



EMAIL NEWSLETTER

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May 12, 2016 Newsletter

In this newsletter we have a focus on emergency housing.

Of course there's this week's pre-budget announcement on funding for emergency housing. And we have a member profile on Emerge Aotearoa who were contracted by MSD earlier this year to provide emergency housing in Auckland.

Also on this theme we have an article, prepared by CHA over recent weeks, looking at homelessness in New Zealand and some of the experiences and local responses to this issue from emergency housing providers.

Member profile: Emerge Aotearoa: greater than the sum of its parts



Emerge Aotearoa has its history in the amalgamation of two organisations: Richmond Services and Recovery Solutions.

affordable housing
developments

- Building Better
Homes Science
Challenge launched
- Events

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**Our Place: All New
Zealanders well-
housed**



Last year these two organisations combined as Emerge Aotearoa with a focus: *To provide high quality housing, supports and services that enable people and their whanau in distress due to mental health or addiction issues, disability, trauma, violence, homelessness, poverty or dislocation to fully participate within the contexts of family, whanau and community.*

In March, Government announced that Emerge Aotearoa would receive funding to provide emergency housing “for 30 places for individuals or families, for a stay of up to 12 weeks.” [Read more here about the work and directions of Emerge Aotearoa.](#)

New emergency housing funding announced

On Monday, Government announced that it will provide \$41.1 million over the next four years in Budget 2016 for emergency housing.

It will fund, at any one time, 800 emergency housing places around the country- about 3000 emergency housing places across the country each year for the next four years. The bulk of the new operating funding will be used in two ways:

- The Ministry of Social Development will contract NGOs to provide about 3000 emergency housing places each year. This means 800 places at any one time over the year, as the emergency housing provided to a family/individual is anticipated to be for up to 12 weeks.
- A new emergency housing Special Needs Grant to support individuals and families with the cost of emergency housing for up to seven days if they are unable to access a contracted place.

[Read more here](#), and CHA’s press release and the cabinet paper can be [found here](#).

This is great news for emergency housing providers struggling to meet demands every day. But CHA are concerned about the flow on housing needed once people have spent their allotted three months in emergency housing.

Where are the long-term options? As we said in our press release: “Our hope is that further announcements in the Budget will address the need for improved co-ordination for, and provide capital to deliver, more long term housing. This highlights the need for clarity in policy and funding for this area –we’ve all been waiting a long time for this.”

Spotlight on emergency housing and homelessness in New Zealand

Imagine your emergency housing service had to deal with two to three walk-ins for housing every working day and your houses were already full. What would you do?



Emergency housing providers are having to deal with these situations every day, all over the country, but particularly in Auckland. There's more demand for emergency housing than there has ever been and providers are distressed. And while local communities are coming together to find solutions we've only just started to see some leadership from Government.

In this article, written in May 2016 by Community Housing Aotearoa, we explore the scale and issue of homelessness looking at what some communities and emergency housing providers are experiencing. We look at a number of the practical responses from the community housing sector and the leadership local authorities and communities are showing in response to this issue. [Read more here.](#)

Scott Figenshow meets Carl Crafar, Director of Social Housing



CHA Director, Scott Figenshow, had the benefit of a relaxed catch up with Carl Crafar a couple of weeks back. For those of you that don't know Carl, he is the newly appointed Deputy Chief Executive Social Housing, who is leading the social housing reform programme across Government and MSD's social housing work programme.

[Read more of Scott's article here and learn more about who reports to Carl Crafar at MSD.](#)

Successful housing recovery programme winds up

The New Zealand Government's biggest investment in social housing in the South Island's recent history is nearing completion.

Housing New Zealand's Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Programme (CERP) was formed in 2011 to respond to the mammoth task of repairing 5000 earthquake damaged properties and to build up to 700 new homes. As at April 30, this year, Housing New Zealand has completed 530 new homes and there were a further 282 being constructed or under contract. With most of CERP's work either completed or well advanced, the CERP team will officially end its role on June 30 and it will be "business as usual" for Housing New Zealand's Asset Development Group. [Read more here.](#)



UN sustainable development goals on housing

Is New Zealand a leader, follower or slacker? Over the coming months, CHA is working with Hui E and many others, in how we report. If you have a particular interest in this, [please let us know](#) as we commence this reporting.

