



Second Chance Programme Annual Report 2021

placing women beyond homelessness

From our president

THE sector that supports vulnerable women is amazingly resilient, nimble and tough. All of that was needed in the past 12 months – an extraordinary year of pandemic and January floods.



Kathleen Noonan

President

Kathleen Noonan is a Brisbane-based journalist and columnist. She reported over three decades in South Africa, UK and Australia, with a weekly column appearing in newspapers for 17 years. She has a long-standing interest in what makes society fair.

Unexpectedly, we have held some of our most successful fundraising events including the Winter's Lunch and Homelessness Sleepout. Our always loyal supporters astounded us.

Floods and pandemics are gendered. Meaning, when a crisis hits, it is often those most vulnerable – females – who pay the heaviest price. Throughout the state we have supported older women, young mothers with babies, women with mental health or addiction challenges, those trapped by poverty and those on parole – all at risk of homelessness.

This country has allowed its stock of safe, affordable and social housing to run down. We have not invested in something that was once

a source of quiet pride: public housing. A significant investment by governments is urgently needed – a major infrastructure project.

Second Chance is a team effort. I acknowledge the expertise and hard work by staff at Queensland's women's shelters and accommodation providers; and the Second Chance committee members for their governance, ideas and the giving on their time; and thank our brilliant donors, philanthropists and supporters.

A stable home *for when you are old*

Safe shelter *for when you are scared*

A safety net *for when you are young and alone*

Clothes & food *for when you have none*

Advice & support *for when you have no one*

A place to sleep *for when you have nowhere*

Rental help *for when you are at risk*

. *a safe future for women and children*

Who we are

We exist to ensure that women and children have lives of safety, dignity and equality. It is a basic human right.

We are independent, 100% volunteer and anti-waste.

“Second Chance is the most inspiring, essential, life-changing not-for-profit programme I’ve ever had the honour of observing up close and from the inside.”

Trent Dalton

Low and no income women

The women and children we support are all over Queensland – urban, regional, remote and rural – from Cairns to Ipswich. They are women of all ages, from vastly different backgrounds and life experiences.



For the past decade, we have worked with the Combined Women's Refuge Group to support a particularly vulnerable group of women - so-called No-Income Women with no access to Centrelink, Medicare or public housing.

We believe these are some of Australia's most vulnerable women and their children. In the past 12 months, the 20 DV shelters we support assist women and children from more than 60 countries of origin, including: Afghanistan, Africa, Australia (including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders), Bangladesh, Belgium, Bosnia, Brazil, Burundi,

Canada, Cambodia, Central Africa, Chile, China, Columbia, Congo, Cook Islands, Egypt, England, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Fiji, Germany, Ghana, Hong Kong, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ivory Coast, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Korea, Liberia, Malaysia, Mauritius, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Russia, Samoa, Scotland, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syria, Taiwan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Venezuela, Vietnam, and Zimbabwe.

Caring for Children



EVERY year more than 3000 children spend time in domestic violence shelters in Queensland, from newborns to some tackling Year 12.

We reach many of those children, with crisis care beds, food and clothing vouchers, and medical care. We help steady their world by stabilising the lives of their mothers, and when they are ready, they move on to their new, safe life.



The legacy of Dale Spender

Second Chance was set up in 2001 to address the urgent issue of women's homelessness. Businesswoman Marjorie Morton and feminist scholar Dale Spender became aware that a much-needed crisis-care bed for homeless women was to be closed down in Brisbane and together they co-founded Second Chance Programme.

An Australian feminist scholar, educator and activist, Dale has a background in writing, public speaking, broadcasting and academic consulting. A former chair of the Copyright Agency Limited and former deputy chair of the State Library of Queensland.

“Our partnership has spanned over 10 years, with Second Chance funding two family units within our Najidah refuge. Second Chance’s ongoing support facilitates children affected by DV to remain with their mother, strengthen the family relationship, repair damaged or interrupted attachment and access referral pathways that can help to end intergenerational trauma and abuse.”

Sunnykids, Sunshine Coast

From our treasurer



Marjorie Morton
Co-founder and treasurer

Trained originally as a radiation therapist, she founded a food brokerage business which has morphed into a national company.

Navigating Covid 19 restrictions to finally stage a very successful Winters lunch in October, holding two profitable on-line auctions and an amazing Winter Sleepout has seen Second Chance Programme (SCP) triumph over the challenges of the last year.

Our income increased from \$82,156 the previous year to \$153,024. We donated more this last financial year, some \$151,770 against \$144,202 the previous year.

Expenses for the period constitute 0.695% of our income, a rare achievement in the charity sector. We still enjoy the charity of Austbrokers Comsure, in providing us insurance cover of \$20,000,000.

Fund raising by others is always appreciated and we are particularly grateful to the year 11 and 12 students at Brisbane Girls Grammar School for their fund-raising efforts, to say nothing of their effort in spreading awareness of the plight of disadvantaged women.

