT government.

Mackay Regional Housing Company

Jennifer Emmett writes:

After considering the needs of establishing and running a HomeShare program, The Mackay HomeShare working group have agreed that Mackay Regional Housing Company is not a suitable organisation to proceed with the development of HomeShare in Mackay.

At this point in time no other organisation has expressed an interest in auspicing the HomeShare in Mackay

so the program has been put on hold.

This is sad news but you will note that she says “put on hold”. We live in hopes and weigh this against the admission of two new members to our alliance.

Community Living Program - Qld

Kelly and the team are making small steps. No money yet, but enquiries are coming in on their website:

Community Based Support South - Tas.

Vivienne is on a long leave. Enjoy yourself Viv!

Queensland Community Care Network Inc.

A cautionary tale from Ken. His very first householder jumped the gun and found her own homesharer before bringing Ken in to help with the contract. The quite predictable result is a small drama that is absorbing his time trying to sort out the Householders’ vague but sustained objections, demands and moans. He is bloody but unbowed!. This is not something that he wants to happen to the rest of you. Caveat emptor.

All other members have been very quiet. Let’s hope ‘no news is good news’

Communities @ Work Inc. ACT

Presbyterian Support East Coast - New Zealand

St. John Ambulance - Qld

C.A.R.A. - S.A.

Carmel Hurst
For HANZA Inc.