



A safe, supportive and caring home for people with enduring mental illness
President's Report for 2017 AGM for MyHome in Canberra

Welcome

I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land and pay respects to their elders past and present. I would also like to welcome everyone and thank you for attending the 2017 AGM for MyHome in Canberra Inc.

Thank you to members of the Board, working groups for their wonderful contributions to move our project forward. And many thanks to the St James Uniting Church, Curtin, Uniting the Woden Rotary Club, Rotary Club of Hall, Mental Health Community Coalition ACT, Mental Health Consumers Network, Carers ACT, Bendigo Bank and members of the Canberra community for their continued support for My Home in Canberra.

The Year in Review

MyHome worked very hard and faced many challenges through the year in pursuing its objectives.

My Home continues to review and implement its strategic and project plans to work towards achieving its strategic objectives. And with our new and strengthened Board we have made significant progress towards making our vision of a safe and supportive home for people with enduring mental illness a practical reality.

We continue to undertake community consultation activities to promote our project to the community through the assistance of fundraising events organised by Woden Rotary and by communicating and engaging with the public during the 2017 Mental Health Week at a stall provided by the Mental Health Community Coalition ACT.

MyHome in Canberra has been successful in obtaining support for its supported accommodation project from the ACT Greens. The Greens advised in their 2016 ACT Election media and policy statements that they *'will design and build MyHome in Canberra'*

Following support for MyHome in Canberra in the 2016 ACT Government's Parliamentary Agreement, we have reviewed and updated our strategic plan and project plan and submitted a new 2017-18 Budget Submission. The MyHome Executive Team continued its negotiations with the Uniting Church and Uniting to progress a memorandum of understanding to build its supported accommodation project on the Church's land in Curtin. We are also consulting with Uniting to progress economic modelling into the feasibility and sustainability of various options for the integration of Uniting's proposed affordable housing development with MyHome's proposed 20 unit supported accommodation project on the Uniting Church land.

MyHome in Canberra and Uniting representatives attended the ACT Government's summit on homelessness and supported accommodation options. MyHome representatives are on the ACT Government's Reference Group in a Cross Directorate Homelessness and Supported Accommodation cohort study. The objectives of the study are to analyse population needs for housing, to inform future mental health accommodation initiatives and to align future facility planning concepts with recommendations of the homelessness cohort study.

Although we have made considerable progress, more work needs to be done to translate our vision to reality. We need to continue to consult and engage effectively with relevant ACT Ministers and Directorates to obtain approval to our budget submission and obtain funds to build our planned supported accommodation project on Uniting Church land in Curtin

I believe that we need to review and enhance our strategic and project plans and develop a new business plan and strong business case. We also need to continue to consult and collaborate with community and business organisations to form partnerships to obtain required capital and recurrent (operational) funds to help design, develop and build our project. And using Home in Queanbeyan's policies and procedures as a template AND guide we need to develop sound, effective and practical policies and procedures to underpin and support MyHome's draft model of care;

Once again, I would like to thank you for attending the AGM and give a big thanks to the Board's hard work, great team effort, contributions and achievements during the year. With the continued wonderful support from Woden Rotary, the Uniting Church, the Canberra community and the MyHome Board and our friends and supporters, I'm confident that 2018 will be another successful year.

John Tucker

Chairman and President

MyHome in Canberra Inc.

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