Toombul bowls club held a Bowls Day for SCP where Kathleen and Marjorie were invited to speak to a jovial group with proceeds of that day totaling \$5,107.

The Wild Canary nursery and restaurant hosted an art exhibition of floral paintings with a portion of the sales, some \$1,400 being donated to SCP.

To date, SCP has supported Anglicare in their vital work in assisting women and children in dire need, with total funds of \$454,299.

Sunny Kids continues to enjoy our support with \$26,000 for the year and since 2009, this organisation has received \$246,500.

We continue our support Youth Connect assisting girls

leaving foster care where SCP provide bonds and up front rental money. To date \$41,905 has supported 46 young women.

We continue to support some 21 shelters through our Gateway to a Safe Home Project.

Our partnership with the Brisbane Housing Company (BHC) continues to subsidise the rent of women and to January this year we have been able to support 837 women and 21 mothers with children. To date our support to BHC total \$546,984.

We are grateful to PP Atkins and Co, Caringbah, NSW for preparing our audited figures.

What we fund

- Rental subsidies in quality accommodation
- Supported crisis care beds
- Quality transitional housing
- Bond subsidies
- Services at domestic violence shelters
- Removal & storage costs
- Primary medical care
- Clothing vouchers
- Food vouchers
- Go-cards for travel & transport
- Phone SIM cards, to eliminate stalking
- Self-sufficiency life skills
- Connection to employment services
- Access to stable long-term housing
- Assistance to navigate legal help

A snapshot of our funding activities

Distributed to date

More than \$2M

Support given to organisations 2021

\$151,700.00

Overheads
(credit card merchant fees and web hosting)

< 1%

“ ... there is an incredible shortage of funding even though it might sound like there is a lot coming into the DV sector ... we can easily take what space we have and multiple that by 100 to meet demand”

Karen Edwards - Domestic and Family Violence Service Manager - yourtown

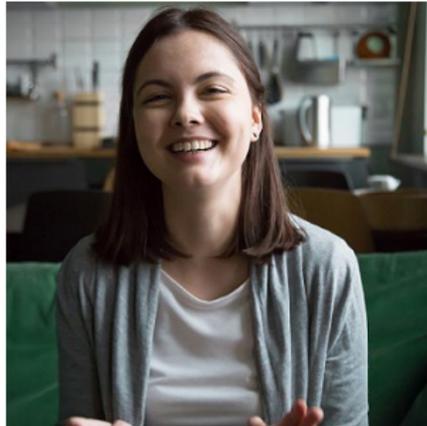
Younger Women



Our support is targeted towards facilitating safe and stable housing for women and children. Our partnership with Youth Connect supports young women leaving state care with housing and wrap around support services.

Youth CONNECT is a program developed and run by The Churches of Christ. The program is focused on helping young people leaving state-based care find their feet and develop the skills and confidence to live independently.

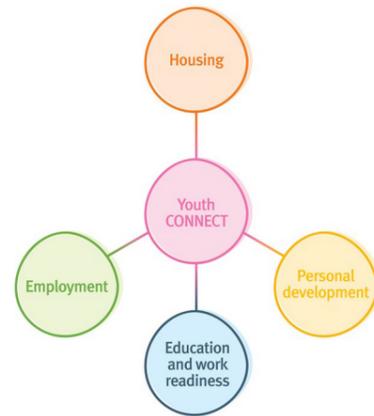
year period to ensure the success of Youth CONNECT and provide the opportunity for young women to lead safe and fulfilling lives.



Youth CONNECT promotes a holistic and long-term solution to homelessness that supports young people through four key areas:

1. Housing
2. Employment
3. Education and work readiness
4. Personal development

Second Chance Programme have committed funding to the program over a seven



Older Women

At Second Chance, we consider it a national disgrace that older women are far more likely to be living in poverty than men.

They are the fastest-growing group in Australia to experience homelessness because of systemic factors including lack of superannuation, working part-time, the gender pay gap, taking time out to care for family, over-heated rental market and age discrimination.

Women over 55 are at great risk of housing insecurity and many of the older women we assist, have never been homeless before.



A Housing-First approach

What works. Australia has a problem with domestic violence and is facing a tsunami of older women experiencing homelessness. When it comes to homelessness and assisting women & children out of poverty or violence, some things do work.

The Housing First Model works. We partner with proven leading providers throughout Qld. It takes targeting spending, responding to complex needs, wraparound support, patience and expertise. But it does work. We know. It saves lives every day.

We respond to need. We ask the sector what are the hurdles causing women to become homeless or return to an unsafe home? and then work to remove those hurdles.

It means our reach is Queensland wide and includes a disadvantaged 80-year-old woman in Cairns with relocation expenses, a teenager with a baby working to complete year 12, to a mother and children on the Sunshine Coast rebuilding their lives after extreme trauma.

Our core team of seven volunteers meet monthly to manage the dispersement of funds, organise events and fund raising, and advocate for a womans right to safe and affordable housing.

