

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - PUBLIC

CATHERINE HOUSE / HOUSING CHOICES MERGER

Why are Housing Choices and Catherine House merging?

Housing Choices and Catherine House will formalise the partnership that has developed over the past decade of working together to support women exiting crisis accommodation into longer-term and permanent housing solutions.

The merger will strengthen our efforts and opportunities to deliver new housing options.

Our shared history of providing housing and support services to people who may be experiencing, or are at risk of, homelessness has ensured a strong referral pathway for women who often have high and complex needs.

Working as one organisation, rather than separately, Housing Choices and Catherine House can do more for women.

We will have greater capacity to help the growing number of women experiencing homelessness, including a stronger voice in advocating for specialist homeless services and reform, and greater potential to secure permanent, supportive housing.

How will this benefit women in need?

The merger of two well-known and highly respected not-for-profit organisations with complementary services will ensure South Australian women will have improved access to safe, quality, and affordable long-term housing.

As part of Housing Choices, Catherine House will continue to provide recovery-based support services and will benefit from Housing Choices expertise in community housing and new housing development.

Improving access to stable housing will alleviate the stress some of our clients face every time they need to move. This will give women more time to focus on their recovery and prepare for their future.

Combined, Housing Choices and Catherine House will have a stronger voice to Government in advocating for specialist homeless services and reform, and greater potential to secure permanent supportive housing outcomes.

What would the organisation be called?

Both organisations will retain their names. While Catherine House will become part of the Housing Choices Australia Group in South Australia, it will retain its brand and name.

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How will Catherine House bequests and donations be managed?

All existing trust funds and previous donations will remain dedicated to Catherine House programs and services.

All future donations and funds raised for Catherine House will continue to be dedicated to supporting women experiencing homelessness.

Will there be any impact on Housing Choices or Catherine House staff?

The purpose of the merger is to integrate services, not to reduce staff, while retaining a client centred approach in responding to the housing needs of women experiencing homelessness.

What will the merger mean for Catherine House clients?

Catherine House will continue to operate as 'business as usual' during the transition. Longer-term, the merger will help women who are experiencing homelessness in greater numbers than ever before.

Catherine House will bring their expertise and capability responding to the needs of South Australian women to Housing Choices.