

1 Growth and grounding reflected in new brand

2 HCSA has eye on the ball

3 Visit provides innovative insight

Welcome to the first edition of Home Matters. Home Matters replaces the former Grounded newsletter.



HCSA State Manager Julie Duncan with staff, Ashleigh, Ben and Tally

OVER THE PAST DECADE, COMMON GROUND ADELAIDE HAS GROWN SIGNIFICANTLY TO HELP SOUTH AUSTRALIANS ON LOW INCOMES INTO SECURE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING.

For some people, this is coupled with case managed support and resources to help them improve their lives. By joining forces with Housing Choices Australia in 2015, Common Ground has not only ensured its sustainability - it has enabled new opportunities

for expansion as a nationally registered tier one housing provider. The partnership has been a great success and, by the end of the year, will see us managing many more tenancies across South Australia. We will continue to deliver our flagship programs Common Ground Adelaide and Port Augusta, and look for opportunities to expand our supportive housing programs.

To reflect who we are, and what we do, we are making some changes to clearly define our growing affordable housing initiatives from our responses to

homelessness and our supportive housing programs.

Our broader range of affordable housing services will be represented in our new local brand - Housing Choices South Australia.

This will not impact on the services we currently deliver as part of our existing Common Ground programs. Rather, it will ensure we continue to deliver the dedicated help and resources as we have over the past 10 years, while we build our capability to deliver more affordable housing and help even more people into the future.

PRIVATE INVESTORS BACK SA IN AUSTRALIAN FIRST

PRIVATE INVESTORS HAVE THROWN THEIR SUPPORT BEHIND THE NATION'S FIRST HOMELESSNESS SOCIAL IMPACT BOND DEVELOPED IN OUR STATE WHICH WILL SUPPORT 600 STRUGGLING SOUTH AUSTRALIANS.

Funds have now been raised for the \$9 million bond, Aspire Adelaide, which aims to support people out of homelessness while providing returns for investors. The initiative was collaboratively developed by Social Ventures Australia, the South Australian

Government, Hutt Street Centre and Common Ground Adelaide. Into the future, local community housing providers including Housing Choices South Australia and Unity Housing will support Aspire Adelaide with access to housing.

Private investors including SA's own Coopers Brewery; HESTA Super Fund and Future Super are providing capital for the project.

For more information visit: www.socialventures.com.au/work/aspire-sib/



HCSA soccer team in action

HCSA HAS EYE ON THE BALL

The Housing Choices South Australia brand might have just been born but it already has its eye firmly on the ball – in more ways than one.

HCSA has a five-a-side soccer team which has been playing in a Monday night competition at the Adelaide Indoor Sports Centre (AISC) at Findon. The team comprises residents and

staff – promoting our mixed community, improved mental and physical health. So confident is the Housing Choices South Australia side, it will soon contest a weekend knockout tournament run through the AISC.

If you are interested in joining the team, phone Lincoln on 1300 312 447.

A TOUCH OF FRANCE FOR COURTYARD

A MAKEOVER OF THE COMMON GROUND LIGHT SQUARE COURTYARD IS TRANSFORMING THE SPACE INTO A PARISIAN INSPIRED SANCTUARY.

