

Annual Report

2022–2023

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**The Community
Housing Industry
Association of SA
(CHIA SA) is the peak
industry body
representing
community housing
providers in
South Australia.**



CHIA SA Chair's Report

CHIA SA Chair's Report

The past year has been incredibly busy for CHIA SA and our members, with a lot of new activity in the social and affordable space at both the State and Commonwealth level.

We have finally aligned with the national CHIA network, and spent much of the year working to develop our capacity to better support the South Australian community housing sector through the next phase of growth.

The Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF), and the sector's preparation for and contribution to the HAFF, has played a significant part in our work this year. CHIA SA has worked closely with CHIA nationally to represent South Australian perspectives and help ensure the HAFF offers opportunities in all jurisdictions.

The CHIA network's advocacy of the HAFF strongly contributed towards encouraging the legislation through the Senate. In addition, CHIA SA has held a series of sector forums to support information sharing

around HAFF, and have a roundtable with senior representatives of the SA Government coming up later in 2023.

We have welcomed the South Australian Government's commitment to working with the community housing sector to maximise South Australia's opportunities from the HAFF, and look forward to continuing to work closely with our members and the State Government as the HAFF rolls out. We have valued a renewed approach to working together from Minister Nat Cook, Minister Nick Champion, South Australian Housing Authority and Renewal SA as we all work towards providing more and better social and affordable housing in South Australia.

I am proud that CHIA SA has taken a lead role in coordinating our sector's

input regarding disability housing reform in South Australia. This has included working with providers to highlight issues with the Disability Housing Program and developing broader views regarding housing for people living with disability. We look forward to continuing this work in 2024.

Our Board has supported efforts to raise CHIA SA's profile in the public domain, including through the CHARTS Awards, the CHIA SA Awards, submissions to Parliamentary inquiries and the State Budget, and a pro-active media strategy. This increased profile provides us with a strong foundation for CHIA SA to advocate for policies that will strengthen the local sector's ability to provide housing for people in need.

A sincere thanks to Luke, Kate and Rachel for their hard work throughout the year. CHIA SA would not have been able to provide such a strong contribution to the community without them, and we look forward to working with them next year and beyond!

Finally, I would like to thank my Board colleagues for their contributions this year. Our particular thanks to Julie Duncan, who is stepping down from the Board after many years of hard work.

Geoff Slack
CHAIR





CHIA SA CEO's Report

CHIA SA CEO's Report

Looking back at the 12 months since the last Annual General Meeting, it has been an important year for CHIA SA.

In addition to launching CHIA SA's new brand and joining the CHIA federation, we moved into our new offices on Pirie Street and were joined by our two new staff – Rachael Thrussell and Kate French. We also held our inaugural Gala Dinner to celebrate the CHIA SA Awards, and supported the second CHARTS Awards.

These activities have been used to expand our public and media profile, with CHIA SA having been featured in both local print and radio media. We have advocated for policies that not only expand social and affordable housing options for South Australians, but also maximise the benefits of our multi-provider housing system.

To support our public advocacy, CHIA SA has made submissions to the South Australian Budget, a Parliamentary inquiry into housing

affordability in SA, several rounds of changes to the, consultations on the Greater Adelaide Regional Plan and the national "Measuring What Matters" projects.

We have developed a Consultation Governance Framework to support consultation and coordination activities between the South Australian Government and the community housing sector, and have contributed to national projects including CHIA submissions to Federal Government consultations, the review of the National Housing and Homelessness Plan and the development of SIGMAH – a cost-benefit analysis tool for social and affordable housing investment.

I would like to acknowledge the excellent work of our Policy Officer, Kate French, in making this level of activity possible. Kate's contribution

has significantly strengthened our policy development and advocacy capabilities.

The Communities of Practice have continued to provide a structure for engagement with members and peer support across the sector. With seven Communities of Practice meeting several times a year, this is a considerable undertaking. The work of our Project Officer, Rachael Thrussell, in supporting this initiative has been crucial to its success.

Rachael has also played a key role supporting our expanded events program, including the Awards and our Annual General Meeting.

Looking forward to the next 12 months, we have plans to expand our member engagement through additional targeted groups, we will continue our member support activities and our media work, and, above all, we will continue to develop and advocate for policies to ensure South Australians have access to suitable and affordable housing.

I thank the CHIA SA Board for their support over the past year. CHIA SA has undergone a significant transformation in recent times, and we look forward to continuing our support of the South Australian community housing sector into the future.