<p>Kelly Greenop Academic</p> 	<p>Alison Kubler Writer + Editor and NGA Board Member</p> 	<p>Zara Sexton Professional services and Marketing Vice President of SCP</p> 	<p>Kathleen Noonan Journalist President of SCP</p> 	<p>Marjorie Morton Business owner and manager Co-Founder and Treasurer of SCP</p> 	<p>Amanda Schiavo Teacher Secretary of SCP</p> 	<p>Michael Dickson Architect</p> 
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Literary afternoons

A conversation with Trent Dalton Everyone in the room sensed it would be special. Acclaimed Australian writer Trent Dalton was a powerful choice as guest speaker for Second Chance at an event at Newstead Studios. He understood more than most, the work Second Chance does and the families it assists.

His award-winning debut novel *Boy Swallows Universe*, inspired by his childhood, is being made into a Netflix series.

Book Therapy High Tea Fiona Stager of Avid Reader and Suzy Wilson of Riverbend Books, two long-time supporters, attracted a large crowd for Book Therapy in March. An enlightening conversation in this sublime event space was such a success. Much appreciation to Maree Henry of The Lush Event Space at the Gabba for her generosity.



You can help



If you've got time and skills that you feel SCP could benefit from in addressing women's homelessness, then we'd love to hear from you. Ways SCP has been assisted in the past: event volunteers, social media initiatives, corporate partnerships, government partnerships, corporate sponsorships, website updates, newsletter production and distribution, etc.

To get involved, contact us at info@secondchance.org.au

Sharing the message



Our events are an important catalyst to raise much needed funds but they are also an opportunity to connect with our community and enjoy stimulating conversation.

Our esteemed guests share important insights into their life work and are an avenue to expand the conversation towards women at risk of homelessness and what needs to be done to support them.

Sleepout for homelessness 2021

Every year architects from around SEQ sleep out to raise funds for Second Chance Programme (SCP) through the annual Sleepout for Homelessness (S4H). Originating as UQ student initiative in 2011, S4H has grown over 10 iterations to become a major fund raising vehicle for SCP, raising \$67,900 in 2021.

Though sleeping “rough” for one night, cannot compare to weeks of housing uncertainty. It provides an opportunity to share stories and from experts and an opportunity for architects to reconnect in friendship and shared endeavour.

Our thanks to the 24 teams participating in 2021 and we look forward to an even bigger 2022.



Winter lunch at the Calile

Holding our breath after a short Covid delay we celebrated our October Winter Lunch for 2021 at the Calile with great enthusiasm and anticipation. Showcasing the life and work of Amy Hollingsworth and the Australasian Dance Collective we rallied together for a fund raising event.

A performance by the Australian Dance Collective was a true delight prefacing our lunchtime conversation.

In a reflection of the times, the conversation between Second Chance’s Alison Kubler and Amy discussed the creativity process, being resilient and remaining creative during hard times.

Special mention to the students of Ambrose Treacy College who provided entertainment and assisted running our highly successful raffles on the day.



10 yrs sleepout for homelessness

\$240,000
since
2011



Fundraising through donations

We raise funds through multiple channels. Supporters will often donate prizes such as fashion goods, artworks, book packs, short breaks, even sting-less bees! We raffle these gifts at our events and at special times such as our annual Christmas raffle. This brings in a significant amount of funding, often matching the event fund raising. We welcome and appreciate these gifts supplied to us and if you would like to donate gift for a future raffle, please contact us: info@secondchance.org.au

Final words looking forward

Continuing our support...

Since 2001 Second Chance Programme has been supporting women and children to escape from abusive and violent relationships and support those at risk of homelessness, such as leaving state care or incarceration.

We will continue to advocate and educate about what can only be described as a national emergency with on average 68 intimate partner homicides per year in Australia. Abusive relationships at home and at work are firmly in the public eye with government committing to new initiatives and funding to manage the problem. But such is the scale of the problem, the support remains significantly inadequate.

Our hard working team of volunteers will continue our grass roots approach to fund raising and support to ensure that money gets directed to those that need it most. We know that relatively small amounts of targeted money

can make a big difference and our status as 100% volunteer, anti-waste and our accountability are paramount to our donors.

Already we have delivered a successful Book Therapy event in March and plans our Winter lunch for July and Sleepout for homelessness early August are well advanced. We will be sending information about these and other events for 2022. We hope to enjoy your continued support and are grateful for the kind words and encouragement we receive from our growing community of supporters.

Helping at risk women for over 21 years

The Second Chance Fund Raising Group (ABN 84 194 825 242) is an Incorporated Association. The committee is a Public Benevolent Institution and is registered with the Australian Charities and Not For Profit Commission (ACNC). Second Chance received endorsement by the Australian Taxation Office as a deductible gift recipient, as well as endorsement for charity tax concessions.

Postal Address: PO Box 3217 Hendra, Qld 4101
Email: info@secondchance.org.au



**Second Chance Programme
Fundraising Group Inc**
placing women beyond homelessness