Attachment 1

Responding to Homelessness

Supporting those at risk or experiencing homelessness

City of Onkaparinga Homelessness Statistics

699
Experiencing homelessness
(2021 Census)

822
People supported by a Specialist Homelessness Service during September 2024
(Department of Human Services, Homeless2Home data, 2024-25)

2530
People supported by a Specialist Homelessness Service in 2023-24
(Department of Human Services, Homeless2Home data, 2024-25)

463
Inactive dwellings across Onkaparinga
(Australian Bureau of Statistics SEIFA 2021)

Top 5 presenting issues

Housing crisis (e.g eviction)
Domestic and family violence
Housing affordability stress
Inadequate or inappropriate dwelling conditions
Moving from place to place (no fixed address)
(Department of Human Services, Homeless2Home data, 2024-25)

What We Do

- Provide safe, welcoming spaces at community centres and libraires, where people can shelter and access referrals to specialist services during open hours.
- Provide and support a range of prevention initiatives through community centres and libraries that support those at risk of homelessness
- Collaborate with the 4H (Help, Hope, Housing and Homelessness) Collective, a network of service providers and community members that focuses on improving responses to housing, homelessness and costs of living
- Provide access to food relief and low-cost meals at community centres
- Support the Emergency Food Relief Network which delivers 27 food relief services across Onkaparinga
- Partner with Toward Home Alliance (THA) to plan fortnightly outreach services delivered by THA. This has recently resulted in four people supported into emergency accommodation
- Provided funding for lockers, supporting free access to secure lockers for those experiencing homelessness to store important documents and items
- Advocate for improved services for those at risk of, or experiencing homelessness as well as increased housing options
- Compile access to free or cheap services through Council's Affordable Onkaparinga Webpage
- Delivered the Southern Housing and Homelessness Round Table (September 2023)
- Provide short term crisis accommodation at Tourist Parks
- Participate in collective networks to improve safety and housing in our community including the Southern Community Safety Committee, and Local Government Homelessness Network
- Partner with Paws & Pals to provide pop-up veterinary clinics for homeless and vulnerable people and their pets

Contributing Factors

- Access to social and affordable housing
- Cost of living
- Low rental vacancy
- Increased housing and rental prices

Future Work

Investigating an Onkaparinga Toward Zero project, focused on using data to identify and address systemic barriers to achieve a functional zero homelessness rate.

Developing an Affordable Housing Strategy to drive housing opportunities and outcomes.

Our Approach

(Contributes to Community Vision 2034 and Community Capacity Strategic Plan 2021-24 outcomes)

- Foster collaboration across Government, Non-government, private sectors and community to address homelessness risk factors.
- Work in partnership with homelessness services and local stakeholders to provide support people living homeless.
- Advocate to, and work with the relevant Ministers to improve housing supply and diversity of housing outcomes through adjustment to state planning system.
- Deliver community services, programs, activities and events which improve people's wellbeing, including risk factors for homelessness.

Community Priorities Identified Through Community Engagement 2024

CITY OF ONKAPARINGA

Toward Home Alliance | 1800 809 273
Homeless Connect SA (24/7) | 1800 003 308
Food Relief Services