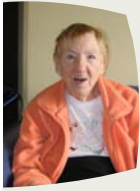




▶ EXECPTIONAL HOUSING SERVICE

○ Registered Housing Provider



▶ WOMEN'S HOUSING POLICY & ADVOCACY



▶ HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

Social Housing Victoria 2010—2011 *Annual Report*

Social Housing Victoria

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Delivering exceptional social housing services focused on creating opportunities women, and a powerful voice on issues impacting women's access to quality, secure and affordable housing.

The year in review...

YWCA Victoria prioritises shelter for women on the understanding that without a safe place to live, many other basic rights are compromised. The organisation has a long history of housing provision which continues in partnership with the subsidiary company Social Housing Victoria, the Department of Human Services – Office of Housing, and the Housing Registrar. Across Victoria, on behalf of Social Housing Victoria, the organisation manages 178 tenancies across 36 properties, with an emphasis on housing for women. These include a number of government-owned rooming houses and self-contained,

long-term properties across Melbourne, from Lalor in the north, to Dandenong in the southeast and the privately owned property in Geelong.

This year saw the official launch of the new, six-unit property in Marshall St, Geelong, the start of the redevelopment project at Richmond House, our 69-room women's-only rooming house, and the expansion of the Social Inclusion Project, in which the organisation works intensively with at-risk tenants to maintain their tenancies and ensure social connection.



Clients by Gender

Male - % 33%
Female - % 67

Clients by Age

Under 20 – 1%
21 to 30 – 6%
31 to 40 – 21%
41 to 55 – 44%
56+ 28%

Clients by Income Type

Newstart/ Austudy – 34%
Disability Support – 54%
Aged Pension – 9%
Other 3%





Major Capital Developments

Social Housing Victoria received \$7.8 million from the State Government and Australian Government's Nation Building Social Housing Initiative to expand the provision of social housing to Victorian Women.

The provision of shelter is an important intervention in the experience of inequality for women. YWCA Victoria, in partnership with its subsidiary company Social Housing Victoria, is proud to be creating high-quality housing for women now and into the future. In 2009/10, YWCA Victoria and Social Housing Victoria received \$7.8 million from the State Government to expand the provision of social housing to disadvantaged Victorians. Through this funding, the organisation has built six social-housing units for female-headed households in Geelong and redeveloped Richmond House, the largest gender-specific rooming house in metropolitan Melbourne.

Funded by the Australian Government's Nation Building Social Housing Initiative, Social Housing Victoria received \$1.5 million from the Victorian State Government for the project in Marshall St, Geelong, which will ensure the continuation of the YWCA's long tradition of providing appropriate housing solutions for women in the Geelong region. The development comprises six independent-living units including three single-bedroom units, two two-bedroom units and one three-bedroom unit. Two of these units are fully disability compliant and the housing supports couples, single women, and women with children on low-to-modest

household incomes.

Established in 1973, Richmond House was purpose-built by the YWCA to provide accommodation for young women who

had to live away from home. In 2010, the organisation received \$6.3 million from the Victorian State Government to undertake major redevelopment and improvement works at Richmond House. The building was completely refurbished, including an essential services upgrade of all utilities as well as the inclusion of six disability-compliant rooms, and individual en suites in each of the 69 rooms. The development has exceeded the targets for environmentally sustainable design requirements, with 9.9% of the total budget spent on these initiatives, including a geothermal hot water booster, sunscreens on external windows and energy efficient fittings and fixtures.

Over the years, the building has come to be home to a wide-ranging population of women such as low-income workers, women with disabilities, older women, and women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds. For the duration of the redevelopment process, the tenants were supported into alternative accommodation by the organisation and over

half of these women have returned to the building following the relocation. The tenants were engaged in the design and development phases of the project through resident stakeholder sessions with the architect and project design team, where they contributed valuable feedback around the liveability of the design proposal.

In order to access the \$7.8 million needed for these redevelopment projects from the Victorian State Government, YWCA Victoria leased Richmond House and Marshall St to Social Housing Victoria for 99 years.

Established in 1973, Richmond House was purpose-built by the YWCA to provide accommodation for young women

FURNITURE CAMPAIGN

OVER \$20,000 RAISED
FOR WOMEN LIKE TINA



"I had no where to go...I lost everything when my mum died. Then I found Richmond House and have been here ever since. It feels like my home now, it gave me the security I needed to enable me to go back to study."

Tina, long term resident

Supporters

