

VITAL SERVICES ASK FOR HELP

We are over 300 organisations working in social and community services across Australia.

WE ARE IN CRISIS.

We are unable to pay our community workers what they deserve for the vital work they perform, and unable to compete with the pay offered by the government and private sectors for doing exactly the same job.

Our funding from governments and private and philanthropic interests simply does not stretch that far.

WE FACE AN EVEN GREATER BURDEN WITHOUT HELP.

A landmark equal remuneration application to increase the award rates of pay for community sector workers is currently before Fair Work Australia.

We are asking governments and opposition parties across the country to recognise the vital role of social services in our community and to commit to fund any award increases for community sector workers.

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DELIVER VITAL SUPPORT TO AUSTRALIANS LIVING ON THE MARGINS OF OUR COMMUNITIES.

There are times when Australians need help to get by and community services are there for them. Without our workers, the services we provide would cease for the 6.5 million Australians who rely on us. We help people find emergency housing; work in nursing homes; and help young people find skills and training.

We make sure women and children fleeing domestic violence have somewhere to go; that families who need help with emergency funds can pay their bills.

The community sector makes a significant contribution to the economy - contributing 6.7% to annual growth (PC).

YET WORKERS IN OUR SECTOR ARE SIGNIFICANTLY UNDERPAID.

An average wage for a community mental health social worker is \$42,000. A worker doing the same job in government or the private sector earns \$72,000.

WE SUPPORT DECENT PAY FOR THE VITAL WORK OF SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY SECTOR WORKERS BUT WE CAN'T DO THIS ON OUR OWN.

WE ASK ALL POLITICIANS AT A FEDERAL, STATE AND TERRITORY LEVEL TO SUPPORT US BY COMMITTING TO FUND ANY AWARD INCREASES FOR COMMUNITY SECTOR WORKERS.