Luke Westenberg
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER





CHIA SA's Brand Launch



The background of the slide features a photograph of a modern, multi-story building with a grid-like facade. Overlaid on this image is a large, white geometric pattern consisting of a grid of squares, each divided into four triangles by diagonal lines. The pattern is positioned on the right side of the slide. The title text is on the left, and the page number is in the bottom right corner.

Communities of Practice

Communities of Practice

During the past year the focus of the Communities of Practice (CoP) has been to continue and build on the excellent work done in 2022 by Kathryn Milne.

CHIA SA thanks its members for their ongoing participation in the CoP meetings, as well as their engagement and feedback that has been integral to setting topics for next year's schedule.

CHIA SA facilitated a number of beneficial meetings between Government and the Community Housing sector this year. Meetings with the SA Registrar Craig Thompson, and Tim Irving from South Australian Housing Authority, provided the sector with valuable detailed knowledge to support community housing providers in preparation for the Housing Australia Future Fund.

CHIA SA continued to promote the Complaints Management Framework, including a workshop with the Compliance and Systems CoP presented by Janet Spouse.

The conversation at the workshop was informative and robust, and included new attendees who contributed a great deal to the discussion.

Alongside the CoP meetings, CHIA SA has also worked with the Department of Child Protection (DCP) to facilitate sector engagement for a new Stability Post Care Individual Packages pilot program that extends support to young people aged 17 to 21 who are leaving non-government residential care. Celia Boyle from Housing Choices SA also joined this meeting to share information with community housing providers about a previous program between providers and DCP, the Next Steps Program.



Communities of Practice (continued)

CHIA SA has continued to provide relevant and engaging speakers for the CoP meetings. The Tenant Engagement CoP Meeting: Impact Measurement, attracted a wide range of participants from varying levels of CHP management. This session explored impact measurement from various perspectives, with insights from its two speakers; Darrin Wright from Point Heard, and Andi Nygaard, who spoke about SIGMAH, the social and green benefits calculator for social and affordable housing that has been developed by CHIA national and partners, including CHIA SA.

CHIA SA also delivered two training sessions throughout year. The Purple Orange Disability Inclusion Training was well attended and received excellent feedback. One of the main contributing factors to the success of this session was the quality of the training, which was a testament to the power of good co-design and, importantly, having presenters with lived experience.

The workshop on Supporting Resilient Workers: addressing vicarious trauma, compassion fatigue and burnout, was well attended and feedback from members was that this training was interesting and useful. As with other meetings this year, it was great to see attendees from different levels of management present, promoting robust discussion, reflection, and shared learning.

CHIA SA has been consulting with CoP members to identify topics for the coming year and help us ensure our speakers are relevant and engaging, as well as determine the structure and frequency of meetings. As a result of the consultation, we will hold four meetings per quarter, with each to include a speaker, plus one informal out-of-office meeting scheduled for end of year.



2023 CHIA SA Gala Dinner and Awards Night

2023 CHIA SA Gala Dinner and Awards Night

CHIA SA was delighted to hold our Gala Dinner and Awards night – the first time the SA industry body has held the Awards, which recognised the achievements of the state’s more than 20 Community Housing Providers (CHPs), since before the COVID-19 pandemic.

We valued the opportunity to hear about excellence in practice and to celebrate the achievements and hard work of so many across the sector.

The sector came together at The Adelaide Pavilion for the prestigious event, enjoying and sharing in a 3-course dinner, drinks and some excellent entertainment. The evening provided the ideal opportunity for members to network and share information across the SA sector and its associates.

Feedback from members endorsed the evening as a great success, and as an event that was relaxed, fun, well organised and well attended. We can’t ask for better than that!

Among the 11 South Australian CHPs recognised at the event were category award winners Junction Australia, Uniting SA, Unity Housing and Westside Housing.

CHIA SA looks forward to holding this event again 2024!



2023 CHIA SA Gala Dinner

and Awards Night (continued)





Community Housing Arts Awards (CHARTS)

Community Housing

Arts Awards (CHARTS)

Building on the success of the inaugural 2021 CHARTS Awards, CHIA SA was very proud to support the second staging of this biennial event.

