



INTEGRITY | TRUST | RESPECT | COLLABORATIVE | COURAGEOUS | CREATIVE

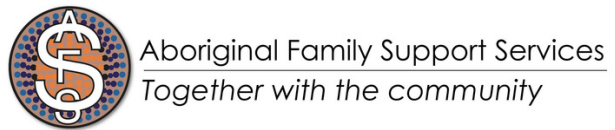


2023 THA CONFERENCE  
PRACTICE | INNOVATION | STRATEGY | CHANGE

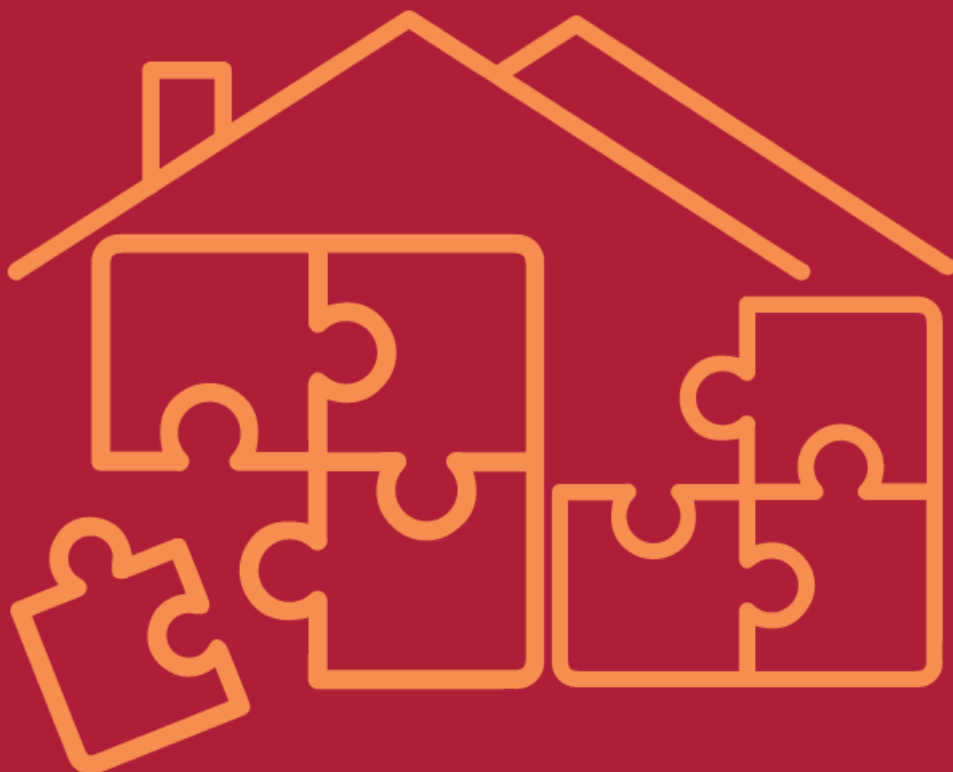
ADELAIDE | 15 & 16 AUGUST 2023



The 2023 Toward Home Alliance Conference  
is proudly brought to you by



Government of South Australia  
SA Housing Authority



# WELCOME MESSAGE

Alliance Leadership Team

On behalf of the Alliance Leadership Team, we are pleased to welcome you to the 2023 Toward Home Alliance (THA) Conference: Practice, Innovation, Strategy and Change. The purpose of the Conference is to recognise and bring together our passionate and dedicated workforce.

Now in its second year, the THA Conference provides an opportunity for learning, listening and continuing to build on our work and relationships, as we aim to bring to life our mission of 'Working together, giving hope to prevent and end homelessness'.

Once again, this conference has been designed with you, our workforce, in mind. This year's program has been curated to specifically focus on Aboriginal experience and leadership; children, young people and families; as well as evidence-based housing models delivering not only housing and related outcomes, but improved health outcomes for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

We are delighted to bring together a program of speakers with significant leadership experience and expertise in these areas; together with our workforce, making for many rich conversations informing practice, innovation and strategy. This year, we will also celebrate some key achievements for our Alliance, including the launch of our Alliance Charter and Strategic Directions document.

Relationships, and how we relate to each other, to community, partners, and to those accessing our services, defines THA's culture.

In offering this program, we hope that you gain new connections and learnings and remain inspired and energised to continue working toward a fair and just society where no-one is without a place to call home.

