



We believe in young people.

March 2017

Hello!

We're in the thick of Mad March here in Adelaide, enjoying all the energy and activity happening in the city. It's an especially busy time for many of our young people, who are heading back to their studies after the summer break. There's lots to be excited about - including the launch of our brand new program, [Keeping my Place](#), which you can read more about below.

Starting this month, we'll be sending monthly eNewsletters to keep you up-to-date with some of the great things happening at St John's Youth Services. We look forward to staying in touch and sharing lots of good news about young people in SA!



Keeping my Place

A new way to help young people keep a place to call home

[Keeping my Place](#) is an innovative new program designed to help young people protect their tenancies, and remain in private rental properties. The program provides early intervention and support to young people living in private rental, who are at risk of losing their home due to personal or financial crisis. This preventative approach helps ensure tenancy issues are a bump in the road to be overcome, rather than a pathway into homelessness.

We'll be celebrating the launch of [Keeping my Place](#) at Next Step on Wednesday, 29th March. If you'd like to come along, [email us](#) by COB Wednesday, 22nd March 2017.

To learn more about [Keeping my Place](#), [email Kaelia](#), visit [our website](#) or check out the video below.

[Keeping my Place](#) is generously funded by the [Ian Potter Foundation](#).



KEEPING MY PLACE

St John's Youth Services



0:00 / 1:55



Our CEO is Adelaide's 'Citizen of the Year'

As a supporter of St John's Youth Services, we hope you'll be as excited as we are that Wendy Malycha is Adelaide's Citizen of the Year for 2017.



Awarded by the City of Adelaide as part of the 2017 Australia Day Awards, the [Citizen of the Year Award](#) recognises the outstanding contribution Wendy has made to improving the lives of young people in Adelaide. Since joining St John's Youth Services in 1993, Wendy has been instrumental in changing the way organisations work with young people experiencing homelessness and disadvantage. As well as leading St John's Youth Services, Wendy is a founding member of [Homelessness SA](#) and a life member of the [SA Council of Social Service](#).

[Read more](#)

CONGRATULATIONS

to former Ladder SVS resident, Amin, who recently moved out of Ladder SVS and into a place of his own. With support from the team at Ladder SVS, Amin was able to stabilise his life and save enough money to set himself up in his own place. Amin is starting studies towards a Bachelor of Engineering Science - so the future's looking bright! He's pictured here with Naomi (L) and Celeste, part of the Ladder SVS team who'll be cheering him on.



Supporter Spotlight

Sisters of Charity Foundation



The [Sisters of Charity Foundation](#) has generously funded 'Starter Kits' for young people moving from crisis, into stability and independence. Thanks to their generosity, 20 young people engaged with our [Next Step](#) program have already been able to buy the household goods they need to set themselves up in their new homes. Visit the [Sisters of Charity Foundation](#) website to learn more about the great work they're doing to break down social isolation and alleviate the impact of poverty on individuals and families.

[CLICK HERE to donate and make a positive difference for young people in South Australia.](#)

Have you visited the new [St John's Youth Services](#) website yet? Click on picture below, or visit stjohnsyouthservices.org.au to take a look. As well as finding out about more about our services, you can also read our most recent [Annual Report](#), and our [Reconciliation Action Plan](#). We're still busy adding resources and info, so if you have any suggestions or there's anything you think should be included, [get in touch](#) - we'd love to hear from you!



Unsettled: Renting in Australia

A new report by [CHOICE](#) reveals that things are tough for tenants in the Australian rental market.

The report, [Unsettled: Life in Australia's private rental market](#), found that thousands of tenants face discrimination, and live in constant fear of eviction.

Insecurity is fuelled by short or no fixed-term leases, and a fear from tenants they will be blacklisted if they complain, ask for essential maintenance or speak up for their rights.

'It's hard to imagine a product or service this poor in any other sector. With renting, consumers have to deal with major quality issues like mould or flooding and are systematically denied access to a timely remedy,' says [CHOICE](#) CEO Alan Kirkland.

'Worryingly, we found that renters with more experience in the market were less likely to complain when something goes wrong, which illustrates the entrenched culture of fear among renters. This is all the more of a concern when you consider the rising number of long-term renters across Australia,' says Ned Cutcher, National Association of Tenants' Organisations spokesperson.

Collectively, the consumer rights groups are calling on governments to prioritise rental security and the quality of what's on offer, not just housing affordability.



[Read more](#)

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