ADEC - Advocacy, Disability, Ethnicity, Community • Agencies for South West Accommodation • AIDS Housing Action Group • Alice Springs Youth • Accommodation & Support Services • Albury Wodonga Community Network Inc • Alzheimer's Australia NT • Anglicare Australia • Anglicare WA • Association for the Wellbeing of Children in Healthcare • Association of Children's Welfare Agencies • Association of Neighbourhood Houses and Learning Centres • Australian Association of Social Workers • Australian Capital Territory Council of Social Service • Australian Community Children's Services • Australian Council of Social Service • Australian Federation of AIDS Organisations • Australian Federation of Disability Organisations • Australian Federation of Graduate Women (NSW) • Australian Federation of Graduate Women Inc • Australian Federation of University Women (WA) Inc • Australian Financial Counselling and Credit Reform Association • Australian Pensioners' & Superannuants' League • Australian Polish Community Services • Australian Turkish & Kurdish Community Services Co-Op LTD • BABI Youth & Family Service • Baptistcare Western Australia • Barwon Community Legal Service • Bega Valley Community Transport Service • Berry Street • Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre • Blue Mountains Commuter & Transport Users Association Inc • Board of the Hepatitis C Council of SA Inc • Bowen Neighbourhood Centre • Bridging the Gap • Sydney West Inc • Broken Hill YASS Inc • Cabramatta Community Centre • Canberra Rape Crisis Centre • CAPAH Centre-Based Day Care • Capricornia Respite Care Association • Carers Australia • Carers NT • CareWays Community • Carrie's Place Women's & Children's Services Inc • Casey North Community Information & Support Service • Catholic Community Services • Catholic Prison Ministry • Centacare Cairns • Central Coast Tenants' Advice and Advocacy Service • Central Domestic Violence Service • Central Family Support (QLD) • Centrecare Migrant Services • Charleville and District Community Support Association Inc • Charters Towers Neighbourhood Centre Inc • Children's Services Support Program • Clarence Family Day Care Scheme • Clubhouse SA Inc • Coast Shelter • Combined Pensioners & Superannuants Association of NSW Inc • Commonwealth Respite & Carelink Centre • Communicare Inc (NSW) • Communicare Inc (WA) • Communication Rights Australia • Community Based Support South Inc • Community Centres Family Support Network Association QLD • Community Development Services Inc • Community Employers WA • Community Focus Association Inc • Community Legal Centres NSW • Community Services Australia Limited • Community Transport Organisation • Community Transport Warren • ConnectGroups • Support Groups Association of WA • COSMOS Inc • Council of Social Service of NSW • Council of the Ageing NT • Cyrenian House • Dalby Crisis Support Association Inc • Darwin Centre Against Rape • Dhimurru Aboriginal Corporation • Disability Information Advocacy Service Inc • Disability South West Inc • DRUG ARM Australasia • Dungog & District Neighbourcare Inc • ECHO Neighbourhood Centre Inc • Edmund Rice Camps (SA) Inc • Environmental Defender's Office of NO Inc • Ethnic Communities' Council of Victoria • Families ACT • Family Life • Family Planning Tasmania Inc • Family Planning Welfare Association NT • Family Relationship Services Australia • Family Services Illawarra Inc • Financial and Consumer Rights Council • Flemington & Kensington Community Legal Centre Inc • FORWAARD Aboriginal Corporation • Fremantle Women's Health Centre • Good Shepherd Youth and Family Service • Goodna Neighbourhood House • Goodwood Community Centre • GordonCare • Goulburn Family Support Service Inc • Granville Multicultural Community Centre • Greenacres Disability Services • Griffith Neighbourhood House Community Centre • Hastings Macleay Community Transport Services Inc • Hastings Women and Children's Refuge • Health and Community Services Workforce Council Inc • Health Consumers Alliance of South Australia • Hills Community Options • Holyoake • Homelessness Australia • House With No Steps • Hunters Hill Ryde Community Services Inc • Information on Disability & Education Awareness Services Inc • Identitywa • Illawarra Forum Inc • Illawarra Women's Health Centre • Inner South-West Community Development Organisation • Inner Sydney Regional Council • Inner West Community Transport • Inner West Neighbour Aid Inc • Interchange Illawarra • Intereach NSW • Ipswich Regional Advocacy Service • Ishar Multicultural Women's Health Centre • Joan Harrison Support Services for Women • Jobs Australia • Kilmarny Uniting Care • Koomarri • Kogarah Community Services Inc • Kurri Kurri Community Centre Inc • Kyabra Community Association • Laidley Shire Community Care Association Inc • Lake Macquarie Support Services Inc • Leichhardt Community Group Inc QLD • Life Without Barriers • Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd • Lions Emergency Accommodation Centre Inc • Lithgow Information & Neighbourhood Centre • Liverpool Districts Neighbourhood Centres Association Inc • Liverpool Youth Accommodation Assistance Company • Logan East Community Neighbourhood Association Inc • Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative • MacKillop Family Services • Macleay Kalipso Inc • Maitland Community Care