

Energy efficiency programs that work for low income households

A conversation for government agencies, industry stakeholders and the community sector; for policy makers, program designers, service providers and funders.

Wednesday 14 September, 9:30 am to 3:30 pm, Rydges Capital Hill, National Circuit, Forrest

Presented jointly by:

Australian Council of Social Service, Brotherhood of St Laurence, Clean Energy Council, CHOICE, ClimateWorks, Monash Sustainability Institute, The Climate Institute and UnitingCare Australia

09:30 Registration, coffee

10:00 Session 1: Setting the scene — Energy efficiency, energy affordability and opportunities

Welcome and introductions

- **Energy efficiency in low income households: why we need it and where we are up to**
John Thwaites, ClimateWorks & Brotherhood of St Laurence, Equity & Climate Change program
- **Energy affordability: prices, pressures, protections**
Tony Westmore, Australian Council of Social Service
- **Energy efficiency policies and programs: Opportunities to improve effectiveness**
Lauren Solomon, Clean Energy Council
- **The current environment: alignment, misalignment and opportunities for improvement**
Discussion

11.15 Break

11.30 Session 2A: Programs that work for low income and disadvantaged households

Detailed examples of existing programs designed to improve affordability of and access to energy and energy efficiency programs. The session includes programs with a diversity of approaches, target audiences and delivery agencies. This session will continue after lunch.

- Kildonan UnitingCare – National: Stella Avromopoulos, Kildonan UnitingCare
- West Program – Australian Capital Territory: Hugh Saddler, Sustainability Advice Team Pty Ltd
- Home Power Savings Program – New South Wales: Bernard Carlon, Office for Environment & Heritage
- Brotherhood of St Laurence – Victoria: Damian Sullivan, Brotherhood of St Laurence
- Sustainability Victoria – Victoria: Katrina Woolfe, Sustainability Victoria
- UnitingCare Community – South East Queensland: Sheryl Hateley, UnitingCare Community

12.45 Lunch

1:30 Session 2B: Programs that work for low income and disadvantaged households

Session continued from before lunch. Households and communities with particular characteristics including Indigenous; rural, regional and remote; non-English speaking.

2.00 Session 3: Implications for policy and programs design

- costs and benefits, successes and failures, lessons learnt
- principles in good practice program design and implementation
- processes to promote harmonisation and improved effectiveness
- building provider and workforce capacity
- finding sustainable resources

2:45 Wrap-up, close

3:00 Afternoon tea and networking