

Role Outline – Lived Experience Advisory Group member

Lived Experience Advisory Group (LEAG)

Organisation overview

Launch Housing commenced operation on 1 July, 2015 and is a merger of HomeGround Services and Hanover Welfare Services. Launch Housing has an ambitious agenda to achieve our vision of ending homelessness, providing a strong focused voice on homelessness driven by the values of Empowerment, Fresh Thinking, Agility, Leadership and Courage.

We are an independent provider of choice for clients and the 'go to' organisation on homelessness for government, media, philanthropy, private donors and the community. Clients are at the centre of everything we do and are actively and meaningfully involved in the design, delivery and evaluation of services as well as our policy development, public advocacy and fundraising.

Launch Housing increases access for people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness through bringing increased scale to organisational sustainability and sector leadership and advocacy. Through partnerships, research and evidence-based approaches, we will continue the tradition of pioneering new methods and fresh ways to develop sustainable solutions to homelessness.

Role context

Launch Housing is committed to embracing and learning from the insight and expertise of people with a lived experience of homelessness, and recognise the value this brings to our work with clients.

Members are invited to participate in the LEAG for up to a 3-year period and attend scheduled group meetings and ad hoc engagements, in accordance with the Terms of Reference. Participation in meetings will include sharing knowledge in the areas of housing and homelessness and contributing perspectives on the challenge of meeting Launch Housing's vision, which includes helping to improve experiences and outcomes for clients.

Supports for LEAG Members include professional development, media training, supervision and mentoring, as well as access to confidential external counselling via the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

Payment

LEAG members are independent Lived Experience Consultants to Launch Housing, and will be assisted to provide invoices for their hours, at a rate of \$35.00/hour. Payment will be made electronically to a nominated bank account.

Diversity and inclusion

We recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples were the first to live here. We celebrate the first peoples, their cultures, languages, connections to country and heritage. We also

recognise that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples experience higher rates of homelessness than other groups in the community which is connected to the history of dispossession from country and culture.

We recognise that people are diverse and that everyone has unique life experiences. We value the contribution that this diversity can bring to our organisation. LEAG members are broadly representative of the consumers we serve, and may include young people, LGBTI+ and gender diverse people, parents, people experiencing mental health or alcohol and other drug issues, justice involved people, culturally and linguistically diverse people, older people, and people who have experienced family violence.

We strongly encourage applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people who identify as LGBTI+, as well as people who identify with any of the above groups.

Criteria for participation:

- Lived experience of homelessness.
- Experience of using Launch Housing or other homelessness services.
- A strong interest in influencing systems change for those experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Ability and desire to work closely within a team requiring co-operation, inclusiveness, effective listening skills and respect for diversity.
- Availability to participate in scheduled group meetings (currently working remotely, via Teams or Zoom video calls), and other ad hoc engagements.
- Willingness to participate in Launch Housing's recruitment process including interview(s), police background checks and reference checks. *Note: Checks are conducted in strict confidence and at no cost to you. An applicant is not automatically precluded from a placement on the basis of having a police record. If a disclosable outcome results from a check, we meet with the applicant to discuss).*
- Possession of (or willingness to apply for) a current Working with Children Check card (WWCC) – a requirement of all Launch Housing staff and volunteers.

How to Apply:

Your application should include a cover letter which describes you!
Tell us a little about yourself, and how you identify with our diversity and inclusion statement.
Briefly address each of the criteria mentioned above.

Applications open July 2020, please apply as soon as possible by email to the Lived Experience Coordinator: Sharon.McDonald@launchhousing.org.au

If you have difficulty with literacy or have any other questions about this position, please call Sharon on 9288 9814 or 0408 651 608.