



**MEDIA RELEASE: Wednesday, 8 August 2018**

## **Adelaide unveils Australia's first dashboard on homelessness and housing**

Adelaide is now the first city in Australia that is actively tracking the number of rough sleepers in its inner city and how many of them have moved into secure housing.

For the first time, South Australians will be able to know how many people are without a home on any given night and these figures will be publicly reported every month, as part of the Adelaide Zero Project's new online Dashboard.

Don Dunstan Foundation Executive Director David Pearson says the Dashboard will also show how many people have found secure housing.

"This latest initiative from the Adelaide Zero Project is aimed at helping to end street homelessness, by increasing understanding of the overall number of people sleeping rough and how well the homelessness and housing systems are supporting them," Mr Pearson says.

In Connections Week (May 2018), 200 trained volunteers identified 143 people who were sleeping rough in the City of Adelaide. This information was used to create a By-Name List to help inner city homelessness services to know the names and needs of those sleeping rough.

As of Friday 3 August, 148 people on the By-Name List were actively sleeping rough. Since Connections Week, 40 people on the By-Name List have now moved into secure housing.

"More than 35 organisations have come together to form the Zero Project, which has set a goal for Adelaide to be the first Australian city to achieve and sustain Functional Zero\* street homelessness in the inner city by the end of 2020," he says.

"The Dashboard, released today, is an essential tool for tracking our progress towards achieving this goal.

"Unlike other initiatives that have counted up to a set goal of a particular number of people housed, the objective for the Adelaide Zero Project is for the Dashboard to read Zero by the end of 2020.

"As the Zero Project progresses, we expect numbers to rise and fall on this Dashboard until Functional Zero street homelessness is achieved.



“Importantly, we will continue to update this Dashboard, initially on a monthly basis - with a longer-term goal of it being updated in as close to real time as possible.”

Neami National South Australia State Manager Kim Holmes says the By-Name list, which has been compiled by the agency, provides a greater insight into how we can make the housing and homelessness support systems provide better assistance to this group of people sleeping rough.

A public Dashboard has been an essential part of the efforts of a number of communities in the US, that have successfully ended either veteran homelessness or rough sleeping.

“Adelaide now has the beginning of a comprehensive measure of how the homelessness and housing systems are working together,” Mr Pearson says.

The Adelaide Zero Project Dashboard is a collective effort of over 35 organisations. Connections Week was led by the Hutt St Centre and the establishment of the By-Name List has been led by Neami National. The Dashboard has been made possible thanks to the support of the Broadley Trust, Bendigo Bank and all the Zero Project Partners.

The Dashboard is being released as part of Homelessness Week, at the Don Dunstan Foundation’s Homelessness Conference to be held on Wednesday 8 August at the Adelaide Convention Centre. For more information:

[www.dunstan.org.au/events/homelessness-conference/](http://www.dunstan.org.au/events/homelessness-conference/)

*\*Functional Zero street homelessness is achieved when the number of people who are sleeping rough at any time, is no greater than the average housing capacity for that same time period.*

**-Ends-**

*For interviews or further information please contact The Message Bureau on 08 8223 7703 or 0419 754 564.*



## Adelaide Zero Project Partners

### ***Presented by***

*Don Dunstan Foundation*

### ***Principal Partner***

*Bendigo Bank*

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University of Adelaide

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