We would like to acknowledge the excellent work of Christine Cholewa and the CHARTS Committee, along with the support of participating community housing providers:

- Unity Housing
- Housing Choices Australia
- Junction Housing
- Amelie Housing
- Common Equity Housing SA
- Believe Housing Australia
- UnitingSA Housing
- Community Housing Ltd
- YourPlace Housing
- Westside Housing
- Access2Place
- Aboriginal Community Housing Ltd

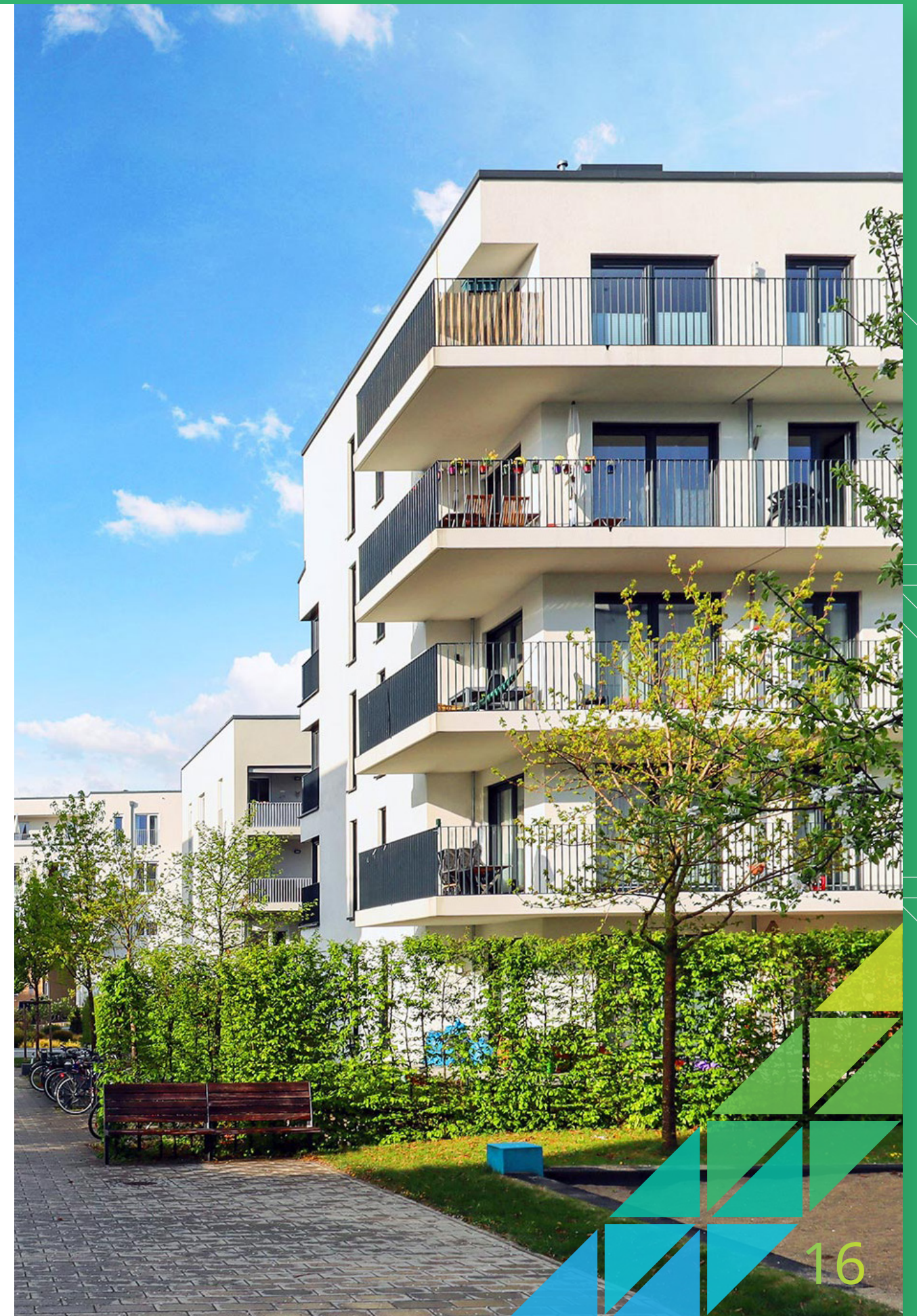
We would particularly like to thank our CHARTS sponsors, Harvey Norman and Electrolux.

It was very exciting to receive more than 130 entries across our four categories – Framed/Hanging, 3D/ Sculpture, Photography, Digital & Graphic, and Poetry & Literature, plus a People's Choice award, as voted by visitors to the exhibition.

We were honoured and very pleased to have Minister Nat Cook open the Awards and we thank her for the time and attention she consistently gives to the community housing sector.

CHARTS is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate community housing tenants and the range of talents and skills they bring to the wider community.

CHIA SA was proud to be involved in 2023 and we look forward to supporting CHARTS again in 2025.





Community Housing
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