**Joint Community Housing
Aotearoa/Australasian Housing Institute: 2016
Professional Development Calendar - as at 12
May**

Month/Date	Event	Location	Duration
June			
9	AHI: Networking Event (1) – P-Labs	Wellington	2 ½ hrs
28	CHA: Social Housing Finance	Auckland	TBC
28	AHI: Networking Event (2) – Alan Johnson	Auckland	2 ½ hrs
July			
13	CHA: Best Practice Guide to Accreditation (1/2)	Auckland	TBC
27	CHA: Social Housing Finance	Wellington	TBC
August			
11	CHA: Best Practice Guide to Accreditation (2/2)	CHCH	TBC
23	CHA: Social Housing Finance	CHCH	TBC
23	AHI: Networking Event (3)	CHCH	2 ½ hrs
September			
9	AHI: Professional Practice Seminar: Tenant Participation & Engagement	Wellington	1 day
29-1 Oct	National Maori Housing Conference	Tauranga	3 days

Go here for any **CHA events** and here for **AHI events** . See below for other events such as the Green Building housing summit.

In the news

The Māori Housing Network is to receive a \$12.6 million boost over the next four years, helping more whānau to realise their housing aspirations, Maori Development Minister Te Ururoa Flavell says. [See more here.](#)

Latest AHURI research: Attracting large institutional investors for affordable housing developments

Attracting large institutional investors for affordable housing developments Australia's affordable housing industry, where community housing providers supply affordable housing to households on low incomes, has, up to now, been modest and small scale.

In order to expand to meet the demand of lower income households currently on waiting lists for public and community housing, the industry will need access to a large scale, dependable and sustainable source of finance at an appropriate interest rate.

Sound familiar! Read the latest policy issue narrative from AHURI that explores the topic of institutional investment as an alternative source of funding for new affordable housing developments.

Building Better Homes Science Challenge launched

The Better Homes, Towns and Cities National Science Challenge is the last of the eleven science challenges to be launched and will receive funding of up to \$47.9 million over a ten year period.

“Building Better Homes, Towns and Cities will research how innovation and technology can be better adopted by and embedded into the New Zealand building industry,” Steven Joyce says.

“It will look at how our built environment can be better designed to reflect the impact of modern technologies on how we live, and to lift the quality of life of New Zealanders. Some initial research examples include:

- Making design decisions that raise the comfort and functionality of buildings, while lowering operational costs through better energy and water use, and reducing maintenance and refurbishment.
- Investigating how the configuration of infrastructure, streets, public spaces, urban blocks, and range of housing types impact on peoples’ lives and wellbeing.
- Developing new methods to acquire and use crowdsourced data that can inform decisions that improve the well-being of citizens and the quality of their built environment. For instance, using data supplied by mobile device sensors combined with data from other sources to make better infrastructure decisions.
- Identifying successful Māori community housing initiatives that could provide a model for urban and semi-urban development based on sound ecological principles, kinship (whakapapa), cultural practices and economic sustainability.

[See more here.](#)

Events

May 19 and 20: MBIE workshops on Government procurement process

MBIE are holding workshops with social service providers to find out how NGOs find the experience of working with Government and what agencies can do to improve their procurement practice. [Go here](#) if you are interested in participating.



- Christchurch: 19 May, 10:00am-12:30pm

- Wellington: 20 May, 9:00am-12:00pm

- Auckland: 3 June, 9:00-12pm- Full

May 26: Government budget released

June 9- AHI event- Affordable and social housing – exploring the relationship of affordable and social housing

June 15- Auckland sustainable housing summit 2016

June 17- Christchurch sustainable housing summit 2016

June 23 - AHI: Tenancy participation and engagement Brisbane

July 5- AHI: Innovations in social housing

24-26 July - Local Government New Zealand Conference- Dunedin

28-29 July - Affordable housing development summit in Wellington

29-1 Oct National Maori Housing Conference Tauranga - save the date

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