

Subject line: KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN

Email content: (copy the below and paste it in to an email, and complete the highlighted sections)

KEEP OUR DOORS OPEN: Almost Half of Neighbourhood Houses at Risk of Closing Without Urgent Funding Boost



Dear Minister Spence,

Strong communities start in shared spaces and shared moments. Neighbourhood Houses are essential for fostering those moments and connections. **Every week, 185,000 people access Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria** for resilience, friendship, wellbeing, learning, inclusion, and connection.

Neighbourhood Houses have faced rising costs, increasing community need and an erosion of core funding. Our funding no longer covers staff wages, let alone operational costs. Around half of all Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria are running at a loss. **This cannot continue.**

We are asking you to urgently restore funding to historical levels through a 25% increase, allowing Neighbourhood Houses to continue providing communities with essential support and connection.

- Increase funding for Neighbourhood Houses by 25%
- Support 25 Neighbourhood Houses who do not currently receive any ongoing funding
- Develop a fund for the establishment of 5 additional Neighbourhood Houses in Victoria's growth areas annually

Why I love my Neighbourhood House:

[INSERT YOUR MESSAGE HERE]

Best Regards,

Name: [NAME]

Address: [ADDRESS]

Sign: [SIGN OR TYPE NAME]