

# HOPES Quarterly Update



January 2004

HOPES (Housing Options Providing Extra Support) is committed to the development of:

- ◇ Appropriate accommodation
- ◇ Adequate support
- ◇ Suitable lifestyle options

For people with acquired disabilities or neurological conditions

For Your Diary

## Happy New Year - welcome to 2004!

### Planning

### Session

Wed 14<sup>th</sup> Jan

4.00pm-9.00pm

TASCARE Main Rd.

Derwent Park.

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**Note: Meeting dates for 2004 will be set at the planning session and passed on to members.**

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Towards the end of 2003 it became apparent that HOPES was unlikely to gain funding for the Co-operative Living Project through the public sector, in the foreseeable future. Our submissions have consistently raised sympathetic responses from "safety conscious" bureaucrats, but little else – and we can't afford to continue going round in circles for another 10 years.

The dilemma is that, regardless of who pays for the individual units, we need a considerable sum of money (ever-increasing in the current real estate climate) to acquire a suitable piece of land, and construct a multi-purpose, common house. This would then give us sufficient collateral to encourage public and private investment for the development of units. But, where to start ....

A quick brainstorming session led to some bright ideas – "ask Housing Tasmania to donate a derelict home we could renovate and sell", "write private letters to people like Richard Branson, Dick Smith", "find a sponsor to purchase a house for renovation and resale (original cost goes back to sponsor)", "create a 'fundraising register' of friends/colleagues/acquaintances with wealthy contacts" ... and more!

The next step is to harness this creativity into reality and we are therefore holding a **PLANNING SESSION for 2004** (see attached flyer).

## Committee Members 2004

President: Sue Hodgson

Vice President: David Pearce

Secretary/Public Officer: Eliza White

Treasurer: Barry Titmus

Minute Secretary: Angela Maccillini

Committee: Geraldine Harwood, Deborah Byrne, Mary Langdon, Gina Juhasz, Patrick Eadington

## Young People in Nursing Homes National Alliance

The battle for appropriate accommodation options is continuing at a national level, and the YPINH National Alliance has been invited to participate in the 'fringe' program of the ALP National Conference in Sydney. The Fringe Program provides an opportunity for groups who wish to participate in policy debate/development to present on an issue that they believe needs consideration, and we have been invited to present a fringe 'event' on the YPINH issue. The conference will take place from Thursday January 29 – Friday January 31 at the Darling Harbour Convention Centre.

What is planned is something akin to a Couchman show – i.e. there will be three or four invited guests who will be asked to speak for a short while on the topic as a way of setting the scene. Scattered throughout the audience will be a series of invited participants who have personal experience or expertise in the area to contribute. The presenter (on this occasion Canberra journalist Margo Kingston) knows who these people are and what they can speak about if asked to contribute, and can ask questions of them at particular points in the show.

Using this sort of format will allow discussion about several issues central to the YPINH debate, including the type and amount of funding needed to provide a sustainable future for young people with high care needs; the failure of the CSTDA and how the current system could better direct existing resources; the need for Commonwealth leadership and the failure of new federalism; the potential for YPINH numbers to rise dramatically as ageing parents become less able to care for their children; and what it really means to be a young person living in a nursing home and the impact this has on family and friends, amongst others.

Margo's presence should be an additional drawcard and provides a neat link to the Canberra Press Gallery Debate (presented by the Media Entertainment Arts Alliance) which immediately follows ours. We are hoping that people wanting to come to the press gallery debate might come along earlier and hear ours and those coming to ours will stay around for the press gallery debate! Shadow ministers Julia Gillard, Annette Ellis and Craig Emerson have all agreed to come to the presentation and participate.

*Footnote: Sue Hodgson will be attending, and will upload a report (and hopefully some photos) onto the website on her return.*

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**HOPES Website** – Is in the process of being updated and 'professionalised', and then it will be set free! The work in progress can be viewed on [www.key.org.au/hopes](http://www.key.org.au/hopes) and any suggestions, offers of stories/photos etc. are welcome.

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**Update items** – We would also like to receive relevant items for the HOPES Update. So if you have a personal story, information, or ideas you would like to share, please pass them on by phone, fax, email or post.