



LIGHTHOUSE
FOUNDATION *for youth*

LET'S END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS ON THE MORNINGTON PENINSULA, *together*

There are now over 1000 people estimated to be homeless on the Peninsula every night.

The problem

- There are NO government-funded crisis accommodation facilities on the Mornington Peninsula.
- There are also NO government-funded agencies providing preventative case- management and links to housing support.
- 4000 Peninsula residents are on public housing waiting lists, and despite the urgent pleas for more public housing, and the support of council and government, it will take years for new buildings to be in place.

Young people living on the Mornington Peninsula are particularly at risk because of the lack of local affordable housing, issues of family violence and the need for mental health support.

There are very few support services for young people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, and those that do exist report that they are overwhelmed and need help.

Working together with the community



Ron & Viv Neary

"not on our watch"

Owners of Rosebud's Amberlee Four Star Family Holidays, the Neary family, believe that youth homelessness is not acceptable on their watch and have put their money where their hearts are.

With their seed funding, Lighthouse Foundation will roll out our new **Community Connect** program on the Mornington Peninsula in 2023.

But we need more support to scale the program quickly to meet the growing need. We are hoping that others who have homes or businesses on the Peninsula, and the capacity to help financially, will join us.

While we can't entirely solve the issue until enough affordable housing is available, there's a great deal we can do NOW to help young people from being entrenched into homelessness.

If you, like Rosebud locals, the Neary's, think this is unacceptable, please join them and Lighthouse Foundation in establishing an early intervention outreach service to help young people from becoming entrenched into homelessness.

Our response

Lighthouse Foundation is joining with businesses and individuals in the local Peninsula community to respond to this crisis.

Community Connect is designed to prevent homelessness before it becomes entrenched. The program aims to increase housing stability for all young people.



Lighthouse Foundation's Founder, Susan Barton AM is passionate about protecting Australia's number one resource – our children and our youth.

Lighthouse Foundation provides homes and therapeutic care programs to children and young people impacted by long-term neglect, abuse and homelessness. Over the past 30+ years we have positively transformed the lives of more than 1,000 young people.

At Lighthouse, we believe that every child and young person should have a safe and caring home and we are driven to end youth homelessness, working together with our young people, and the community.

The Lighthouse team works with the young person, housing providers and other organisations to establish or retain safe, secure and affordable housing, and to grow and connect with their local community. The program also aims to develop the young person's capacity to self-manage and access support independently.

We aim to create circles of safety around young people at risk of homelessness so that they are never without care and support.

We already have a Community Connect program operating successfully in the Northern suburbs of Melbourne. The program supports youth aged 16 – 25 who are experiencing any level of housing instability (such as risky tenancies and couch surfing). We provide outreach support, referrals, and items like clothing, food, toiletries and furniture.



Show your support

Support Lighthouse's Community Connect Program on the Mornington Peninsula, by donating directly at lighthousefoundation.org.au and an automatic tax-deductible receipt will be generated. (Please indicate that you are supporting the Peninsula Youth Homelessness project in the comments field).

Or

Direct bank transfers by EFT can be made to:
Lighthouse Foundation Operating Account
ANZ, Collins St Melbourne
BSB: 013 006
Acc No: 775 349 347

Potential local business and individual supporters can also email Michelle Michie on michellem@lighthousefoundation.org.au to discuss the issues, opportunities and needs.

Intake enquiries can be sent to intake@lighthousefoundation.org.au or phone 03 9093 7500

We're here to give kids experiencing homelessness or trauma, the support they need to heal, grow, and achieve a lifelong sense of belonging.

lighthousefoundation.org.au