

# MY HOME

## NETWORK



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2024

JUNE 2021

MOUNT ALEXANDER SHIRE

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***“Everyone has a right to safe, affordable, secure, sustainable housing.”***

### INTRODUCTION

The My Home Network is a group of organisations and community members formed in 2019 in the MAS. This was in response to increasing local concerns about the lack of affordable, safe, secure and sustainable housing in our Shire.

The network is facilitated by the Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership (CVPCP). Membership includes those with lived experience of housing crisis and homelessness, community members with many years of expertise in the delivery of social and innovative housing programs and a diverse range of relevant experts and networks, community organisations and local and state government representatives. The network works closely with the Mount Alexander Shire Council (MASC) and engages with Nalderun, a local Aboriginal service that supports the Aboriginal community and provides input to Shire housing initiatives.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands of MAS, the Jaara Jaara People of the Dja Dja Wurrung Nation, who have cared for this country since the beginning. We acknowledge that this land is, was and always will be Aboriginal land. We pay our respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

We also acknowledge the courage and generosity of local people with lived experience of homelessness and housing crisis in their sharing of their stories so that we can improve housing outcomes for our community.

### OUR VISION

Our vision is for people in Mount Alexander Shire to have access to safe, affordable, secure, sustainable and appropriate housing that recognises their place in and connections to community.

### OUR MISSION

Our mission is to support a strengths based approach in housing delivery and reform that is linked to community health and wellbeing, social inclusion, gender equality and climate change adaptation, indeed part of a broader and deeper system change that builds a more equitable society.

Underpinning our work is a whole of community approach, embedding values of respect, inclusion and openness and a commitment to best practice principles in housing design including advocating for energy efficient standards and gold star specialist disability accommodation in all housing.



## OBJECTIVE

## STRATEGY

1

Ensure a sustainable, sound governance and leadership for the My Home Network.

- 1.1 Develop a strong leadership and governance process
- 1.2 Formalise our relationship with the MASC Housing Officer to advance solutions to the local housing crisis

2

Improve community awareness and understanding of local and national homelessness, housing crisis and housing dynamics in the MAS.

- 2.1 Develop a Communications strategy
- 2.2 Develop a Community Engagement strategy
- 2.3 Support other housing initiatives in the Shire
- 2.4 Improve lived experience narrative and data collection

3

Build on local supports for people experiencing housing crisis and homelessness.

- 3.1 Develop a 'housing-first' model for MAS to align housing provision with wrap-around services to meet individual needs
- 3.2 Scope and assess local housing and support services and referral pathways
- 3.3 Increase local homelessness and housing support service provision and access points including family violence and mental health
- 3.4 Support Tenants Rights Working Group
- 3.5 Improve access to information on local housing and support services
- 3.6 Coordinate community support for those facing housing crisis

4

Improve availability of emergency and transitional accommodation

- 4.1 Advocate for and support increased emergency and transitional accommodation
- 4.2 Advocate for amendment to temporary homes by-laws

5

Increase affordable housing options, availability and security, including social housing stock.

- 5.1 Collate updated data on housing stock and need in MAS
- 5.2 Conduct a review of existing and emerging 'alternative' housing models
- 5.3 Develop a model project on a key government-owned site that demonstrates regenerative design in affordable/social housing
- 5.4 Advocate for increase in social housing stock
- 5.5 Increase affordable and accessible housing stock for the disability community
- 5.6 Improve environmental sustainability and performance of all housing across MAS
- 5.7 Shape and advocate for innovative financial and development models to support housing affordability and increased diversity of options in MAS
- 5.8 Support and develop design solutions that align housing stock with need
- 5.9 Increase affordable and secure rental options

6

Advocate for a fair, sustainable and strong housing system.

- 6.1 Develop an Expert Reference Group (ERG) of local lived experience of housing crisis and homelessness that informs all advocacy
- 6.2 Develop a 10 year social and affordable housing plan and strategic priorities for the MAS
- 6.3 Advocate to State and Federal Governments for sufficient affordable and social housing
- 6.4 Develop a clear position on bigger system change and addressing the various tax incentives and other financial mechanisms/structures that compound housing inequity
- 6.5 Advocate to all levels of government that housing delivery and reform is linked to health and wellbeing, social inclusion, gender equality and climate change adaptation

## My Home Network vision

*Everyone has safe, affordable, secure, sustainable and long term housing that recognises their place and connections to community*



Values: respect | inclusion | openness

A fair, sustainable and strong housing system

Increased and improved social housing

Affordable housing available

Improved supports

Increased crisis and transition housing

Improve Federal, State and Local Government's planning, policy and legislation

Improve community understanding and response

Support housing initiatives: MACLL, MASG social housing retrofit, CHIRP Tiny Homes, MASARG project, MA Eco Housing and new ones developed

Disability, indigenous, elders, youth, single parents, other marginalised peoples' representation

### My Home Network

Governance: Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership

Stakeholders

State Government

Federal Government

Lived Experience

Community

Local Government

Lawyers

Banks

Economists

Real Estate Agents

Developers

Community organisations

Strategies

community engagement

collaboration

communication

advocacy

capacity building

sharing information

local data, evidence, build narrative