We take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment to our work, to one another and to our vision of preventing and ending homelessness.

We look forward to seeing you all at the 2023 THA Conference.

*Alliance Leadership Team*

# VALUES LED LEADERSHIP

The Values Led Leadership acknowledges and recognises Toward Home Alliance (THA) staff member, volunteer or partner who models one of our shared values:

- Integrity
- Respect
- Trust
- Courage
- Collaboration
- Creativity

THA's 2023 Values Led Leadership Awards will be presented to the nominees as voted by their colleagues at this year's Conference.

## **2022 Values Led Leadership Award recipients**

Melanie Searle | Baptist Care SA  
David Campbell | Baptist Care SA  
Judith Love | Baptist Care SA  
Jack Anderson | Lutheran Care  
Rolen Fang | Lutheran Care  
Grace Gichuki | Mission Australia  
Kayla Searles | Mission Australia  
Victoria Skinner | SA Housing Authority  
Kim Herbert | The Salvation Army  
Lisa Kosandiak | Sonder  
April Ott | Sonder  
Annie Smith | Sonder

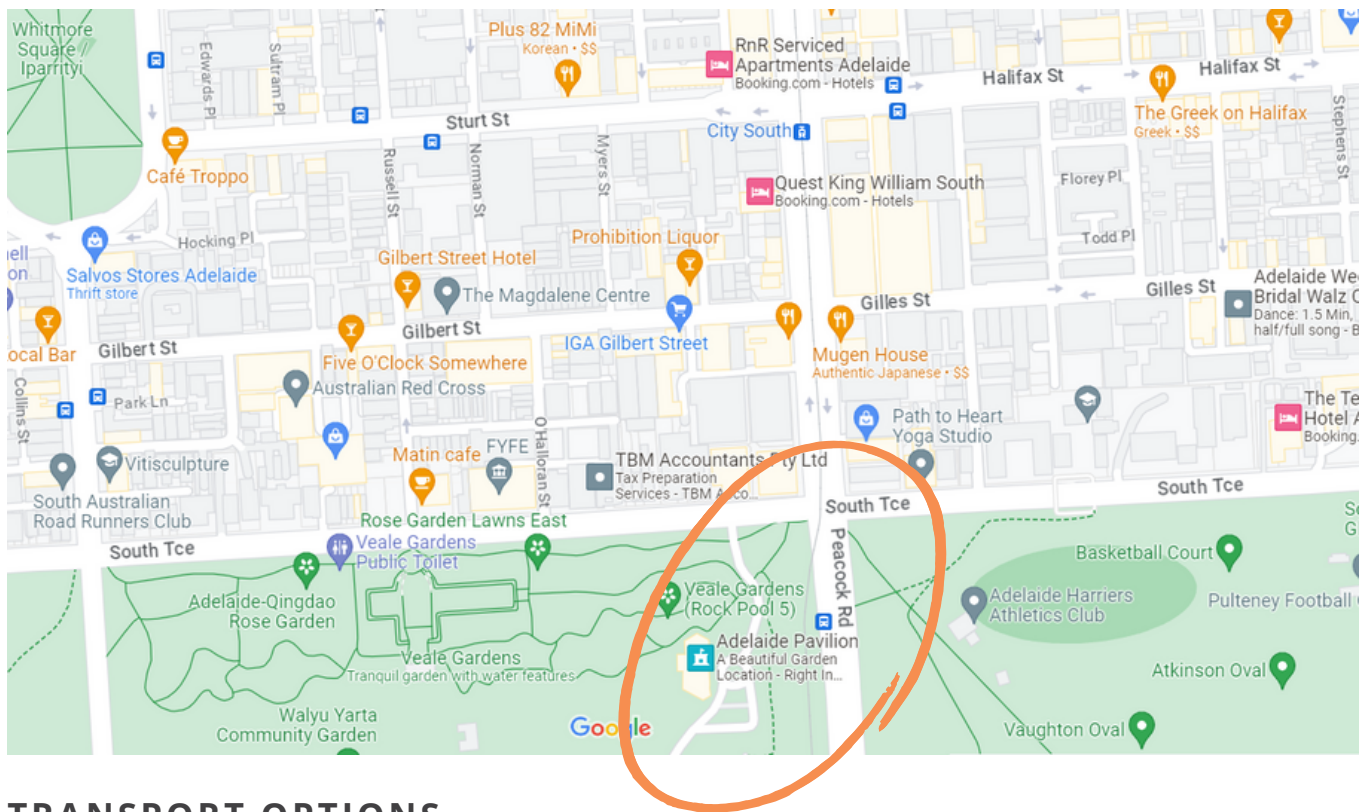
# VENUE

The Pavillion, South Terrace

## VENUE

Adelaide Pavillion

Veale Gardens, corner South Tce and Peacock Rd, Adelaide  
(entrance is from the paved driveway on South Tce)