Services Inc • Mackay Regional Council for Social Development • Manly Warringah Pittwater Family Support Service • Mareeba Community Housing Assoc • Meerindoo Youth Accommodation Service • Mental Health Association NSW • Mental Illness Fellowship South Australia • Mercy Family and Community Services • MercyCare • Metro Migrant Resource Centre • Mid North Coast Regional Council for Social Development • Mission Australia • Monaro Crisis Accommodation Service • Moranbah and District Support Services Association Inc • Mosaic Community Care Inc • Mount Gravatt Community Centre • Multicultural Council of the Northern Territory • Multicultural Development Association • Murrumbidgee Housing Inc • Nambour Community Centre Inc • Nambucca Valley Community Services Council Inc • National Association of Community Legal Centres • National Association of People Living With HIV/AIDS • National LGBT Health Alliance • National Shelter • Nepean Community & Neighbourhood Services • Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies • Neurofibromatosis Association of Australia Inc • Newcastle Family Support Services • New England HACC Development Inc • New Farm Neighbourhood Centre • Newtown Neighbourhood Centre • Nimbin Neighbourhood and Information Centre Inc • North Queensland Community Services • North Richmond Community Centre Inc • North West Disability Services • Northern Rivers Community Legal Centre • Northern Rivers Social Development Council • Northern Territory Council of Social Service • NSW HACC Development Officers Network • NSW Family Services Inc • NSW Meals on Wheels Association Inc • NSW Rape Crisis Centre • NT Council of Government School Organisations Inc • NT Shelter • Nundah Community Support Group Inc • Older Women's Network NSW Inc • Orbst Regional Health • Outcare • OzChild • PACT Community Support • Parklands Cottage • People Living with HIV/AIDS SA Inc • People with Disability Australia • Peppercorn Services Inc • PositiveLife NSW • Port Kembla Community Project • Port Stephens Community Care Inc • Port Stephens Family Support Service • Public Health Association of Australia • Pregnancy Help Queensland Inc • Psychiatric Disability Services of Victoria • Public Interest Advocacy Centre • Queensland Aged & Disability Advocacy Inc • Queensland Baptist Care • Queensland Council of Social Service • Queenslanders with Disability Network • Raymond Terrace Neighbourhood Centre • Relationships Australia • Respite Recreation Support • Richmond Community Services Inc • Richmond Fellowship of WA • Rosebank Child Sexual Abuse Service Inc • Rosewood Community Centre (Qld) • Ruth's Women's Shelter Cairns Inc • Ryde Family Support Service • Salvation Army (Southern Territory) • Safer Communities Australia Inc • Sandgate & Brackenridge Action Group Inc (SANDBAG) • Sector Connect • Security4Women Inc • SEARCH Foundation • Settlement Council of Australia • Sexual Health information networking & education SA Inc • Share Bayside Inc • Shelter Housing Action Cairns • Shelter SA • Shire Wide Youth Services • Shoalhaven Community Transport Service Inc • Shoalhaven Neighbourhood Centre Inc • Somerville Community Services Inc • South Australian Council of Social Service • South Australian Network of Drug and Alcohol Services • South Coastal Women's Health Services • Southern Riverina Youth Support Services Inc • South West Women's Housing Inc • Spinal Cord Injuries Australia • South East Neighbourhood Centre • St George Community Transport Project Inc • St George Youth Services Inc • St Johns Youth Services • St Marys Area Community Development Project Inc • St Mary's House of Welcome • St Vincent de Paul Society National Council • St Vincent de Paul Society SA • Sutherland Shire Community Transport • Swan City Youth Service Inc • Tableland Women's Centre Inc • Tasmanian Council of Social Service • Tenants Union of NSW • Tennant Creek Women's Refuge • The AIDS Council of South Australia Inc • The Ella Centre • The Factory Community Centre • The Family Centre • The Haymarket Foundation • The Housing Connection • The Link Youth Health Service • The Smith Family • Time for Kids • Top End Women's Legal Service • TransCare Hunter Ltd • TRI Community Exchange • Tripoli and Mena Association • Tumut Regional Family Services Inc • Tweed Shire Women's Service • UnitingCare Australia • Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association • Victorian Council of Social Service • Vietnamese Community in Australia (SA Chapter) Inc • Volunteering Central Coast Inc • WA Association for Mental Health • Warren Meals on Wheels • Watershed • Wauchope & District Delivered Meals Service Inc • Welfare Rights Centre • West Moreton Migrant Resource Services Inc • Western Australian Council of Social Service • Western Australian Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies • Western Sydney Community Forum • Whitsunday Community Services Inc • Woden Community Service • Wollongong Meals on Wheels Association • Wollongong Women's Centre • Women's Activities and Self Help House • Women in Adult & Vocational Education Inc • Women's Health in the North • Women's Health NSW • Women's Health West • WOMEN'S Healthworks • Wyalong & District Community Transport Group Inc • Wyong Neighbourhood Centre Inc • Youth Affairs Council of South Australia

HELP US.

www.acoss.org.au/equalpay