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HOMESHARE AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND ALLIANCE

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Successful [HSM homesharers](#)
Warren (l) and Kawa (r).



YEAR TWO HIGHLIGHTS

HSM has just celebrated its second anniversary as a successful social enterprise! The program continues to go from strength to strength, despite the challenges of COVID-19, limited funding and a new baby for co-founder Carla Raynes.

HSM made 13 matches in the financial year 2019-20, up from two in 2018-19, and added an additional worker to help Carla carry an increasingly heavy load -- metaphorically and literally!

Some other highlights of 2019-20 for Home Share Melbourne include:

- Launching and spreading awareness of the Disability and Asylum Seeker programs, both of which have seen successful matches made in 2019-20;
- Lodging successful applications for a series of grants from both private and government sources;
- Developing a research framework to capture data on client wellbeing and the positive impact that homeshare has on clients' lives; and
- Receiving a constant stream of positive media coverage, including articles in *The Age* and *Sydney Morning Herald* and a segment on SBS program *Insight*.

We look forward to seeing the program continue to grow in 2020-21!

CAN YOU HELP?

HANZA greatly appreciates any and all donations! We are staffed entirely by volunteers, and even small donations can make a big difference. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. If you'd like to contribute, hit the big "DONATE" button below!



A GENTLE PROD FOR THE ROYAL COMMISSION

The closing date for public submissions to the Royal Commission on Aged Care Quality and Safety is fast approaching, and HANZA is working on a follow-up to the [original submission](#) we made (in partnership with The Australia Institute) 12 months ago. We are calling for explicit mention of homeshare in the Royal Commission's final report, after its disappointing omission from the recent Research Paper "Review of Innovative Models of Aged Care". There'll be more news on the follow-up submission soon; watch this space!

Find Homeshare on the web!





Holdsworth's Wendy Francis (l) and Homeshare Co-Ordinator Samantha Smith (r) proudly display their Community Recognition Statement.

HOLDSWORTH HOMESHARE: CONTINUING TO INNOVATE

On 4 June 2020, Holdsworth HomeShare received a formal Community Recognition Statement presented by local member Alex Greenwich to the Legislative Assembly of the NSW Parliament to Holdsworth's Manager of Services for Older People (and HANZA Director) Wendy Francis.

Alex said, "I wanted to recognise the work to help older people stay living in their homes while also providing a home for people in need. I have been very impressed by Holdsworth's innovation and care." He commended Holdsworth for developing the innovative homeshare program, harnessing community resources to address the growing housing affordability crisis and increasing isolation for an ageing population. He also reiterated that this is an excellent example of community building.

While Holdsworth HomeShare has been growing, there has been an overwhelming demand from women who are unable to afford the ongoing fees to participate. Statistics show that 44% of single women over the age of 45 are on low-median incomes, do not own a home and are renting.

Late last year, Holdsworth applied through the Perpetual IMPACT Philanthropy Grant Program for funding to reach this audience and make HomeShare an equitable solution for women at



risk of homelessness. In June, Holdsworth's application was approved, with funding awarded to cover fees for women at risk of homelessness. Holdsworth are excited about this partnership to grow HomeShare to meet the overwhelming demand of women experiencing financial hardship.

ZOOMIN' WITH THE COP

One upside to the COVID-19 restrictions has been that instead of our old teleconferences – which seem terribly clunky now! -- HANZA Community of Practice meetings have been happening on ... Zoom!

Since our first meeting of the year in February, the Homeshare CoP has met a record four times with another meeting scheduled for the end of July. The catalyst for all this getting together has, of course, been the strange new world of COVID-19.

CoP members agreed to meet on 1 April to discuss a response to the pandemic, and Holdsworth Homeshare in Sydney offered to host a Zoom meeting. The rest, as they say, is history: it was the best CoP meeting we have ever had! Zoom wasn't the only reason for this, of course – there was also the excellent, helpful discussion about the impact of the restrictions, and on whether we could keep doing homeshare matching during a pandemic – but it was amazing to realise the difference that actually *seeing* one other makes. It felt like we were meeting all over again!

The first meeting included HANZA's Directors and CoP members from the three Melbourne programs, as well as Holdsworth Homeshare in Sydney, Community Connections Homeshare in Canberra and Let's Share in New Zealand. Subsequent meetings have also been well attended and lively, with up to 12 people participating, and the most recent one included AVIVO from Perth.

Of course, we are not the only group to experience the value of meeting on Zoom and other meeting apps, but for people operating across the country -- or even in different countries -- the format is superb and takes a forum like a Community of Practice to a whole new level.

HOMESHARE AND NDIS

Over the last few years HANZA has been busy lobbying and advocating to government and the NDIA for homeshare to be included as an option for people with disability. We are very pleased that the NDIS has now introduced the Individual Living Option (ILO) so that shared living alternatives like homeshare can be purchased by participants.



HANZA and Home Share Melbourne have been working closely with the NDIS's ILO team to co-design and develop a service model blueprint. We participated in a workshop to map out how the services could be delivered, and along the way we have collaborated with other like-minded programs -- including My Supports, who is our latest new HANZA member.

This is an exciting time, and we are delighted to help the NDIS construct a framework so that people with disability across Australia can have ready access to homeshare. HSM has also been matching NDIS participants entering homeshare arrangements with great success.

HANZA welcomes our members' and supporters' thoughts, ideas and feedback on this NDIS homeshare initiative as we continue to work together. To contact us please [email us](#).

WISING UP IN MIDDLE PARK

And finally, some important news about our esteemed Board Member and homeshare doyenne Beris Campbell, who has acquired a new homesharer: a Southern Boobook Owl! Beris's new friend moved in at the end of May and, while he has yet to grasp the "helping with domestic chores" aspect of homesharing, he is nevertheless bringing great joy to everyone (especially granddaughters!).



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