## TRANSPORT OPTIONS

Public Transport options:

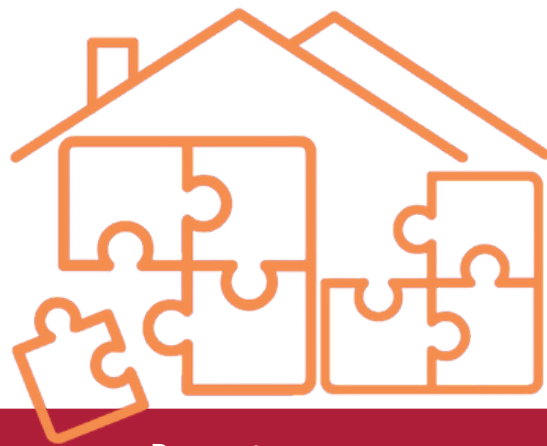
- Bus stop O2 Peacock Rd - West side. Approx. 3 min walk
- Bus stop K1 King William St - East side. Approx. 3 min walk

Parking options:

- 80 onsite car parks, subject to availability
- Gilles Street Park: 12-24 Gilles St, Adelaide. Approx. 5 min walk
- Mill Street Car Park: 31 Mill St, Adelaide. Approx. 9 min walk

# PROGRAM

## LAUNCH EVENT: TUESDAY 15 AUGUST



Time	Session	Presenter
4:00pm	Arrival and Conference Registration	
4:20pm	Welcome to Country   Deb Buckskin, Senior Advisor Aboriginal Services, Baptist Care SA and Aboriginal Leader	
4:40pm	Conference Welcome   Kate McGarry, Conference MC General Manager Community Services, Baptist Care SA	
4:45pm	City of Adelaide Welcome   Councillor Janet Giles	
4:50pm	<i>Networking Event – Music provided by Glanville Brothers</i>	
5:30pm	<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS   Justice, Equity and Self-Determination</b> Sonia Waters   Community Leader and Advocate	
5:50pm	<i>Networking Event – Music provided by Glanville Brothers</i>	
7:00pm	Event Close	

# PROGRAM

## CONFERENCE: WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST



Time	Session	Presenter
8:15am	Registration Opens   Tea and coffee on arrival	
9:00am	Welcome to Country   Deb Bucksin and Isaac Hannam, Baptist Care SA	
9:15am	Welcome and Housekeeping   Livia Carusi, Strategic Advisor THA	
9:20am	Conference Welcome, Alliance Leadership Team   Rohan Feegrade, Chief Executive Officer, Lutheran Care   THA, Lead Agency	
9:25am	Official Conference Opening   Video message The Honourable Minister Nat Cook MP, Minister for Human Services	
9:30am	Opening Message, SAHA   Michael Buchan, Chief Executive Officer, SA Housing Authority	

### SESSION 1 | Aboriginal Experience and Leadership

9:35am	<p><b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS   NATSIHA and the National Agenda</b>  <i>What's happening, what's important, and how they will this drive change?</i>            Rob Macfarlane   Chief Operating Officer, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Association (NATSIHA)</p>
9:55am	<p><b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS   Mobility is a Cultural Right</b>  <i>How do we build sustainable partnerships across states, services and community to ensure a cultural, strengths-based response for remote visitors?</i>            Skye Thompson   Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Housing NT</p>

# PROGRAM

## CONFERENCE: WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST



### 10:15am | Panel discussion Aboriginal Voice and Leadership

Facilitated by: Deb Buckskin, Aboriginal Leader & Senior Advisor Aboriginal Services, Baptist Care SA

Dale Agius

South Australian Commissioner for First Nations Voice

Scott Wilson

Lead Convenor of the SA Aboriginal Community Controlled Network

Skye Thompson

Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Housing NT

Rob Macfarlane

Chief Operating Officer, NATSIHA

11:00am

Morning Tea

### SESSION 2 | Child, Youth and Family Homelessness

11:30am

Baptist Care SA Youth Accommodation - Young people share their stories

11:40am

**KEYNOTE ADDRESS AND WORKSHOP | Innovative practice models**  
*Working with families, children and young people experiencing homelessness*  
Paul Nixon | Social Work Practice and Leadership Consultant

