

Every month FSG holds an unmet needs forum. If anyone would like to attend this meeting please contact vickib@fsg.org.au or alisonb@fsg.org.au to RSVP. Below are the minutes from the JANUARY 2010 meeting for your interest.

FSG Australia Unmet Needs Forum 14th JANUARY 2010

Present: Vicki Batten; Desiree King; Christine Tabone; Annette Osborne; Chloe Osborne; Jennifer Gothard; James Hurtley;

Issue	Unmet Need	Further info/ Possible reason for being unmet	Possible Solution(s)
<p>Parents seeking accommodation for their aging children</p>	<p>Often parents/families have the capacity to purchase a house for their son or daughter but they are 'nervous' about sharing the house with 2 or 3 others</p>	<p>"What if they don't get along"; What happens if we want to sell the house etc. Families; services and government are all nervous about these types of arrangements.</p>	<p>There is an easy solution. FSGA is embarking on a new model of community housing. The KOHO model is varied but a basic model would be 4 units built on a standard house block- looks like a house; costs approximately ½ again as much as a standard house costs to build but offers 4 self contained units and a carers/overnight office. This can be operated just on a rental basis BUT there is also the opportunity for a family to purchase one of the units on a BOND basis. Example: family purchases a unit for \$50,000. That unit belongs to them for as long as they want it- they can sell it (hopefully the property will have appreciated and they can sell it at the appreciated value); they can 'will' it; they can buy two units and live in one etc etc. Government could BOND all 4 units and do exactly the same- bit cheaper than building! Rental would be paid by all tenants (bonded or not - at \$150 week - currently). This model may also be an answer for young people currently residing in a nursing home - they have</p>

			enough money to exclude them from accessing public housing but enough to BOND their own unit- exciting possibilities!
Young People in danger of becoming Homeless	Young people turning 18 who have been under the protection of Child Safety but do not 'qualify' for assistance under Disability Services.	It is often very clear that despite the 'lack' of a diagnosis these young people are ill equipped to 'go it alone'. They are vulnerable, often become 'self placed' before they reach 18 and end up in various degrees of 'trouble'	A Koho type single person accommodation where an onsite support person is available does not cost anywhere near what it would cost should any of these young people become part of the justice system. FSGA would love to explore the possibility of operating a model which offers accommodation for up to 4 young people in this category who are assisted toward living independently- working and socialising appropriately. Could be a 'Transition from Child Safety' project?
Work program for young men	There are young men currently accessing supported accommodation who, whilst they have a clear need for that support, have the capacity to contribute to their community by engaging in paid work. The opportunities to do so, however are very limited.	Often these young men are unable to commit to regular hours and may need 'breaks' from their employment. This is not an easy 'need' to sell to prospective employees. However, whilst they are on the job they are very capable and productive.	Building partnerships with local business is essential. Volunteers to work alongside these young people is also a key and in 2010 FSGA will be exploring both.
			NEXT MEETING 11th February 2.00 at Railway Street – ALL Interested people welcome