

# National Homelessness Research Network

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# Why a National Homelessness Research Network?

Dr Andrew Hollows  
AHURI Limited

# Goal

A national open access research network to contribute to the cumulative evidence base on homelessness through high quality research and active engagement with the policy and practice communities.

# The Network Aims to:

- Contribute to the cumulative evidence base about homelessness by undertaking high quality research.
- Inform homelessness policy and practice through active engagement between the research, policy and practice communities.
- Actively disseminate and publish research findings.
- Foster national collaboration between researchers, policy makers and practitioners with an interest in homelessness research.
- Build and develop existing research capacity including early career researchers.

# Activities

- Working with the policy and practice communities to link policy/practice priorities to research activity.
- Working with the research, policy and practice communities to design research projects and assemble the best teams to undertake research.
- Undertaking both longer-term (including longitudinal) and short-term research on key aspects of homelessness.
- Engaging with the policy and practice communities through the course of research.

# Activities

Cont...

- Seeking resources from multiple sources to support the research, dissemination and capacity building activities of the network.
- Web publishing high quality, policy and practice relevant research reports.
- Building research capacity including the support of early homelessness career researchers.
- Undertaking seminars, workshops and other events to disseminate research findings and engage with the policy and practice communities.

# Involvement

## Academic researchers



This includes academic researchers based in a number of universities across Australia including the current AHURI network, and who work across a range of disciplines.

# Involvement

## Non-government researchers



This includes researchers based in a range of non-government organisations and who are an integral part of the national research effort. Their active participation in the network will assist in linking with current practice and program initiatives by homeless specialist services.

# Involvement

## Private consultants

This includes private consultants with an active and demonstrable interest in homelessness research, and who will bring specialist skills in economic analysis, systems analysis and other related areas of specialisation not provided by network partners.

# Involvement

## Policy and practice partners



This includes key stakeholders involved in homelessness policy and practice, as those with skills in the design and management of events and other activities to disseminate research findings.

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To act as research broker by convening and coordinating the research and dissemination activities of the network

# Research interests

The research activities of the network are clustered around defined research themes:

- the economics of homelessness
- health and homelessness (including mental health)
- justice issues and homelessness (domestic and family violence, and prison release)
- Indigenous homelessness
- family homelessness (e.g. issues of family support and child protection)
- employment, education and homelessness
- service interventions (e.g. service integration, client outcomes, the benefits of preventative and early intervention).

# Research interests

Cont...

**Advisory groups** for each of these themes will be established, drawing on experts within the network to contribute to the development of:

- conceptual frameworks
- appropriate research design methods
- analysis.

This will help to ensure that all research conducted by the network results in meaningful findings



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