1:00pm

Lunch

### SESSION 3 | Toward Home Alliance

2:00pm

#### **THA Values Led Leadership Awards 2023**

Kate McGarry, General Manager Community Services, Baptist Care SA  
Ian Cox, Head, Office for Homeless Sector Integration, SA Housing Authority

2:15pm

#### **Toward Home Alliance Charter Launch**

Ashleigh Hosking, State Manager, Homelessness and AOD, Salvation Army

2:20pm

#### **THA Strategic Directions 2023-2024**

Chris Burns, Chief Executive Officer, Hutt St Centre  
Alex Ingleton, Regional Leader, Mission Australia



# PROGRAM

## CONFERENCE: WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST



### SESSION 4 | Ending Homelessness

How do we get more permanent housing into the housing system?

2:30pm

#### KEYNOTE ADDRESS |

*How permanent housing ends homelessness and improves health outcomes*

Karyn Walsh | Chief Executive Officer, Micah Projects, Queensland

3:00pm

Afternoon break

### 3:15pm | Panel discussion | Place making: Innovative housing models in Australia

Facilitated by Shane Austin, CEO Baptist Care SA

Karyn Walsh

Chief Executive Officer, Micah Projects, Queensland

Michael Buchan

Chief Executive Officer, SA Housing Authority

David Pearson

Chief Executive Officer, Australian Alliance to End Homelessness

Geoff Slack

Chief Executive Officer, Community Housing Industry Association

Chris Karagiannis

Chief Executive Officer, Salvation Army Housing

4:15pm

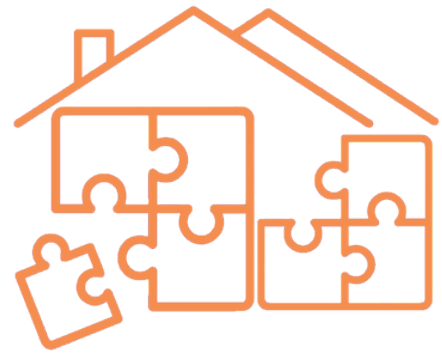
Q and A, Final Comments

4:30pm

Conference Close

# SPEAKERS

## THANK YOU



Thank you to all of the 2023 Conference speakers, panelists and facilitators

Dale Agius	South Australian Commissioner for First Nations Voice
Michael Buchan	Chief Executive Officer, South Australia Housing Authority
Chris Karagiannis	Chief Executive Officer, Salvation Army Housing
Rob Macfarlane	Chief Operating Officer, National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Association (NATSIHA)
Paul Nixon	Social Work Practice and Leadership Consultant
David Pearson	Chief Executive Officer, Australian Alliance to End Homelessness
Geoff Slack	Chief Executive Officer, Community Housing Industry Association
Skye Thompson	Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Housing NT
Karyn Walsh	Chief Executive Officer, Micah Projects, Queensland
Sonia Waters	Community Leader and Advocate



Scan the code to read more about this year's Conference contributors.

*Thank you also to the Conference team and supporting organisations for their time and effort in bringing this event together.*







# CHARTER

Working together, giving hope to prevent and end homelessness  
*Integrity Respect Trust Collaborative Courageous Creative*

## We Believe

It takes a community to end homelessness.

Home, safety, self-determination, and choice are basic human rights. We walk alongside clients on their self-directed journey.

In valuing, supporting, and empowering our workforce. We know it takes courage to be vulnerable and embrace mistakes as part of our collective learning.

The voice and experience of people with lived experience is at the heart of everything we do. It shapes what we do, how we do it, and influences policies and systems change.

In people's resilience; we 'see' the whole person, listen deeply, and treat everyone with dignity. We embrace and celebrate the diversity of culture, race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, economic status, and other backgrounds and experiences.

Our service practices, frameworks, and models must draw on practice wisdom, evidence, and the lived experience of people and communities.

Homelessness can be traumatic; our work is trauma responsive, culturally understanding, compassionate, and supports recovery and healing.

Culturally strong practices, co-designed with Aboriginal communities, create safety, shared understanding, and healing.

In collaborating and working with the community, sector, government, and other Alliances to innovate and drive positive system reform.