

Our Issue

Approximately 220 young people are experiencing homelessness at any point in time in the Frankston and Mornington Peninsula (FMP) region, and the problem continues to grow.

Between 2011 and 2016, there was a 17.4% increase in people experiencing homelessness in Frankston and a 9.6% increase in Mornington Peninsula.¹

Young people in Frankston and Mornington Peninsula need support to achieve their aspirations.

Young people in FMP are experiencing disadvantage at a higher rate than the Victorian average.² FMP have a higher percentage of early school leavers and higher alcohol and other drug use among young people compared with the Victorian average.³ Frankston has significantly higher levels of youth mental ill health compared with the Victorian average.⁴ The region also has high levels of family violence and family breakdown⁵ and socio-economic disadvantage.⁶

There is no youth crisis accommodation in Frankston and Mornington Peninsula Region.

Recent data from the Frankston Access Point indicates that only 9% of young people presenting for housing assistance that presented in a three month period were able to be provided with supported crisis accommodation.⁷ None of that was within the FMP region.

To access crisis accommodation, young people must look outside the FMP region. Young people are forced to leave their community supports, friends, family, school and work.

Our Solution

- **Stage 1:** Build and operate two supported crisis accommodation facilities with 24/7 active staffing located in close proximity to youth services in Frankston and Rosebud.
- **Stage 2:** Build and operate a Youth Foyer connected with educational providers.
- Our first stage involves providing local crisis accommodation in two locations Frankston and Rosebud to young people for whom it is not safe or appropriate to return home.

Each crisis accommodation facility will have 12 beds (including 2 units for young couples/families and 2 transitional beds), and will support young people aged under 25 of any gender. The crisis accommodation service will be staffed by qualified youth and social workers 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. By 2021, up to 120 young people will have had access to each supported crisis accommodation service, and will have remained connected to their local community, school, employment and support systems.

 Our second stage involves building and operating a Youth Foyer connected with local education providers.

The youth foyer model has proven to be a successful approach to supporting young people to remain engaged with support and education, whilst providing secure and affordable housing. There are a number of youth foyers in operation across Victoria, and the addition of this model in FMP would provide a much needed pathway out of homelessness for our young people.

To find out more about the campaign and join the community movement, please visit youth2.org.au

- 1. Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing: Estimating homelessness, 2016.
- $2. \qquad \text{Frankston North and Rosebud West are some of the most severely disadvantaged regions in Victoria}. \textit{Dropping off the edge} \ 2015. See \ https://dote.org.au/findings/victoria/.$
- 3. Youth Homelessness Working Group, Review of available youth homeless data and services October 2017 (2017) 15.
- 4. Youth Homelessness Working Group, Review of available youth homeless data and services October 2017 (2017) 15.
- 5. Frankston had the highest family violence incident rate per 100,000 population in Greater Melbourne (1969.8) in 2015-2016. See Crime Statistics Agency Victoria https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/embridge_cache/emshare/original/public/2017/05/f8/f7671b7c3/Victoria%20Police%20Data%20Tables%20 2015-16.xlsx
- 6. Youth Homelessness Working Group, Review of available youth homeless data and services October 2017 (2017).
- 7. Local Service Data retrieved from the Frankston Access Point. In the three months between October and December 2017, the Frankston Access Point run by SalvoCare Eastern received 103 requests for housing assistance from young people presenting alone. 17 of these young people (19.4%) were referred to supported accommodation vacancies. 0f these referrals, only 9 (45%), were successful.