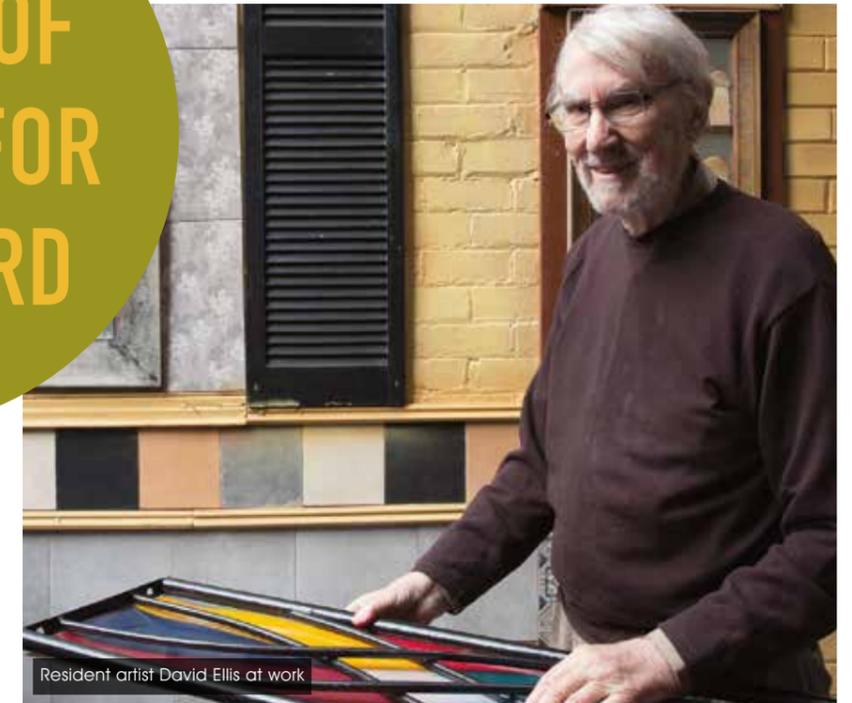
Resident artist David Ellis has designed and is undertaking the project using various textures, colours and objects. *"It's not only about bringing the wall to life but the whole area,"* David said.

"It was a bit boring before so we wanted to liven it up. I have been given a lot of scope. It has to cover the whole wall but how has really been up to me."

David said while the roughness of the wall presented some challenges, he had been able to *"work with it"*.

"We've gone quite eclectic in our materials – old bed head inserts, window shutters and timber. The design is there but we are being very flexible in how we implement it."

"Come Spring I think we can see ourselves sitting out here enjoying it all."



Resident artist David Ellis at work



Minister McCarthy (centre) meets residents Mark and David

VISIT PROVIDES INNOVATIVE INSIGHT FOR TOP END

It was a pleasure to welcome Northern Territory (NT) Minister, The Hon Gerry McCarthy MLA, to Common Ground Adelaide last month following the Housing and Homelessness Ministers' meeting which was held in Adelaide. Mr McCarthy, NT Minister for Housing and Community, toured the Light Square building including the dental outreach clinic before enjoying afternoon tea with staff and residents.

He was particularly interested in innovative models and solutions to helping address homelessness as the NT develops its homelessness strategy.

In correspondence following his visit, Minister McCarthy's office said:

"He really enjoyed meeting everyone and hearing their stories. The art, afternoon tea and let's not forget the impromptu operatic performance (by resident vocalist Ali Brasted) was greatly appreciated."

While in Adelaide, the Minister also toured Housing SA's Uno Apartments in Waymouth Street.

INTRODUCING...

HCSA Transition and Integration Manager Stephanie Miller

Introducing Stephanie Miller, our new Transition and Integration manager. Stephanie has joined Housing Choices South Australia with extensive experience as a senior executive in the not for profit and public sectors. She has led consumer-focussed housing and mental health organisations in both Australia and the United Kingdom. Stephanie will be integral to supporting tenants and staff as HCSA continues to grow over the coming year.



SCHOLARSHIP SUPPORTS MICHELLE TO 'PAY IT FORWARD'

Michelle (with scholarship certificate) with (from left): Cath Sarah, Tutor at Catherine House; Louise Miller Frost, CEO, Catherine House; Professor Marie Wilson, Catherine House board member, Dr Zoe Adey-Wakeling, daughter of Emeritus Professor Kym Adey AM and his wife, Mrs Sandy Adey

Congratulations to resident Michelle who was recently awarded the Kym Adey Catherine House - UniSA scholarship.

The scholarship, awarded to women who have experienced hardship, will support Michelle in her studies towards a Bachelor of Social Work.

"I have had so much help from Catherine House and through Common Ground, I'm really looking forward to 'paying it forward'," she said.

Michelle, who is in her first year of the degree, would one day like to work in remote Aboriginal communities or policy development.

The scholarship is named after Professor Adey, a former Pro Vice Chancellor of the University of South Australia. Now retired, he remains actively involved in the University and is passionate about higher education and changing people's lives – especially those who have come from disadvantaged backgrounds.

HOME MATTERS

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