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January 2019

Issue #1

Happy New Year from everyone at HANZA and Home Share Melbourne! It's been a busy last few months and we're looking forward to 2019.

Please donate...

If you have any money to spare, and you're looking for a worthy cause to support for the New Year, make it Home Share Melbourne! (Donations are tax deductible.)

...or sponsor a homesharer!

Sponsoring a homesharer is another way to help Home Share Melbourne house more people at risk of homelessness. Learn about sponsoring by [downloading our sponsorship document](#).

DONATE TO HOME SHARE MELBOURNE!

SPONSOR A HOMESHARER!

Latest news

We'd like to extend our thanks to everyone who voted for [Home Share Melbourne](#) in the Pick My Project program. Sadly, we were not successful in securing funding — it seems we were outnumbered by organisations that had a large captive group of voters, like schools, sporting clubs and bigger not-for-profits.



Nevertheless, as you can see, we're still smiling — not least because **we've made our first match!** This has been made possible by the support of [Pay a Sack Forward](#), who have agreed to help us by sponsoring homesharers who have little or no income. They are sponsoring the young Homesharer from India, who came to us via an asylum seeker support hub.

We expect that this will be the first of many, because there will be an unprecedented strain put on homelessness services in 2019. Through meetings with asylum seeker services, we have become aware that over the coming months, 7,500 asylum seekers will have their Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) payments stopped. This may well result in many of them becoming homeless, predominantly those in Sydney and Melbourne. (The SRSS and its previous iterations have historically supported people seeking asylum in meeting their basic healthcare and living needs, as they are ineligible for any other form of Government-funded social security support.)

We are confident that we will be able to attract Householders interested in helping these people through our partnership with Flatmates.com.au. Flatmates launched its initiative to support Home Share Melbourne just before Christmas and enquiries have already started which is very encouraging. The opening statement for their launch blog post says it all:

***What is Home Share Melbourne?** Home Share Melbourne is a personalised matching service for share houses. Their goal is to find homes for asylum seekers, refugees, women escaping family violence, young people with limited supports and over 55 year olds. They do this by matching them with people, like you, who have spare rooms.*

Find Home Share Melbourne on the web!



Other news

We'd also like to thank [StreetSmart](#), who raised \$9,500 for us in September, and [Pay a Sack Forward](#), whose aforementioned help has been invaluable. Our other new supporter is the [Honda Foundation](#), who have granted us a lease car for one year through Honda Hero Loan Vehicle. We are also thrilled that our wonderful partner Flatmates.com.au has chosen Home Share Melbourne as one of their registered charities to be supported through their Good to Give matched payroll program.



Help us spread the word!

The HSM team hope that all our well connected and networked fans and supporters will help us spread the word and encourage people in our target area (City of Port Phillip and surrounds) with room to spare to contact us through the [Home Share Melbourne](#) website.

A BIG THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The Home Share Melbourne team: Beris Campbell OAM, Heather McKee OAM, Carla Raynes.

