

## About our Homelessness Service

The Women's Housing Company operates a Specialist Homelessness Service (SHS) funded by NSW Family and Community Services (FACS).

The Women's Homelessness Support Service (WHSS) assists single women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in South Western Sydney.



### What do we provide

#### Intervention and Support

Early intervention and outreach support, working collaboratively with other services to prevent women at risk from becoming homeless.

#### Case Management

Intensive case management support within a holistic, person-centred framework for women who may have multiple and highly complex needs.

#### Advocacy

Advocacy on behalf of women at risk and facilitating access to appropriate services such as domestic violence counselling, community mental health services, financial, legal, family support and mediation services.

#### Rapid Rehousing

Assessing and supporting women to be rapidly rehoused if they become homeless, by working with the broader service system, real estate agents and other housing providers to facilitate long term suitable accommodation.

#### Short Term Accommodation

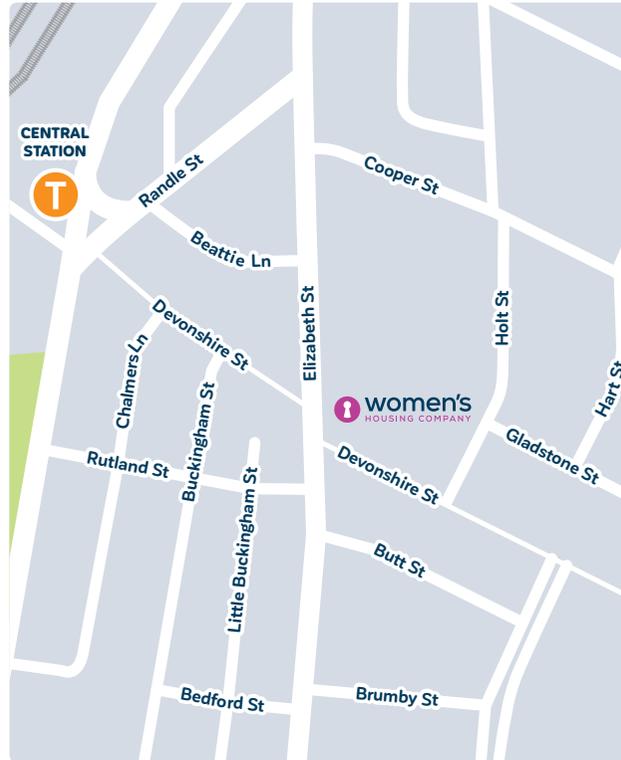
A residential setting with case management and support in response to an immediate crisis.

#### Transitional Housing

Safe short to medium term accommodation with case management support and assistance to access secure and affordable longer term housing options.

## Find out more

For information on policies, services and opportunities to get involved, visit our website at [www.womenshousingcompany.org](http://www.womenshousingcompany.org)



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## Achieving excellence in the provision of affordable housing for women



06/18

## About us



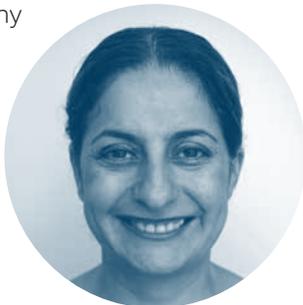
The demand for safe, secure and affordable housing in Sydney remains strong and this is particularly the case for women who, at different stages in their life, require assistance to resolve their housing needs.

As a specialist organisation, the Women's Housing Company works closely with women who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, many of whom have experienced domestic and family violence, or who are older and unable to find housing that is affordable and appropriate to their needs. Our focus is single women and we also assist women with children.

Key factors contributing to women's homelessness include:

- Domestic and family violence
- Mental illness and physical disability
- High rents and insecure tenure in private rentals
- Discrimination in the private rental market
- Family breakdown and separation
- Lower paid work and lack of sufficient superannuation
- Lower rates of home ownership

The Women's Housing Company is committed to increasing the availability of secure and affordable housing for women, particularly innovative partnership models that harness expertise from different sectors and deliver value.



## About our Community Housing

The Women's Housing Company provides a range of housing services for women on very low to moderate incomes, who are unable to participate in the private housing market. We have operated for over 35 years providing safe, secure and affordable housing for women across metropolitan Sydney.

We are a registered not-for-profit community housing provider that operates under the National Regulatory System for Community Housing. We are also a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission.

### Our Services

#### Housing assistance and applications

Our Customer Service Team manages applications, assessments and allocations for transitional, social and affordable housing

#### Tenancy management

With low staff-to-tenant ratios and portfolios based on defined geographical areas, our Housing Managers focus on a strengths-based and wellbeing approach to ensure tenancies are successfully sustained

#### Repairs and maintenance

Our Property Services Team delivers a comprehensive program including responsive repairs, cyclical and planned maintenance and strategic portfolio planning to maintain our properties to a high standard that reflects the needs of female tenants and enables ageing-in-place

#### Community engagement

We involve our tenants in planning and delivering activities and events which provide opportunities for social engagement, building skills and capacity and increase participation in their local communities



## Our portfolio

The Women's Housing Company manages over 750 properties across metropolitan Sydney, covering more than 20 local government areas.

We have a particular focus on housing that is well designed and suited for women of all ages, including as they get older, incorporating universal design principles and promoting the notion of a home for life.



### Our partners

The Women's Housing Company works in partnership with a range of organisations to ensure our collaboration delivers added benefit for the people we seek to assist. Some examples include:

- We provide transitional housing in conjunction with case management support delivered by Launchpad Youth Community, St Vincent de Paul Society, YWCA and Wesley Mission.
- We provide tenancy and property management for Housing First programs such as Connect 100 and Step-To-Home, along with Bridge Housing and Metro Community Housing. Our tenants are supported by NEAMI National, Mission Australia, St Vincent de Paul Society and Domestic Violence Service Management NSW.
- We have a formal partnership with Bridge Housing to manage public housing in the Northern Beaches area from August 2019.
- We are represented on a range of housing and homelessness sector networks and we collaborate across sectors that impact our tenants, such as Health, Ageing, Disability, Justice, Planning, Education and Employment.